

## Marc Ernst (BizInfo)

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**Van:** Mvannari@worldbank.org  
**Verzonden:** vrijdag 27 juni 2008 0:16  
**Aan:** me@biz-info.eu  
**CC:** Dkowska@worldbank.org  
**Onderwerp:** Re: Fw: Question concerning Decon & contract of the World Bank with the Belgian (Belgium based) consulting company Areopa

Dear Mr. Ernst,

This is in response to your questions addressed to Ms. Kowalska.

1. Consultants' roster or "DACON" (not Decon) is a consultants' registry for any consulting company. It is not mandatory to register in this database in order to become the World Bank's contractor (consultant). The minimum information (firm's name, address and area of business) required to register is submitted by the firms is not verified or checked by the World Bank. Therefore, the fact of being registered with the World Bank DACON system means nothing in terms of credentials of the registered company. In other words, we do not endorse qualifications and credibility by the firms who are registered in this information database.

Moreover, in May 2004 when the Bank issued new procurement guidelines, reference to DACON was deleted from the guidelines to avoid a widely spread confusion in the past that it was important (or even mandatory) for a firm to be registered in DACON in order to become a contractor/consultant to the Bank. We are not even managing this database any longer either. It is now managed by the Gateway ([www.developmentgateway.org](http://www.developmentgateway.org), also see footnote below\*)

2. In regard to your second question about the Belgium firm (Areopa), we have searched our contracts' database and did not find any information on contracts with this company. DACON registration number is not used for contracting purposes and is not helpful in this case. If you want this firm to provide a proof of being the World Bank's contractor, ask for a vendor ID (or vendor number). We would then be able to identify the contracts using the vendor ID.

\* Gateway: is Development Gateway Foundation, an independent entity combining public and private support geared to addressing the digital divide and reducing poverty. The Foundation has formed the Development Gateway Portal, an internet platform providing information on development from donor agencies, governments, universities, companies, and civil society organizations.

I hope we've addressed your questions to your satisfaction.

Sincerely,

Maria Vannari

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"Marc Ernst  
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<dkowska@worldbank.org>  
06/26/2008 01:18 PM cc

Subject  
Please respond to Question concerning Decon & contract of  
<me@biz-info.eu> the World Bank with the Belgian

(Belgium based) consulting company  
Areopa

Dear sir/madam,

- Are the in Decon registered companies real contractors of the World Bank of potential contractors (companies on which the World Bank can eventually appeal to for tenders) ?
- Did the World Bank ever worked (had a contract with) Areopa, a Belgian (Belgium based) consulting firm registered in the past in the Decon database under the number 2852 ?

Thanks in advance for your (quick) answer.

Marc Ernst  
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(knowledge provider & communities creator for professionals)

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My LinkedIn profile

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