

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983 - 1984

23 March 1983

DOCUMENT 1-72/83

INTERIM REPORT

drawn up on behalf of
the Committee on Budgets

on

the future financing of the Community

Rapporteur: Mr Rudi ARNDT

By letter of 9 February 1983, the Committee on Budgets requested authorization to draw up a report on the future financing of the Community.

On 9 March 1983, the Committee on Budgets received authorization to draw up a report on this subject. The Committee on Agriculture was requested to deliver an opinion.

On 17 February 1983, the Committee on Budgets appointed Mr Arndt rapporteur.

At its meeting of 16/17 March 1983, the Committee on Budgets considered a draft interim report. It was adopted on 17 March 1983 by 14 votes to 4 with 3 abstentions. The interim report was tabled on 21 March 1983.

Present: Mr Lange, chairman; Mr Notenboom and Mrs Barbarella, vice-chairmen; Mr Arndt, rapporteur; Mr Adam (deputizing for Mr Lalumière), Mr Adonnino, Mr Ansquer, Mr Balfour, Mr Fich, Mr Gouthier, Mr Helms (deputizing for Mr Ryan), Mr Herman (deputizing for Mr Pfennig), Mrs Hoff, Mr R. Jackson, Mr Kellett-Bowman, Mr Langes, Mr Louwes, Mr Nikolaou, Mr Orlandi, Mr Price, Mr Protopapadakis, Mr Saby, Mr K. Schön, Sir James Scott-Hopkins (deputizing for Lord Douro), Mrs Scrivener and Mr Simonnet.

The explanatory statement and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture will be delivered orally.

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

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on the future financing of the Community

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Communication from the Commission on the future financing of the Community (COM(83) 10 final),
 - having regard to its many resolutions¹ on the future financing of the Community, on convergence, on the Community's own resources, on the Mandate of 30 May 1980 and on the 1980, 1982 and 1983 budgets, calling on the Commission, subject to certain conditions, to submit practical and detailed proposals for an increase in own resources,
 - having regard to the interim report of the Committee on Budgets and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 1-72/83),
- A. referring to its decision of 10 February 1983 on supplementary budget No. 1/1983 in which the Commission is set a final deadline for submitting specific proposals on the future financing of the Community,
- B. believing that its previous resolutions have been sufficiently detailed and comprehensive for the Commission to draw up specific proposals,
1. Asks the Commission what it understands by 'a well-balanced budget' and 'an adjustment of budgetary imbalances';

¹ Examples:

OJ No. C 309 of 10.12.1979
OJ No. C 265 of 13.10.1980
OJ No. C 101 of 4. 5.1981
OJ No. C 172 of 13. 7.1981
OJ No. C 182 of 19. 7.1982

OJ No. C 302 of 3.12.1979
OJ No. C 313 of 1.12.1980
OJ No. C 311 of 30.11.1981
OJ No. C 304 of 22.11.1982

2. Asks the Commission to state how the current method of calculating what is referred to as the 'net contribution' could be replaced by a method of calculation or assessment which presents both the calculable financial and economic benefits of the European Community and the real burdens, in a more objective and comprehensible manner;
3. Asks the Commission to give a quantified definition of what constitutes an 'unacceptable situation' for a Member State;
4. Asks the Commission whether it is able to provide a list of budgetary expenditures of the same nature which are a charge on both the European Community budget and on one or more of the budgets of the Member States;
5. Asks the Commission whether it is in a position to draw up a binding timetable for the final abolition of the temporary exceptions in the value added tax system;
6. Asks the Commission whether, in respect of a system of financial equalization, it is able to provide quantified examples for, among other things, the proposal that only Member States with an above-average GDP per capita should be taxed through the value added tax system or by means of a special levy;
7. Asks the Commission for further details of its proposal concerning revenue generated by a levy on Member States, corresponding to the amount of agricultural expenditure in excess of a certain percentage of the budget and based on indicators of an agricultural nature, and for quantified examples for this showing:
 - (a) the anticipated maximum amount of agricultural expenditure expressed as a percentage of
 - the total budget, and of
 - total available own resources, and
 - (b) the various scales for apportionment according to
 - the total value of agricultural production,
 - the value of agricultural products subject to intervention, and
 - the value of agricultural products of which there are structural surpluses;

8. Asks the Commission to provide detailed information on a possible tax on hydrocarbons, and on the importation and consumption of energy;
9. Requests its President to forward this interim report to the Commission for information.

