

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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8 February 1983

DOCUMENT 1-1233/82

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

on ~~the~~ Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget No. 1
for 1983 (Doc. 1-1222/82)

Rapporteur: Mr. R. JACKSON

1.2.1

PE 82.817/fin.

Mr. JACKSON was appointed rapporteur for the 1983 supplementary and/or amending budgets and for budgetary problems arising in this connection.

On 19 January 1983 the Commission of the European Communities submitted to the Council and notified Parliament of the Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget No. 1 for the financial year 1983.

On 1 February 1983 the Council established the Draft Budget and forwarded it to Parliament on 2 February 1983.

The President of the Parliament referred the Draft Budget to the Committee on Budgets as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, and the Committee on Transport for their opinions.

At its meeting on 8 February 1983, the Committee on Budgets considered this Draft Budget.

During this meeting the Committee on Budgets adopted the following Motion for a Resolution by 14 votes to 2 with 1 abstentions.

PRESENT : Mr LANGE, Chairman, Mrs BARBARELLA, vice-chairman, Mr R. JACKSON, rapporteur, Mr ADAM (deputizing for Mr BALFE), Mr ADONNINO, Mr BAILLOT, Mr BALFOUR, Mr BROK (deputizing for Mr RYAN), Mr HELMS (deputizing for Mr CROUX), Mr JOHNSON (deputizing for Mr KELLETT-BOWMAN), Mr LANGES, Mr NEWTON-DUNN, Mrs NIKOLAOU, Mr PFENNIG, Mr PRICE, Mrs RABBETHGE (deputizing for Mr SIMONNET), Mr SABY, Mr SCHON Konrad, Mrs SCRIVENER.

The explanatory statement will be presented orally.

C O N T E N T S

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A. Motion for a resolution 5

The Committee on Budgets hereby submits the following motion for a resolution to the European Parliament:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget No. 1 for 1983

The European Parliament,

- A - having regard to the Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget No. 1 for 1983 (Doc. 1-1222/82) and the Council's Declaration of 24 January 1983,
 - B - having regard to the letter of 2 February 1983 placing the Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget No. 1 for 1983 before Parliament,
 - C - having regard to the Joint Declaration by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on various measures to improve the budgetary procedure,¹
 - D - having regard to the European Parliament's Resolution of 16 December 1982 rejecting Draft Supplementary Budget No. 1 for 1982,²
1. Recalls that its resolution of 14 December 1982³ declared that 'it is unable to accept the draft supplementary budget
 - (a) without a political guarantee that these are the last special compensatory measures,
 - (b) unless the draft budget is amended to extend the validity of these special measures in the context of existing common policies,
 - (c) unless the expenditure for these financing operations is classified as non-compulsory';
 2. Considers that the draft supplementary budget No. 1/83 takes substantive but partial account of the indications set out by Parliament in its rejection of the supplementary budget No. 1/82, in particular in the following ways:

¹ OJ C 194 of 28.7.1982

² OJ C 13 of 17.1.83, p. 67

³ OJ C 13 of 17.1.83, p. 35

- (a) approximately half the proposed expenditure (645 m ECU out of 1,337) is now classified as non-obligatory,
 - (b) the Commission undertakes to bring forward proposals as soon as possible to expand existing policies and diversify the own resources system,
 - (c) the associated regulations incorporate a system of advances, even if greater than proposed by Parliament, rather than immediate full payment, which strengthens Community control of expenditure,
 - (d) provision is made, as proposed by Parliament, both in cases of unused aid and where excess amounts have been granted, for repayments of Community funds if necessary;
3. Notes the intention expressed by the Commission in the Preliminary Draft Budget by which it recognizes Parliament's concerns, and - having regard to Parliament's requirement that the system of ad hoc solutions should be replaced by structural solutions designed to strengthen Community policies - it undertakes to present at the earliest opportunity proposals aimed at furthering and developing such policies and at introducing a more diversified system of own resources;
4. Notes the Council's statement contained in the Explanatory Memorandum accompanying the Draft Budget, in which it affirms that 'it shares the objective of a Community solution for the budgetary problems and hopes that the necessary decisions will be taken as soon as possible by the competent institutions of the Community';¹
5. Remarks that the Commission's statement in the Preliminary Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget² and the statement from the Council to Parliament of 8 February 1983 partially conform with Parliament's resolutions, but regrets that this progress towards Parliament's objectives is still only partial and that it has come rather late after serious delays in the Community's development;
6. Affirms that, while these statements made by both the Commission and the Council reflect some progress, they do not constitute a sufficiently binding commitment, in respect both of their content and of the timing they appear to envisage;

¹ Doc. 1-1222/82, p. 2

² COM(83) 23, p. 5

7. Demands, therefore, that specific proposals for the development of existing policies and for the future financing of the Community should be tabled by 31 May 1983, and that the necessary decisions will be taken in time to take effect by the end of 1983;
8. Reaffirms that it is not willing to agree to further recourse to measures like those which it rejected in December 1982 and urges the Commission to withdraw its proposals of 17 November¹;
9. Declares that it will be vigilant in controlling the implementation of all measures and checking that they correspond to the indications given by Parliament;
10. Warns that if delays, indecision or obstacles of whatever nature are raised, it will not tolerate them and will not fail to take all the necessary measures to condemn such actions and have them removed;
11. Is of the opinion that the differences between the estimated and the actual imbalances affecting the United Kingdom in 1980, 1981 and 1982 should be taken into account as early as possible in establishing the amount of expenditure to be provided for future measures relating to that country;
12. Notes and approves the amendments to the VAT basis of assessment and the consequent change to the rate of VAT;
13. Conceiving the Draft Supplementary Budget as a first step towards achieving much more ambitious aims for the Community - such as the revival, enlargement and the restoration of the balance of Community policies and related financial problems within the meaning of the mandate of 30 May 1980 - declares that it has no objection to the Draft Supplementary and Amending Budget No. 1 for 1983 and will not therefore seek to modify or amend it;
14. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission.

¹ COM(82) 767

