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PRESS RELEASE

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CCBE issues a model scheme on continuing training

The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), representing over 700,000 lawyers through its member bars and law societies, approved at its last Plenary Session on 24/25 November 2006 a model scheme for continuing professional development, in recognition of the importance of continuing training to lawyers and their clients.

The new model scheme takes forward the CCBE's previous recommendation, approved in November 2003, that lawyers should undergo continuing training in their chosen area of practice, including the applicable European Community law and professional practice. It aims to provide practical assistance to national Bars and Law Societies across Europe in achieving the goals of continuing training.

The scheme serves as a model for Bars and Law Societies who have the competence and will to introduce continuing training within their home jurisdictions. It offers a framework for the development of guidelines or regulations on continuing training, covering inter alia the activities which can qualify as continuing training and credits systems.

The CCBE president, Manuel Cavaleiro Brandão, said today: "Continuing training is an extremely important component in a lawyer's training, and therefore I am very pleased about the adoption of the model scheme which underlines this importance. Keeping lawyers' knowledge and skills at the highest level, and so safeguarding the justice system for clients, is in all our interests."

[The full text of the model scheme is attached to this press release.](#)

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