

In September 2007 the European Commission published a communication on its buildings policy in both Brussels and Luxembourg, setting out its strategic approach, which included, in particular, the principle of owning buildings for long-term use and the need for buildings to be located in two districts in each city.

The Commission in Luxembourg currently occupies five administrative buildings with approximately 143 000 m<sup>2</sup> of surface area above ground.

These properties are located in two districts: Kirchberg with the Jean Monnet and BECH buildings and Gasperich with the Euroforum, Hitec and Drosbach buildings.

The Jean Monnet building, which was built in 1975, was originally planned to be occupied for 25 years. It is the hub of the European Commission services in Luxembourg and is coming to the end of its service life.

The European Commission and the Luxembourg State conducted talks to come up with an efficient solution for accommodating the Commission in Luxembourg.

### **COOPERATION BETWEEN THE LUXEMBOURG STATE AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

A comparative study of the various options for meeting the Commission's needs showed construction of a new building on the Kirchberg plateau to be the best one.

The land close to the current Jean Monnet building between the Boulevard Konrad Adenauer and the Rue Saint-Exupéry will be made available by the Luxembourg State.

The Luxembourg State will be the awarding authority and will pre-finance the new Jean Monnet 2 building which will have a total surface area above ground of 120 000 m<sup>2</sup> and will be built in two phases.

The first phase, with a surface area above ground of approximately 76 000 m<sup>2</sup>, will replace the current Jean Monnet. The second phase, with a surface area above ground of approximately 44 000 m<sup>2</sup>, will replace the Hitec and Drosbach properties which the Commission is renting at the "Cloche d'or" site in Gasperich.

A possible extension of the surface of the complex by up to 32 000 m<sup>2</sup> is envisaged, if this is necessary to meet the Commission's needs following future enlargements of the European Union.

### **MAIN AIMS OF THE JEAN MONNET 2 BUILDING**

The new building will be a vehicle for the European Commission's image, emphasising transparency vis-à-vis the European public, dynamism and competence.

It will be geared to modern standards with a lucid, contemporary and attractive architectural style, whilst integrating harmoniously into the urban environment.

The project will offer considerable flexibility and modularity and will promote mobility.

The construction costs of the European Commission's future flagship building in Luxembourg will be "reasonable". The building will achieve a sound balance between investment and operating costs, will be accessible to everyone and the design and materials used will be environmentally friendly.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL INTEGRATION OF THE NEW BUILDING**

The European Commission's new building in Luxembourg will be certified under an environmental label both during the design and construction phases and throughout its entire period of use.

The building will have to meet very strict targets aimed at minimising its impact on the environment by conserving local flora, reducing emissions and waste and using suitable materials.

Please note that the French version is the reference version if there are any doubts or comprehension problems.

The building's overall energy concept will be geared to keeping energy consumption as low as possible and will promote energy recovery and the use of renewables.

### THE INTERNATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN COMPETITION

The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, represented by the *Ministère du Développement durable et des Infrastructures* (Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructures) and the *Administration des bâtiments publics* (Administration of Public Buildings) is organising this international architectural design competition in cooperation with the European Commission and the *Fonds d'Urbanisation et d'Aménagement du Plateau Kirchberg* (Kirchberg Plateau Development Fund) in order to find the best architectural and technical plan for meeting the Commission's needs and complying with the urban planning constraints.

