REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

on the new draft general budget of the European
Communities for the 1985 financial year as modified
by the Council on 22 May 1985 (Doc. C 2-35/85)

Rapporteur: Mr O. FICH


On 9 May 1985 the European Parliament gave a first reading to this new draft budget.

On 22 May 1985 the Council established a new amended and modified draft budget.

On 24 May 1985 and 10 June 1985 the Committee on Budgets gave its views on the draft amendments to the new modified draft budget.

At this latter meeting, the Committee on Budgets adopted the following motion for a resolution by 22 votes to 4 with 1 abstention.

The following took part in the vote: Mr COT, chairman, Mr RYAN, Sir James SCOTT-HOPKINS, Mrs BARBARELLA, vice-chairmen, Mr FICH, rapporteur, Mr BARDONG, Mr BROK (deputizing for Mr K. SCHON), Sir Fred CATHERWOOD, Mr CHAMBEIRON, Mr CHRISTODOULOU, Mr CICCIOMESSERE, Mr CORNELISSEN, Mr CURRY, Mr DANKERT, Mr J. ELLES, Mr EYRAUD (deputizing for Mrs FUILLET), Mr GATTI (deputizing for Mr SPINELLI), Mr LALOR, Mr LANGES, Mr MARK (deputizing for Mr PFENNIG), Mr NORD (deputizing for Mr ROSSI), Mr NORMANTON, Mr PASTY, Mr PITT, Mrs SCRIVENER, Mr STEVENSON (deputizing for Mr RIGO), Mr TOMLINSON, Mr VON DER VRING, Mr DE VRIES (deputizing for Mr LOUWES) and Mr WOLTJER (deputizing for Mrs HOFF).

The explanatory statement will be presented orally by the rapporteur.

This report was tabled on 10 June 1985.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.
The Committee on Budgets hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION**

on the new draft general budget of the European Communities for the 1985 financial year as modified by the Council

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its resolution of 13 April 1984 on the guidelines for the budgetary policy of the Communities for 1985 (OJ No. C 127 of 14 May 1984),

- having regard to the preliminary draft budget for 1985 (COM(84) 200),

- having regard to letters of amendments Nos. 1 and 2 to the preliminary draft budget (COM(84) 545 and COM(84) 611),

- having regard to the draft budget for 1985 (Doc. 2-700/84),

- having regard to letter of amendment No. 1 to the draft budget, (Doc. 1007/84)

- having regard to the draft budget as amended and modified by the European Parliament at its first reading on 14 November 1984 and to the resolution of the same date on the draft budget (OJ No. C 337, 17.12.1984),

- having regard to the decisions reached by the Council at its second reading of the draft budget for 1985 on 29 November 1984, (Doc. 2-1150/84),

- having regard to its resolution of 13 December 1984 on the rejection of the draft budget for 1985 (OJ No. C 12, 14.1.1985),

- having regard to letter of amendment No. 3 to the preliminary draft budget for 1985 (COM(85) 130),
- having regard to the new draft budget for 1985 established by the Council on 23 April 1985 and forwarded to Parliament on 29 April 1985 (Doc. C 2-25/85),

- having regard to its amendments and proposed modifications to the new draft budget for 1985 of 9 May 1985 which represent its first reading of the new draft budget (PE 97.904 - Section II),

- having regard to the new draft budget for 1985 as modified by the Council on 22 May 1985 (Doc.C 2-35/85),

- having regard to its amendments to the new draft budget as modified by the Council,

- having regard to the report of its Committee on Budgets (Doc. A 2-65/85),

- whereas Parliament rejected the draft budget for 1985 by 321 votes to 3 with 16 abstentions because it did not cover a twelve-month period of revenue and expenditure,

- whereas the appropriations earmarked in the new draft budget for the EAGGF Guarantee Section have been increased by 1,955 m ECU and now cover the full twelve months of the financial year on the basis of existing agricultural legislation, and the Community will not need a supplementary budget for 1985,

- whereas it has amended and tabled proposed modifications to the new draft budget to:

  - reinstate the estimates for the collection of revenue as proposed by the Commission,

  - increase the appropriations for the structural policies by 447 m ECU,

  - enter the deficit for the 1984 financial year in the 1985 budget,
Notes that the Council has accepted Parliament's amendments

- for the full amount of 232 m ECU in respect of the increase in own resources,

- for the full amount of 176 m ECU in respect of appropriations for food aid,

- for 121 m ECU in respect of appropriations in other sections of the budget;

2. Retains its own method for calculating the margin of manoeuvre for non-compulsory expenditure;

3. Deplores the fact that the Council has not accepted Parliament's clear decision to freeze financial aid to Turkey;

4. Deplores the fact that the Council has gone only part of the way towards honouring its commitment, under Article 27 of the Financial Regulation, to enter the deficit carried over from the 1984 financial year in the 1985 budget; considers that this deficit cannot be financed by the non-utilization of appropriations earmarked in the budget for non-compulsory expenditure;

5. Reinstates the 30 m ECU from interest on the Commission's 'own resources' accounts with the national Treasuries in the statement of revenue in accordance with the amended proposal for a regulation on the revision of Regulation No. 2891/77 concerning own resources and the Commission's preliminary draft budget;

6. Increases aid to developing countries by 26 m ECU and increases in the Commission's budget, appropriations for the creation and conversion of posts for other administrative purposes with a view to ensuring the proper functioning of that institution; enters an appropriation of 2 m ECU for Community aid to the private agricultural sector in Poland and notes the Council's undertaking to approve a transfer of appropriations for this measure;
7. Asks the Commission to allocate 2 m ECU as aid to the victims of the floods in Bangladesh using the disaster fund package provided for in Article 950 as augmented by the Parliament and the Council;

8. Reinstates the commitment appropriations for the Social Fund and the Regional Fund at the level accepted by the Council on 29 November 1984 at its second reading of the initial draft budget;

9. Reiterates its disapproval of the Council's recourse to intergovernmental agreements to finance Community expenditure which exceeds the revenue available within the current ceiling on own resources since these agreements jeopardize the Community's financial autonomy;

10. Considers that to fix the amount of advances from the Member States before the end of the budgetary procedure would be contrary to the budgetary rules established by the Treaties; considers that advances from the Member States should be used to cover appropriations entered in the budget as adopted beyond the current ceiling on own resources;

11. Confirms the amendments adopted by Parliament on 9 May 1985 in respect of Section II (Council) Annex - Economic and Social Committee, Section IV - Court of Justice and Section V - Court of Auditors.