



Fédération des Experts
Comptables Européens

Press Release

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Europe's Accountants Call for Strategic Approach to Tackling External Fraud in the Public Sector

Brussels, 25 November 2005: "Public sector organisations have a responsibility to develop anti-fraud policies to show those seeking to defraud the government that such action is unacceptable and will not be tolerated," advised David Devlin, President of FEE, at the launch today of a new publication, entitled **Good Practice in Tackling External Fraud**.

Caroline Mawhood, Chair of FEE's Public Sector Committee, noted that public sector auditors need to raise awareness about fraud risk in public sector organisations. "The new FEE publication describes an integrated strategic approach to tackling external fraud. By demonstrating the experience and good practice of others the paper will become a useful source of reference for public sector managers."

The new publication of FEE, the representative organisation of the accountancy profession in Europe, concentrates on external fraud, i.e. where third parties, such as organised crime groups, dishonest businesses or individuals, take money from public sector entities or organisations, either by obtaining payments to which they are not entitled or keeping monies they should pay over to the department.

The paper is divided into three main sections: understanding and managing the risks of external fraud; preventing and deterring external fraud; and detecting and investigating fraud and imposing sanctions. Case studies are also provided for illustrative purposes.

-ENDS-

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Notes for Editors:

1. The FEE publication **Good Practice in Tackling External Fraud** can be downloaded free-of-charge from the FEE website (<http://www.fee.be>) or copies may be ordered from Sylvie Romancide (Fax: + 32 2 231 11 12, Email: Sylvie_Romancide@fee.be). Comments on the paper are welcome and may be submitted to the FEE Secretariat (saskia.slomp@fee.be).
2. The Fédération des Experts Comptables Européens (FEE) is the representative organisation for the accountancy profession in Europe. FEE's membership consists of 44 professional institutes of accountants from 32 countries. FEE member bodies are present in all 25 member states of the European Union and three member countries of EFTA. FEE member bodies represent more than 500,000 accountants in Europe.