### **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

# Working Documents

1979 - 1980

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**DOCUMENT 1-715/79** 

## Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-451/79) for regulations instituting specific Community regional development projects under Article 13 of the ERDF Regulation

Rapporteur: Mr J. CRONIN

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By letter of 26 October 1979 the Council of the European Communities consulted the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 13(3) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 214/79 of 6 February 1979 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 724/75 setting up a European Regional Development Fund, on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for regulations instituting specific Community regional development projects under Article 13 of the ERDF Regulation.

The P esident of the European Parliament referred these proposals to the Commit:ee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Budgets for its opinion.

On 22 November 1979 the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning appointed Mr Cronin rapporteur.

The committee considered these proposals at its meetings of 29 and 30 October, 22 and 23 November, 20 and 21 December 1979 and 24 and 25 January 1980.

At its meeting of 25 January 1980 the committee adopted the motion for a resolution and explanatory statement unanimously with one abstention.

Present: Mr De Pasquale, chairman; Mr Cronin, rapporteur; Mr Blaney, Mr Cardia (deputizing for Mr Fanti), Mr Griffiths, Mr Harris, Mr Hutton, Mrs Kellett-Bowman, Mr Klinkenborg (deputizing for Mr K. Schön), Mrs S. Martin, Mr O'Donnell, Mr J. D. Taylor, Mr Travaglini and Mr von der Vring.

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The Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

#### MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for regulations instituting specific Community regional development projects under Article 13 of the ERDF Regulation

#### The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposals made by the Commission of the European Communities to the Council<sup>1</sup>,
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 13 of the ERDF Regulation (Doc. 1-451/79),
- having regard to the report by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning (Doc. 1-715/79),
- Recalls that it approves the setting up of a non-quota
   reserve and the fact that specific Community projects are based on
   Community criteria 12
- 2. Recalls that it 'considers that the definition of an overall analytical and conceptional framework, assessment of the regional impact of the Community's policy and coordination of the national regional policies constitute the only means of moving gradually from simply managing the Fund to introducing a genuine Community regional policy' 2
- (a) Choice of sectors and regions,
- Congratulates the Commission on demonstrating the link which exists between certain Community policies and the situation in the regions of the Community;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 285, 15.11.1979, p. 3

Resolution of 13 October 1977 on the proposal by the Commission concerning the revision of the Regulation of the European Regional Development Fund; OJ No C 266 of 7.11.1977

- 4. Approves the fact that the projects to be financed by the non-quota section of the ERDF should be chosen by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Articles 1 and 13 of the Regulation and hence on the basis of a proper examination of the sectoral and economic and social situations in the regions concerned;
  - 5. Regrets the fact that the Council of Ministers has not retained in the basic Regulation the Community criteria proposed by the Commission for identifying regions eligible for aid from the non-quota section of the Regional Fund;
  - 6. Approves the choice of <u>sectors</u> whilst underlining that the Commission's choice is <u>not exhaustive</u> because the projects proposed constitute only an initial series; indeed, other Community policies and measures with an obvious regional impact, particularly in the coal, textile fibres sectors, fisheries and agriculture have not been included and those proposed have received initial support totally inadequate for combatting the problems involved;
- 7. Strongly disapproves of the fact that the Council should have stipulated in the basic Regulation the amount extremely limited in per cent (5%) of the non-quota section, thus limiting the budgetary powers of the European Parliament with respect to the creation and use of the resources of the Regional Fund;
- 8. Considers it appropriate to lay particular stress on the enlargement of the Community and its regional effects since the Community has definite commitments to honour in this connection, requests the Commission, as regards the action relating to the whole of the Mezzogiorno, to e sure that these actions will be concentrated in the most seriously affected areas of this region and in those sectors where specific Community projects may lead to rapid and significant improvements at the levels of development and employment;
- 9. Considers that, in order continuously to increase the impact of the desired regional and sectoral concentration and the cohesion of specific Community projects with existing development policies of the regions, areas and sectors affected by these projects, the Commission, in agreement with the governments of the Member States and taking into account the various existing situations and representative institutions, should make every effort to establish as direct contacts and consultation procedures as possible with the communities, regional authorities and social groups concerned;
- 10. Notes that in order to avoid a 'watering can' effect the Commission has made a very restricted choice of zones for Community projects in the iron and steel and ship-building sectors whereas the problems in some of the zones not selected are serious and will have to be considered when the resources of the non-quota section are increased;

- 11. Attaches significant importance to cooperation between <u>frontier regions</u> and approves the specific Community project to improve the economic and social situation of the <u>particularly deprived</u> frontier regions of Ireland and Northern Ireland;
- 12. Notes with interest the measures designed to improve the security of energy supplies in the very deprived mountainous areas of the Mezzogiorno and asks, having regard to the geophysical situation of these regions, that priority be given to solar energy.

#### (b) Innovatory character of the projects

- 13. Recalls that Article 13 of the ERDF Regulation stipulates that the non-quota projects must 'differ in whole or in part' from the projects to be implemented under the quota section of the Regional Fund;
- 14. Considens that the Commission has satisfied this condition by laying stress on measures of a new and <u>original</u> type, in particular 'aid for initiative' rather than the 'capital aid' type;
- 15. Stresses the value of the initiative aid measures, notably in the field of managerial or organizational consultancy, the creation of common services for businesses, information and promotion in the fields of industrial innovation and tourism;
- 16. Notes with interest the measures concerning <u>small and medium-sized</u>
  enterprises, which in the present economic recession, are major employers, but regrets the inadequacy of measures to assist craft trades;
- 17. Approves the measures aimed at improving the 'physical and social environment' for projects relating to the iron and steel and ship-building industries;
- 18. Welcomes the acknowledgement which has been given to <u>rural</u>

  <u>tourism</u> in several of the projects proposed and believes that aid should be used in particular to improve the capacity of farm-house accommodation;

#### (c) Implementation of projects:

19. Disapproves of those provisions of Article 13 of the basic Regulation according to which the Council of Ministers must take a unanimous decision 'with respect to each of the projects to be implemented', and notes that this right of a Member State to impose a <u>veto</u> constitutes a step backwards by the Community, despite the fact that the Commission had proposed that the Council should act with a qualified majority;

- 20. Considers that the <u>special programmes</u> will improve <u>coherence</u> between the various projects undertaken under these programmes as well as with the regional development programmes instituted pursuant to Article 5 of the ERDF Regulation;
- 21. Points out that the European Parliament has always asked that Community aid should <u>supplement</u> national aid and should not be a straightforward refund of national expenditure; feels that the special programmes should permit such additionality to be monitored on the basis of the budgetary data provided in the annexes to the proposals for regulations;
- 22. Notes with satisfaction the concern to <u>coordinate</u> the use of Commun. ty funds for structural purposes;
- 23. Endorses the wish expressed by the Commission that the beneficiaries and professional organizations should be <u>informed</u> of the possibilities offered by the special programmes; considers, however, that <u>potential</u> beneficiaries should also be informed (the professional organizations connected with the iron and steel and shipbuilding industries have been overlooked in these proposals);
- 24. Urges that, in Article 6 (1) of the proposals for regulations, the Fund contribution towards the measures contained in the special programme should be <u>paid directly</u> ...to the beneficiaries designated by the Member State, so ensuring that these beneficiaries are made aware of the role of the Community;
- 25. Believes that the annual <u>report</u> should provide a basis for monitoring the efficient implementation of the special five-year programme and determining the annual commitment of expenditure;
- (d) arrangements for financing aid
- 26. Welcomes the fact that certain aid, in particular aid for 'initiative' and 'initial aid', can be granted by the Fund without any need for existing <u>national arrangements</u>, aid for such measures being, moreover, expressed as a percentage of their <u>cost</u> and not as a percentage of national aid;
- 27. Approves the <u>higher</u> rate of Community contribution in this section compared with the quota section and, in particular, for 'aid for initiative' where the maximum rate is 70%, on condition that the Commission is satisfied with the beneficiaries capacity to benefit fully;

#### (e) conclusion

- Approves the Commission's proposals and recommends that the Council adopt them without delay so that the special programmes can be submitted and examined and the appropriations from the non-quota section paid to these particularly deprived regions:
- 29. Considering that appropriations are still available in the non-quota sectio, requests the Commission to submit, as a matter of urgency, further proposals to provide help for those regions presently facing the most serious economic and social difficulties;
- 30. Convinced of the great importance of regional policy to the economic and political integration of Europe, stresses the need to ensure that all the common policies continuously contribute towards regional re-equilibrium, and reaffirms the need for a substantial increase in the endowment of the Regional Fund and, consequently, that of the non-quota section;
- 31. Requests the Commission to incorporate the following amendments in its proposals, pursuant to Article 149(2) of the EEC Treaty.

Proposed Council regulation instituting a specific Community regional development measure contributing to the development of certain French and Italian regions in the context of Community enlargement

Preamble, recitals and Articles 1 to 5 unchanged

#### Article 6

- The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programmes shall be paid at the request of the Member State concerned, according to the following rules, to the bodies designated by the State for this purpose:
  - (a)
  - (b)
- 2.
- 3.

#### Article 6

1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programmes shall be paid directly to the organizations or the beneficiaries designated by the Member State concerned, according to the following rules:

unchanged unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

Article 7 unchanged

#### **ANNEX**

#### Points 1 to 4 unchanged

- 5. (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d) Information campaigns planned to make the beneficiaries and the professional organizations aware of the possibilities offered by the special programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect;

unchanged unchanged unchanged

(d) Information campaigns planned to make the <u>potential</u> beneficiaries and the professional organizations aware of the possibilities offered by the special programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect; unchanged

<sup>(</sup>e) \_\_\_\_

For complete text, see OJ C 285, 15.11.1979

Proposed Council Regulation instituting a specific Community regional development measure, contributing to overcoming constraints on the development of new economic activities in certain zones adversely affected by the restructuring of the steel industry

Preamble, recitals and Articles 1 to 5 unchanged

#### Article 6

- 1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programme shall be paid at the request of the Member States concerned according to the following rules, to the bodies designated by the State for this purpose:
  - (a)
  - (b)
- 2.
- 3.

#### Article 6

1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programme shall be paid <u>directly to the</u> <u>organizations or the beneficiaries</u> designated by the Member States concerned, according to the following rules:

unchanged unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

Article 7 unchanged

#### <u>ANNEX</u>

#### Points 1 to 5 unchanged

- 6. (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d) Information campaigns planned to make beneficiaries aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community.
  - (e)
  - (f)

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

(d) Information campaigns planned to make <u>potential beneficiaries and</u> <u>the professional organizations</u> aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community.

unchanged

unchanged

<sup>1</sup> For complete text, see OJ C 285, 15.11.1979

Proposed Council Regulation instituting a specific Community regional development measure contributing to overcoming constraints on the development of new economic activities in certain zones adversely affected by restructuring of the shipbuilding industry

Preamble, recitals and Articles 1 to 5 unchanged

#### Article 6

- 1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programme shall be paid at the request of the Member State concerned according to the following rules, to the bodies designated by the State for this purpose:
  - (a)
  - (b)
- 2.
- 3.

#### Article 6

1. The amount of the Fund
contribution in respect of the
measures included in the special
programme shall be paid <u>directly</u>
to the organizations or
beneficiaries designated by the
Member State concerned, according
to the following rules:

unchanged unchanged unchanged unchanged

#### Article 7 unchanged

#### ANNEX

Points 1 to 5 unchanged

- 6. (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d) Information campaigns planned to make beneficiaries aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community.
  - (e)
  - (f)

- unchanged
- unchanged
- unchanged
- (d) Information campaigns planned to make <u>potential</u> beneficiaries <u>and the professional organizat-</u> <u>ions</u> aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community

unchanged

unchanged

For complete text, see OJ C 285, 15.11.1979

Proposed Council Regulation instituting a specific Community regional development measure contributing to improving security of energy supply in certain Community regions by way of improved use of new techniques, hydroelectrical power and alternative energy sources

#### Preamble, recitals and Articles 1 to 5 unchanged

#### Auticle 6

- 1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures
  included in the special programme
  shall be paid at the request of
  the Member States concerned
  according to the following rules,
  to the bodies designated by the
  State for this parpose:
  - (a)
  - (b)
- 2.
- 3.

#### Article 6

1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programme shall be paid directly to the organizations or beneficiaries designated by the Member State concerned, according to the following rules:

unchanged unchanged unchanged unchanged

#### Article 7 unchanged

#### ANNEX

#### Points 1 and 2 unchanged

- 3 (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d) Information campaigns planned to make the beneficiaries and the professional organizations aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect.
  - (e)
- (f)

- unchanged
- unchanged
- unchanged
- (d) Information campaigns planned to make the <u>potential</u> beneficiaries and the professional organizations aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect.

unchanged unchanged

<sup>1</sup> For complete text, see OJ C 285, 15.11.1979

Proposed Ccuncil Regulation instituting a special Community regional development measure contributing to the improvement of the economic and social situation of the border areas of Ireland and Northern Ireland

Preamble, recitals and Articles 1 to 5 unchanged

#### Article 6

- 1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programmes shall he paid at the request of the Mer.ber State concerned, according to the following rules, to the bodies designated by the State for this purpose:
  - (a)
  - (b)
- 2.
- 3.

#### Article 6

1. The amount of the Fund contribution in respect of the measures
included in the special
programmes shall be paid
directly to the organizations or
beneficiaries designated by the
Member State concerned, according
to the following rules:

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

#### Article 7 unchanged

#### ANNEX

Points 1 and 2 unchanged

- 3. (a)
  - (b)
  - (c)
  - (d) Information campaigns planned to make the beneficiaries and the professional organizations awars of the possibilities offered by the special programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect.
  - (e)

unchanged

unchanged

unchanged

(d) Information campaigns planned to make the <u>potential</u> beneficiaries and the professional organizations aware of the possibilities offered by the special programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect

unchanged

<sup>1</sup> For complete text, see OJ C 285, 15.11.1979

#### EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

- 1. In its resolution of 13 October 1977 on the Commission's guidelines for Community regional policy<sup>1</sup>, Parliament approved 'the setting up of a non-quota reserve and the fact that specific Community projects are based on Community criteria', and expressed the view 'that the definition of an overall analytical and conceptional framework, assessment of the regional impact of the Community's policy and coordination of national regional policies constitute the only means of moving gradually from simply managing the Fund to introducing a genuine Community regional policy'.
- 2. Parliament therefore welcomes the Commission's submission of proposals for specific Community regional development projects as an opportunity for emphasizing the <u>link</u> between certain Community policies and the situation in the regions of the Community and to spotlight the Community's responsibilities in this respect.

The greater 'Community' flavour thereby conferred on the regional policy measures proposed is further strengthened by the fact that the regions or areas affected by such ERDF projects will be proposed by the Commission, while the regions or areas qualifying for aid under the quota section of the Fund are limited, as we know, to development areas defined by the Member States for the purposes of their own regional aid schemes.

3. However, it is to be regretted that the basic regulation does not mention any <u>Community criteria</u> for determining those regions or areas qualifying for aid under the non-quota section of the ERDF. The Council in fact deleted the criteria <u>proposed by the Commission</u> (in Article 2(2)b) relating to unemployment rates, the percentage of the working population employed in agriculture or in declining industries, emigration figures over five years and rate of change in GDP per head of population.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>OJ No. C 265, 7.11.1977

#### (a) Choice of themes and regions

4. Parliament cannot regard the Commission's choice of <u>Community policies</u> or <u>measures</u> for its specific proposals as exhaustive. Policies of such major importance as the common agricultural policy, the fisheries policy or even the policy on textiles, which have clear regional implications, have not been included.

Nevertheless, Parliament can endorse the <u>choice proposed</u>, being as the Commission is simply putting forward a first batch of proposals.

- 5. Parliament agrees that, in the <u>allocation of funds</u> available between these initial proposals, it was the right decision to lay special emphasis on the <u>enlargement</u> of the Community and its regional implications inasmuch as Community responsibility is very obvious here, while other policies included, more sectoral in nature, may be regarded as less closely linked to the EEC.
- 6. In choosing the <u>regions</u> and <u>zones</u> <u>qualifying</u> for these non-quota projects, the Commission has endeavoured to bear in mind, after examining the <u>sectoral situation</u>, the impact of Community policies; it also analyzed the general <u>social and economic situation</u> in these regions. The combination of these two factors, sectoral problems and regional problems, influenced the Commission in its geographical choice.
- 7. The European Parliament attaches a great deal of importance to cooperation between regions located on either side of the Community's internal frontiers (GERLACH report).

The Council deleted a reference in the Commission's proposal for a regulation to possible non-quota aid to frontier regions (Article 12(1)(d) of the Commission proposals).

But in a statement of 6 February 1979 the Council declared its readiness to consider, under Article 13, on a proposal from the Commission, any request for aid concerning frontier problems in the least favoured regions of the Community, submitted jointly by two or more Member States concerned.

8. The European Parliament can therefore congratulate the Commission on having proposed a special Community measure to improve the economic and social situation of the <u>border areas of Ireland and Northern Ireland</u>.

The programmes are specifically intended to encourage <u>tourism</u> (accommodation, tourist promotion bodies, facilities and infrastructures for tourism, communications with tourist areas, transport activities) and the development of <u>artisan enterprises</u>.

9. Parliament notes, however, that the Commission's choice of Community projects for the <u>steel</u> and <u>shipbuilding</u> industries is <u>geographically</u> very restricted.

While it does not dispute the severity of the sectoral and regional problems facing the areas chosen, it does not feel that they are so much more intense than those facing certain areas outside the scheme as to account for the latter's complete exclusion.

- 10. It can, nevertheless, accept the Commission's choice, solely because of the <u>limited financial resources</u> at the latter's disposal and the need to avoid giving the impression of <u>dispersion of effort</u>. Parliament again calls for an <u>incresse</u> in the non-quota section of the ERDF budget, and calls on the Commission to consider other areas where non-quota aid might be appropriate and to widen the range of policies by proposing other projects.
- 11. It must be stressed that the amount of the non-quota section, expressed as a percentage, should not be fixed in the basic <u>regulation</u>. In 1975 the European Parliament protested against the fixing of the ERDF endowment in the regulation, which made it <u>compulsory expenditure</u>. The Council acknowledged that Regional Fund expenditure would be <u>non-compulsory</u> in nature after the launching period.

The size of the non-quota section must therefore be fixed annually in the course of budgetary procedure; the European Parliament will thus retain control over the earmarking and use of money for the Fund. Moreover, the 5% of the Fund set aside in the Regulation is too little. In its preliminary draft budget for 1978, the Commission proposed 13% for the launching period, which figure was then reduced by the Council.

#### (b) Innovatory nature of the projects

12. Article 13 of the ERDF Regulation states that non-quota measures shall 'differ in whole or in part' from measures under quota. The Commission's interpretation of this provision lies somewhat between two extremes: one would be to exclude any traditional measures qualifying for finance under the quota section, thus restricting the scope of the non-quota section, while the other would be simply to alter the financial procedures governing traditional'measures, thus producing a 'difference' in nature. The Commission has taken a middle road in emphasizing original measures, especially those providing aid for initiative rather than capital aid, while stating that the implementation of such measures may involve certain more traditional capital aid operatiors in a subordinate role.

Parliament can endorse this interpretation with the reservations set out in (c).

- 13. It notes with interest a series of <u>new measures proposed</u> by the Commission in the light of the desirability of channelling aid to economic activities likely to create jobs, such as the measures relating to <u>small and medium-sized enterprises</u>, especially as recent research has shown that, in the present economic situation, SMEs are particularly effective in this role. However, Parliament regrets the inadequacy of the <u>measures to aid artisan</u> enterprises and feels that they should be expanded.
- 14. The measures to improve the <u>physical and social environment</u> included in the proposals on the steel industry and the shipbuilding industry are an initial Community contribution to the solution of certain urban problems in the older industrial areas.
- 15. Parliament also notes the relative importance allotted to <u>rural</u> tourism in several of the projects proposed, and the Commission's concern to reduce the imbalance in tourism between the developed coastal areas in certain regions and their hinterlands.
- 16. Parliament has also given careful consideration to the measures to improve the security of energy supplies.
- 17. In general, it stresses the <u>value of 'launching aid' measures</u>, especially in the provision of <u>management consultancy</u> and <u>joint services</u> for enterprises, <u>information and the promotion of industrial innovation</u> and bodies for the promotion of tourism and holiday accommodation.
- 18. The non-quota section must play a 'pilot' role, and Parliament sees in this another meason for introducing new measures which may subsequently be introduced in the quota section after they have been tried out.

#### (c) <u>Implementation</u>

19. As laid down in Article 13, specific measures are to be implemented in the form of <u>special programmes</u> rather than by individual consideration of their component projects. The Council will then take an <u>outline decision</u> laying down the political themes, the areas and regions to be assisted, operations and financial procedures; on the basis of this decision the Member States affected by specific projects, will draw up a special programme to be approved by the Commission.

This approach via programmes should make for better <u>consistency</u> between the various operations comprising each programme and between a special programme, which is simply a development incentive, and the regional development programmes falling under Article 6 of the ERDF Regulation.

20. But it must be borne in mind that the Council must decide <u>unanimously</u> on each of these measures to be implemented in the form of a special programme.

The Commission proposed that the Council should act by a <u>qualified</u> <u>majority</u>; the basic regulation adopted by the Council is therefore a step back for the Community in procedural terms.

Moreover, once the budget is adopted, the Commission is responsible for its <u>implementation</u>. If the basic regulation contained detailed Community criteria for aid from the non-quota section, the Council would no longer be required to act.

- 21. Moreover, Parliament has always said that Community aid should be given additionally to national aid, and should not amount to the mere reimbursement of the Member States' public spending. It therefore feels that the 'programme' procedure should enable this additionality to be achieved, with the help of the budgetary data requested by the Commission from the Member States and specified in the annexes to the proposed Regulations.
- 22. Parl'ament notes the concern to achieve <u>coordination</u> between all the Community's structurally oriented funds, and the Commission's desire to see potential beneficiaries and professional circles <u>informed</u> of the opportunities these special programmes represent.
- 23. The annexes do in fact state that the special programmes should include 'information campaigns to make the <u>beneficiaries</u> and the <u>professional</u> organizations aware of the possibilities offered by the programme, and of the role played by the Community in this respect'.

'Professional organizations' are not mentioned in two of the five regulations. A reference to them should therefore be included in the regulations on the steel industry and shipbuilding.

Moreover, those who might benefit under specific measures have to be informed of their opportunities if they are to take advantage of them. It is therefore not simply <u>beneficiaries</u> who must be informed but also, and above all, <u>potential beneficiaries</u>. This must be made clear in the regulations.

24. Beneficiaries will <u>realize</u> the Community's role if Fund aid is paid <u>directly</u> to them.

Article 6 (1) of the five proposed regulations should thus read as follows:

- ' 1. The amount of the fund contribution in respect of the measures included in the special programme shall be paid direct to the beneficiaries designated by the Member State concerned ...... ' (these beneficiaries are defined in Article 5 (2) as 'public and local authorities, various bodies, enterprises or individuals').
- 25. Parliament has stressed the importance of <u>new operations</u>. However, it would draw the Commission's attention to the danger of allowing the volume of traditional projects, especially in respect of infrastructures, to take more than their fair share of fund aid to special programmes as a whole. That is an easy solution which must be eschewed. It therefore calls on the Commission to keep this aspect under surveillance in the annual reports on progress made in carrying out the special programmes as provided for in Article 6 (2) of the proposed regulations.
- 26. Parliament also considers that the <u>multiannual nature of</u>
  the <u>financing</u> of these measures, necessitated by their novelty and structural character, is one way of encouraging the Member States concerned
  to provide the administrative apparatus required by guaranteeing the
  duration of the Community aid by means of multiannual estimates.

  Parliament can agree to this as the <u>financial commitments will be made</u>
  annually in accordance with the budgetary procedure. It therefore
  requests that the Commission's annual decision to commit funds be
  strictly conditional on acceptance of the terms of the annual report.

#### (d) Financial procedures

27. Parliament is glad to see the Commission proposing aid schemes, especially those for new measures, which can be granted by the Fund, in the interest of greater efficiency, without there necessarily being a national scheme already in existence. The adoption of national legislation would in fact entail a relatively prolonged procedure, thus reducing the scope of these measures. The Commission has also expressed fund aid for such measures as a percentage of their cost rather than a percentage of national spending from public sources. In some regions Community aid could therefore amount to as much as all public aid combined.

28. Parliament also approves the principle the Commission seems to have adopted that <u>Community participation should be higher</u> than in the section under quota. It notes that the Community contribution to expenditure on <u>aid for initiative</u> can reach 70%. This device may be used to aid local and regional bodies which may represent valuable spurs to development: this feature should allow greater scope for regional initiative.

#### ANNEX - Description of projects

- I. Proposed Council regulation instituting a specific Community regions development measure contributing to the development of certair French and Italian regions in the context of Community enlargement
- 1. This project will be implemented in the form of special programmes of a duration of five years.

The aim of these programmes is to provide small and medium-sized undertakings with the necessary means and services to further their development (sectoral analyses, additional aid for investment, aid for management and organization, communication infrastructures, information of executives), and to promote industrial innovation (compiling and dissemination of information on innovation, application of such innovation to small and medium-sized undertakings), artisan activities (information of craftsmen and development of traditional crafts), and rural tourism (accommodation, promotion bodies, tourist facilities and infrastructure, development of transport).

2. The provisional total amount of the Fund's participation in the special programmes is estimated at 120 m EUA.

Provisional amount of Community participation in the programmes by region and by operation (in m EUA)					
REGIONS	Midi-Pyrénés, Languedoc- Roussillon, Aquitaine	Regions of the Mezzogiorno	TOTAL		
OPERATIONS 1980	11	5	16		
1980 to .984	50 to 60	60 to 70	120		
Small and medium- sized undertak- ings	25	38	63		
Innovation	12.5	3	15.5		
Artisan	7	7	14		
Rural tourism	10.5	17	27.5		

- II. Proposed Council regulation instituting a specific Community regional development measure contributing to overcoming constraints on the development of the economic activities in certain zones adversely affected by restructuring of the steel industry
- 1. This project will be implemented by means of special programmes of a duration of five years.

The objective of these programmes is to improve the physical and social environment (reclamation of derelict industrial and urban sites), construction and modernization of housing, the development of small and medium-sized undertakings (aid for management and organization and access to equity capital), and the promotion of industrial innovation (compiling and dissemination of information on innovation, and the implementation of such innovation in small and medium-sized undertakings).

2. The provisional total amount of the Fund's participation in the special programmes is 43 m EUA.

Provisional amount of Community participation in the programmes by region and by operation (in m EUA)					
REGIONS	Provinces Luxembourg Liège Hainaut except 'Arrondisse- ments' of Ath and Tournai	Province of Naples	Counties of Strathclyde, Cleveland, Sth Glam., Clwyd, West Glam., Gwent and the Employment Office area of Corby	TOTAL	
OPERATIONS		-			
1980	1.2	1	6.6	8.8	
1980 to 1984	5 to 6	3 to 5	30 to 35	43	
Reclamation of sites	3	-	26.8	29.8	
Housing	-	4	2.3	6.3	
Managemert, ) organiza ion, ) common services )		-	2.4	) ) )	
Innovation )	3	_	0.3	) 6.9	
Risk capital )	·	-	1.2	<b> </b> 5	

- III. Proposed Council regulation instituting a specific regional development measure contributing to overcoming constraints on the development of new economic activities in certain zones adversely affected by restructuring of the shipbuilding industry
- 1. This project will be implemented by means of a special programme of a duration of five years.

This programme has as its objective the improvement of the physical and social environment (reclamation of derelict industrial and urban sites), the construction and modernization of housing, the development of small and medium-sized undertakings (aid for management and organization and access to equity capital), and the promotion of industrial innovation (compiling and dissemination of information on innovation and the implementation of such innovation in small and medium-sized undertakings).

2. The provisional total amount of the Fund's participation in the specific programme is 17 m EUA.

Provisional amount of Community participation in the special programme by region and by operation (in m EUA)				
REGIONS Counties of Strathclyde, Cleveland, Tyne and Wear, Merseyside, Belfast City Council area				
OPERATION'S				
1980	3.4			
19 <b>8</b> 0 to 1984	15 to 20			
Reclamation of sites	12.3			
Housing	0.8			
Management, organization, common services	2.7			
Innovation	0.2			
Risk capital	1.0			

- IV. Proposed Council Regulation instituting a specific Community regional development measure contributing to improving security of energy supply in cartain Community regions by way of improved use of new techniques for hydroelectrical power and alternative energy sources
- 1. This project will be implemented by means of a special programme of a duration of five years.

This programme has as its objective a better use of hydroelectric and alternative sources of energy (installation of mini-turbines, wind-powered generators and equipment utilizing solar energy or enabling recovery of energy cortained in the biomass, particularly refuse), promotion of the utilization of these sources of energy by the users themselves (information, demonstration, feasibility studies), and the creation of employment (technical instruction to enable local populations to maintain these installations).

2. The provisional total amount of the Fund's participation in this special programme is estimated at 16 m EUA.

Amounts for the special programme of			
('Zone interne' of the Mezzogiorno)	by operation (in m EUA)		
1980	1.5		
1980 to 1984	15 to 18		
Installation of mini-turbines, generators			
and equipment	13		
Demonstrations, feasibility studies	3		
Basic technical instruction	3		

- V. Proposed Council regulation instituting a special Community regional

  development measure contributing to the improvement of the economic

  and social situation of the border areas of Ireland and Northern

  Iraland
- 1. This project will be implemented by means of special programmes of a duration of five years. These programmes will have as their objective the development of tourism (accommodation, promotion bodies, tourist facilities and infrastructure, communications with tourist areas, transport and craft activities).
- 2. The provisional amount of the Fund's participation in these special programmes is 24 m EUA.

Provisional amount of Community participation in the programmes					
by region and by operation (in m EUA)					
REGIONS	Counties of Donegal Leitrim Cavan Monaghan Louth	Council districts Londonderry Strabane Omagh Fermanagh Dungannon Armagh Newry Mourne	TOTAL		
OPERATIONS					
1980	2.6	1.6	4.2		
1980 to 1984	15 to 18	7 to 9	24		
Accommodation	2.7	1.1	3.8		
Tourism promotion			ļ		
bodies	1.8	0.3	2.1		
Tourist facilities	5.8	4.0	9.8		
Communications	4.4	0.8	5.2		
Transport	1.1	-	1.1		
Artisan	0.2	1.8	2.0		

## VI. Recapitulation of the financial implications of Community participation in the proposed measures

#### 1. Recapitulation by project (m EUA)

	1980	1980-1984
Enlargement	16.0	120
Steel industry	8.8	43
Frontier regions	4.2	24
Shipbuilding	3.4	17
Energy	1.5	16
Tekal	33.9	220
2. Recapitulation by country (m EUA)		
	1980	1980-1984
Italy (Mezzogiorno)	7.5	78-93
United Kingdom	11.6	52-64
France (south-west)	11.0	50-60
Iraland	2.6	15-18
Belgium	1.2	5-6
Total	33.9	200-240

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