European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982-1983

27 October 1982

DOCUMENT 1-798/82

PROPOSAL FOR AN AMENDMENT to Rule 104 (1) of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament

tabled by Mr G. B. PATTERSON

pursuant to Rule 112 of the Rules of Procedure

PE 81.421

Rule 104 (1)

Add:

'With the exception of extraordinary committee meetings, the date and venue of committee meetings shall be fixed at least one month in advance, and may only be changed in exceptional circumstances.'

Justification

It should not be possible for the venue of a meeting to be changed at short notice through a snap vote in the committee concerned.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1982 - 1983

3 November 1982

DOCUMENT 1-799/82

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Energy and Research

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-522/82 - COM(82) 362 final) for a decision on a five-year research and development programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials - non-nuclear indirect action (1983 - 1987)

Rapporteur : Mr G. SCHMID

PE 80.650/fin.

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By letter of 8 July 1982 the President of the Council of the European Communities consulted the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a five-year research and development programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials - non-nuclear, indirect action (1983 + 1987).

On 13 September 1982 the President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Energy and Research as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection for their opinions.

At its meeting of 24 September 1982 the Committee on Energy and Research appointed Mr Gerhard SCHMID rapporteur.

At filts meeting of 19 October 1982 the committee considered the Commission proposal and the draft report and decided unanimously to recommend that Parliament should approve the Commission proposal as amended by the following proposed amendments.

The Commission informed the committee that it would not accept Amendment No. 1 but was prepared to accept Amendments Nos. 2 and 3.

The committee then adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole unanimously.

The following took part in the vote: Mrs Walz (chairman); Mr Gallagher, Mr Seligman, and Mr Ippolito (vice-chairmen); Mr Schmid, rapporteur; Mr Colleselli (deputizing for Mr Sassano), Mr Flanagan, Mr Fuchs, Mr Kellett-Bowman (deputizing for Mr Normanton), Mr Lalor, Mr Müller-Hermann, Mr Pattison, Mr Pearce (deputizing for Mr Moreland), Mr Petronio, Mrs Phlix, Mr Pintat, Mr Purvis, Mr Rinsche, Mr Rogers (deputizing for Mr Adam), Mr Sälzer, Mrs Theobald-Paoli, Mr Vandemeulebroucke (deputizing for Mr Capanna), and Mrs Weber (deputizing for Mr Rogalla).

The opinions of the Committee on Budgets and the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection are attached. The opinion of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs will be delivered orally in plenary sitting during the debate on the report pursuant to Rule 101(5) of the Rules of Procedure.

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The Committee on Energy and Research hereby submits to the European Parliament the following amendments and motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

TEXT PROPOSED BY PARLIAMENT

COUNCIL TEXT

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

Amendment No. 1

Article 2

Amend as follows:

Article 2

Article_2

The necessary funds for the total duration of the programme are estimated at 34.0 million ECU and the staff required at 17 (11.A, 1 B, 5 C).

The European monetary unit is defined in the Financial Regulation in force.

These figures have only indicative value.

The necessary funds for the total duration of the programme are estimated at 34.7 million ECU and the staff required at 20.

The European monetary unit is defined in the Financial Regulation in force.

These figures have only indicative value.

Amendment No. 2

Article 4

At the beginning of the third year the Commission shall submit an interim report on the results of the programme. A final review of the programme shall take place by the end of the third year. This review shall be carried out by experts who are not members of the committee referred to in Article 3 and have not received any funds from the research programme, and may lead to a revision of the programme. A report on the review and possible revision shall be made to the European Parliament.

Article 4

During the third year the programme shall be reviewed and where necessary revised in accordance with the appropriate procedure and after consultation of the Advisory Committee on Programme Management.

ANNEX

Amendment No. 3

Add the following to the annex:

<u>Dissemination of findings</u>

The findings and reference material produced as part of the programme shall be the property of the European Community. The Commission may also provide services at the request of third parties in return for due reimbursement of expenses.

The Commission shall be responsible for dissemination and sale.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision on a five-year research and development programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials - non-nuclear indirect action (1983 - 1987)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities (COM(82) 362 final)¹,
- having been consulted by the Council (Doc. 1-522/82),
- having regard to the report of its Committee on Energy and Research and the opinions of the Committee on Budgets, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection (Doc. 1-799/82),
- having regard to the result of the votes on the proposal from the Commission;
- Calls on the Commission to incorporate the amendments proposed by the European Parliament;
- 2. Expects the Council to adopte the duly amended version;
- Recalls in this connection its budgetary powers;
- 4. Instructs its President to forward to the Commission and the Council the proposal from the Commission as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution as Parliament's opinion.

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¹ OJ No. C 187, 22 July 1982, p. 8

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. AIM OF THE PROGRAMME

The aim of the programme is to reduce divergences in the results of measurements and chemical analyses in cases where:

- the disagreements are sources of barriers to the functioning of the common market or difficulties in its relations with non-member countries,
- there is a simultaneous awareness in the Member States of the inadequacy of the means of calibration and where the economic need for harmonization calls for Community action in preference to other initiatives.

The programme is to exploit all the technical and scientific resources spread throughout the Community.

2. AMENDMENTS

- (a) Given the generally difficult budget situation and in the interests of economy, the increase in staff should be kept to the minimum necessary (2 A, 1C). In particular, the head of division should be responsible for other duties within the programme, which would avoid the need for further posts.
- (b) To ensure transparency and monitoring of the programme, it is essential that it should be reviewed during its third year by independent experts and that the European Parliament should be consulted on the results of this review and any possible changes.
- (c) As the Commission itself rightly points out, too little attention has been paid until now to the dissemination of findings and the sale of reference material. Greater efforts in this field are urgently needed if the programme is to comply with sound business principles as regards the use of findings.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Letter from the chairman of the Committee on Budgets to the chairman of the Committee on Energy and Research

Luxembourg, 12 October 1982"

Subject: Proposal from the Commission to the Council for a draft decision adopting a Community research and development programme in the field of applied metrology and reference materials (Community Bureau of References - BCR) - (1983 - 1987) (Doc. 1-522/82)

Dear Mrs Walz

At its meeting of 29/30 September 1982 the Committee on Budgets considered the abovementioned Commission proposal.

The programme proposed would require expenditure totalling 34.7 mECU over a period of five years and a staff complement of 20 officials. As Article 2 states, these figures have only indicative value.

The Committee on Budgets unanimously approved the Commission proposal. (signature)

The following took part in the vote: Mr Lange, chairman; Mrs Barbarella, vice chairman; Mr Adonnino, Mr Newton Dunn, Mr Langes, Mr Orlandi, Mr Pfennig, Mr Konrad Schön and Mr Simonnet.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH

AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Letter	from	the	chairman	of	the	committee	to	the	chairman	of	the	Committee	on
Energy	and (Resea	arch										
									27	0c	tobe	r 1982	

Dear Mrs Walz

At its meeting of 19 October 1982 the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection considered the proposal on research and development in the field of applied metrology and reference materials (Doc. 1-522/82).

It once again stressed the fact that effective implementation of recent directives on environment protection and public health can only be guaranteed if the whole Community uses reference materials and identical metrological methods which are the most appropriate for the situations which actually arise.

In particular in the field of pollution by heavy metals (lead, cadmium, mercury, nickel, chromium), organic compounds (pesticides, dioxins, PCB's), and gases and in the field of noise prevention, electromagnetic radiation, the restriction of undesirable substances in foodstuffs and the risk of exposure to dangerous substances at work, cooperation is more than ever necessary.

In order to ensure real progress in these areas, the committee considers that a favourable opinion should be delivered on this programme.

Kenneth D. COLLINS
Chairman

The following took part in the vote: Mr Collins (chairman), Mr McMartin, Mr Johnson and Mrs Weber (vice-chairmen), Mr Alber, Mr Berkhouwer, Mr Bombard, Mr Del Duca, Mr Ghergo, Miss Hooper, Mrs Lentz-Cornette, Mr Muntingh, Mr Nordmann, Mrs Pantazi, Mr Remilly, Mrs Schleicher, Mrs Scrivener, Mr Sherlock, Mrs Spaak, Mrs Squarcialupi, Mrs Van Hemeldonck.