

4412.221

BIOMOLECULAR ENGINEERING PROGRAMME

The Council recorded its agreement ⁽¹⁾ on a multiannual research and training programme in the field of biomolecular engineering, taking the form of indirect action.

This programme, the first of its kind, covers a four-year period; it will be implemented in two stages: the first extending from 1 April 1982 until the revision to be carried out not later than 31 March 1984 and the second stage extending from the revision until 31 March 1986. The appropriations of 8 MECU currently provided for implementation of the programme already adopted are designed to cover the first phase; the amount will be re-evaluated when the programme is revised.

The programme comprises the following projects:

- Development of new reactors using immobilized multienzyme systems including those requiring multiphase environment and cofactor regeneration,
- Development of bioreactors for human detoxification,
- The transfer of genes from diverse sources to the bacterium *escherichia coli*, the yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and other suitable organisms,
- Development of cloning systems,
- Gene transfer to micro-organisms and in plants important to agriculture,
- Improvement of methods for detecting contamination and for the assessment of possible risks associated with applications in agriculture and industry of biomolecular engineering.

⁽¹⁾ The Danish delegation gave its agreement ad referendum.