

Directive 94/22/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of  
30 May 1994 on the conditions for granting and using authorizations  
for the prospection, exploration and production of hydrocarbons

*Article 1*

For the purposes of this Directive:

1. *'competent authorities'* means the public authorities, as defined in Article 1 (1) of Directive 90/531/EEC, which are responsible for granting authorization and/or monitoring use thereof;
2. *'entity'* means any natural or legal person or any group of such persons which applies for, is likely to apply for or holds an authorization;
3. *'authorization'* means any law, regulation, administrative or contractual provision or instrument issued thereunder by which the competent authorities of a Member State entitle an entity to exercise, on its own behalf and at its own risk, the exclusive right to prospect or explore for or produce hydrocarbons in a geographical area. An authorization may be granted for each activity separately or for several activities at a time;
4. *'public entity'* means a public undertaking as defined in Article 1 (2) of Directive 90/531/EEC.