

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1973-1974

30 May 1973

DOCUMENT 79/73

Report

LIBRARY

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 41/73) for a transfer of funds to cover the balance sheet of research and investment expenditure for the financial year 1973 (Annex I to Section III —Commission— of the Budget of the European Communities)

Rapporteur: Mr. R. OFFROY

PE 33.170/fin.

By letter of 2 May 1973 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the opinion of the European Parliament on a proposal for a transfer of funds to cover the balance sheet of research and investment expenditure for the financial year 1973 (Annex I to Section III (Commission) of the Budget of the European Communities).

On 7 May 1973 Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, and to the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology for its opinion.

At its meeting of 21 May 1973 in Rome the Committee on Budgets confirmed Mr OFFROY's appointment as rapporteur, in his capacity of rapporteur on the draft budget of the Communities for the financial year 1973.

During this meeting it considered and unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and explanatory statement, thereby confirming the basically positive opinion it had already delivered at its meeting of 17 April 1973, on the basis of a communication from the Commission of the Communities.

The following were present: Mr Spénale, chairman; Mr Aigner, vice-chairman; Mr Offroy, rapporteur; Mr Adams, Mr Beylot, Mr Couveinhes (deputizing for Mr Sourdille), Mr Durand, Mr Fabbrini, Mr Gerlach, Mr Houdet, Mr Memmel, Mr Pounder, Mr Schmidt and Mr Wohlfart.

C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
A. Motion for a resolution	5
B. Explanatory statement	7
Opinion of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology	8

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 proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a transfer of funds to cover the balance sheet of research and investment expenditure for the financial year 1973 (Annex I to Section III (Commission) of the Budget of the European Communities)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (SEC (73) 1306 fin.);
 - having been consulted by the Council (Doc. 41/73);
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Budgets and the opinion of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology (Doc. 79/73);
1. Approves the proposal for a transfer of 8,935 m.u.a. from Chapter 98, 'Provisional unassigned appropriations' to Chapter 33, 'Expenditure on research and investment';
 2. Invites the Council to consult it as soon as possible on the 1973 amending budget, showing the annual funds earmarked for Euratom broken down into the various chapters and articles;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of its committee to the Commission and Council of the Communities.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. This is the first case of consultation under the agreement reached on 7 December 1972 between Parliament and the Council, by which the Council proposes to consult the Assembly or the appropriate parliamentary committee before deciding on transfers of funds proposed by the Commission from the chapter containing provisional unassigned appropriations to other chapters in the same section of the budget.
2. The Committee on Budgets felt that the Commission's decision to effect a transfer was the most appropriate since in the absence of a Council decision, the Commission is still unable to submit an amending budget showing the allocation of the annual funds earmarked for Euratom to the various chapters and articles of the draft budget.
3. Moreover, the Committee on Budgets already expressed its opinion on this transfer at its meeting of 11 April, when it asked its chairman to notify the Council and Commission of the results of its discussions. This consultation therefore is no more than the consequence of the Council's stated intention to consult Parliament on a regular basis.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Mr Spénale, chairman of the Committee on Budgets

Luxembourg, 21 May 1973

Dear Mr Chairman,

The Committee on Energy, Research and Technology has been instructed to deliver an opinion, for the attention of the Committee on Budgets, on a proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for

a transfer of funds to cover the balance sheet of research and investment expenditure for the financial year 1973 (Annex I to Section III (Commission) of the Budget of the European Communities).

At its meeting of 18 May 1973, the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology considered this proposal on the basis of a statement by Mr Hougardy, draftsman of the opinion.

It can merely take note of this proposal, which reflects the budgetary result of the delay in adopting a multi-year research programme and translating this into an amending budget. The Committee on Budgets will be responsible for determining whether the proposed procedure conforms to the budgetary rules.

The Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, recalling the opinion it adopted on 20 October 1972 on the sections of the draft general budget for the financial year 1973, reserves the right to assess the justification and allocation of the appropriations once specific proposals have been made on the matter.

Yours faithfully,

(p.p.) Gerd SPRINGORUM