

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 1-188/81

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

on the ~~list~~ of requests for the carry-over of appropriations from the 1980 to 1981 Financial Year (Guidance Section of the EAGGF) in accordance with Article 108, paragraph 3(b) of the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977
(Doc. 1-143/81)

Rapporteur: Mr P. DANKERT

1.2.2

By letter of 10 April 1981 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver its opinion pursuant to Article 6(3) of the Financial Regulation on the list of requests for the carry-over of appropriations from the 1980 to the 1981 financial year (Guidance Section of the EAGGF) in accordance with Article 108, paragraph 3(b), of the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977.

The President of the European Parliament referred this report to the Committee on Budgets as the committee responsible.

On 23 April 1981 the Committee on Budgets confirmed the mandate of the rapporteur, Mr Dankert, who was the rapporteur on the 1980 budget.

It adopted the motion for a resolution unanimously on 24 April 1981.

Present: Mr Lange, chairman; Mr Notenboom, vice-chairman; Mr Dankert, rapporteur; Mr Adonnino, Mr Arndt, Mr Balfour, Mrs Barbarella (deputizing for Mr Baillet), Mr Baudi, Mr Brok (deputizing for Mr Aigner), Mr Doublet (deputizing for Mr Ansquer), Mr Hoff, Mr Jackson, Mr Langes, Mr Orlandi, Mr Schön and Mr Simonnet.

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A

The Committee on Budgets hereby submits to the European Parliament the following Motion for a Resolution, together with Explanatory Statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the list of requests for the carry-over of appropriations from the 1980 to 1981 Financial Year (Guidance Section of the EAGGF) in accordance with Article 108, paragraph 3(b) of the Financial Regulation of 21 December 1977

The European Parliament

- having regard to the list submitted by the Commission of the European Communities (Doc. COM(81) 163),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to the provisions of Article 108, paragraph 3(b) and Article 6, paragraph 3 of the Financial Regulation (Doc. 1-143/81),
 - having regard to the Report of the Committee on Budgets (Doc. 1-188/81),
1. Gives a favourable opinion on the carry over of appropriations from the 1980 to the 1981 Financial Year for the following line :
Section III - Commission - Article 800 - Projects for the improvement of agricultural structures provided for under Article 13 of Regulation No. 17/64/EEC: 177,125,777.90 EUA;
 2. Notes with concern the massive delays in implementing the projects under the Guidance Section of the EAGGF; points out that some of the projects still to be completed date from 1966;
 3. Asks the Commission to present its Budgetary Control Committee with a full report on the problems of implementing the 545 projects for the period 1966 - 1975 still to be completed;

B

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Commission has introduced this request for the carry-over of appropriations from the 1980 to 1981 financial year under the terms of Article 108, paragraph 3(b) of the Financial Regulation.

This paragraph provides for a special procedure for carry-over of appropriations for the guidance section of the EAGGF. Such a procedure is justified because of the major delays inherent in the completing of projects financed under this section of the budget. Article 108, paragraph 3(b) specifies that for carry-overs beyond the five-year period the Commission must introduce its requests in accordance with the procedure laid down under Article 6(3) of the Financial Regulation.

In its proposal the Commission indicates the break down for the 177,125,777.90 EUA between the financial years in which the commitments were made and as between the reasons for the delays in implementing the budgetary line. These delays are indeed considerable as the table annexed to the Commission document demonstrates. A total of 545 accounts have yet to be closed for the period 1966 to 1975: four of these projects date from 1966 and fourteen others from the beginning of the 1970's. It is noticeable that two Member States in particular (France and Italy) have the lion's share of these incompleting projects.

While it is possible to accept the Commission's argument that it is the nature of the projects themselves, of the financial consequences of inflation and the rather vulnerable position of the beneficiary bodies that make considerable delays almost inevitable, there can be no justification for delays of ten to fifteen years. While the Commission assures us (paragraph 5) that it is following the evolution of each project attentively, your rapporteur is convinced that parliamentary bodies will require detailed assurances and therefore he suggests that the Committee on Budgetary Control should receive a full report on the problems of implementing these projects on the basis of information in the possession of the Commission.

CONCLUSION

Your rapporteur proposes that a favourable opinion be given on the proposed carry-over of appropriations for the guidance section of the EAGGF: however, the Committee on Budgetary Control should examine a full report to be drawn up on the problems of implementing the large number of projects still not completed from the 1966 to 1975 period.

For the Commission's original communication, reference is made to a carry-forward in appropriations requested for the fish sector (Article 830) (124,397.96 EUA). Since no further reference is made to this proposal and as the information provides no justification for it, your rapporteur proposes that it should not be taken into consideration.

