

Information for Producers

Modification of the Regulations for Co-production Support

2017

1) Documentaries

A number of changes have been introduced with a view to improving Eurimages' support to documentaries.

On the on-line application platform, the obligatory documents for a documentary application have been modified. Applications must now include the following items:

- I. Synopsis;
- II. Treatment;
- III. Director's notes;
- IV. Producer's notes;
- V. Visual materials.

The **Treatment** replaces the requirement to provide a "script".

The **Director's notes** should cover the following points, amongst others:

- a. the visual approach;
- b. provide an answer to questions such as "Why is this project primarily for theatrical release?"
- c. explain the access to the characters/situation/archives.

The **Visual materials** (consisting of trailer, teaser, pilot or stills etc.) should:

- a. present the idea and situation;
- b. introduce the characters and their circumstances;
- c. give a sense of the style and tone of the film;
- d. show the director's access to the characters/situation/archives;
- e. demonstrate the director's point of view.

The amount of support which can be requested for a documentary has been increased to a maximum of **25% of the total production cost of the film**, within a limit of €500 000 (Article 4.2).
(Reminder, the maximum for fiction and animation remains at 17% within a limit of €500 000).

Since 2016, documentaries may shoot up to 80% of their total shooting days prior to the Board of Management meeting which will decide upon the application (Article 2.7).

2) Eligible production companies

Production companies must be able to provide proof of the composition of their shareholding in order to demonstrate that they are majority owned, either directly or indirectly, by nationals of a member State of the Fund (Article 2.2).

3) Qualifying projects

The point scales previously used to assess the European nature of a project (Article 2.6) have become point scales evaluating the elements originating either in Council of Europe member States or in member States of the Eurimages Fund. Since the accession of Canada to Eurimages in March 2017, Canadian elements are qualifying elements for the purposes of the point scales.

4) Selection criteria

A unique set of criteria will now be applied without specific distinction between the artistic and production criteria (Article 3.2):

- Quality and originality of the script;
- Vision and style of the director;
- Contribution of the team involved and level of artistic and technical co-operation;
- Consistency and level of confirmed financing;
- Circulation potential (festivals, distribution, audience)

5) Payment of co-production support

Up to end 2016, support from Eurimages could be paid only into dedicated accounts opened by the producers for the production of the supported film. For projects supported in 2017 and onwards, support from the Fund may be paid into general accounts held by the producers (see Article 5.3).

6) Unconventional projects

Since 2016 a new possibility has existed for the producers of projects which are not based on a conventional script. An option on screen 1 of the on-line application platform allows producers to identify a project as a 'non-conventional'. For these projects producers are strongly encouraged to provide the following additional items with their application:

- An explanation of the artistic and visual concept
- Visual samples of the concept, universe and production design of the project
