

**EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE**  
**OF THE EFTA STATES**

4/TD/W/009.R  
14 June 2000  
Brussels

**WORKING GROUP ON EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH**

**Comments by the EEA EFTA States on**  
**“European cooperation in quality evaluation in school education”**

**(Proposal for a Recommendation of the European Parliament and the Council)**

1. The EEA EFTA States support the proposal for a recommendation on European cooperation in quality evaluation in school education. The proposal is very much in line with policies and practices in the EEA EFTA States.
2. Several schools in the EEA EFTA States participated in the pilot project on Quality Evaluation in School Education in 1997-98. This project gave important experiences for the participating schools as well as for national ministries of education. As mentioned in the "Explanatory Memorandum, the experiences from this project have also had an impact on the development of national priorities in this field.
3. As a follow-up to the pilot project the Commission started to work on developing indicators. Unfortunately, the EEA EFTA States were not invited to participate in this phase of the work. Also, the present proposal only addresses the Member States of the European Union. It is our view of that the EEA EFTA States should be included in the activities proposed by the recommendation, thereby contributing to the networking of expertise, regular reporting and establishment of a database.
4. Development of indicators for quality evaluation in school education has also been undertaken by the OECD. It could be useful to look into the possibility of closer coordination and cooperation between the organisations involved in this area.

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