



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 08.06.1995

COM(95) 253 final

94/ 0028 (SYN)

Amended proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

**relating to a multi-annual programme (1994-96) of work for
cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations in the Community**

**(presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 189 a (2)
of the EC-Treaty)**

MULTI-ANNUAL PROGRAMME (1994-96) OF WORK FOR COOPERATIVES, MUTUAL SOCIETIES, ASSOCIATIONS AND FOUNDATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

At its session of 17 March 1995 (EP A4-0119/95) the Parliament adopted a series of amendments to the above-mentioned Multi-annual Programme.

The Commission accepted ten out of the eleven amendments approved (1,2, 4-9, 13, 14), either exactly as worded or subject to re-wording. The purpose of the amendments to Articles 1 and 2 and to the annex is to clarify who is entitled to benefit from the programme (definition of an commercial association) and what the guidelines for intervention should be. In addition, improvements to the Commission's text are proposed via other amendments, such as:

- that concerning the establishment of an observatory comparable to that for SMEs;
- those designed to allow the appropriations available for these actions to be scheduled on the basis of information supplied via an updated financial statement;
- that intended to simplify procedures by replacing the Management Committee provided for in Article 4 by an Advisory Committee composed of representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission;

The Commission accepts the above amendments.

However, the Commission cannot accept Amendment 3, since the consultation structure it proposes is too far removed from the procedures adopted by the sector itself.

COM(93) 650 FINAL	AMENDED PROPOSAL
Article 1	<p align="center">Amendment n°1 Article 1 (<u>new</u> second paragraph)</p>
	<p><u>'Enterprise in the form of an association' shall mean any non-profit-making association which provides goods or services to the public for a fixed price, whatever the cost-to-price ratio and regardless of whether the price is paid by the beneficiary or by a third organization</u></p>
Article 2, first paragraph	<p align="center">Amendment N°14 Article 2, first paragraph</p>
The measures embraced by this programme must give the <u>players in the sector</u> easier access to Community resources.	The measures embraced by this programme must give <u>each of the enterprises and organisations in the form of cooperatives, mutual societies and associations</u> easier access to the Community resources.
Article 2, Part I, Point A, first indent	<p align="center">Amendment n° 2 Article 2, Part I, Point A, first indent</p>
- conducting studies on the development of the sector in the community	- conducting studies on the development of the sector in the Community, <u>particularly by establishing an observatory along the lines of the observatory set up for SMEs to monitor the performance and operation of the sector in the single market</u>
Article 2, paragraph I, letter B, first indent	<p align="center">Amendment n° 4 Article 2, paragraph I, letter B, first indent</p>
encouraging opportunities for transnational cooperation, especially SMEs in the cooperatives, mutuals and associations sector, and the quest for new fields of activity by groups of partners; :	encouraging opportunities for transnational cooperation, especially <u>in the smaller</u> cooperatives, mutuals and associations sector, and the quest for new fields of activity by groups of partners;:

<p>Article 2, Para 1, Point B, First Indent</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment N° 13 Article 2, Para 1, Point B, First Indent</p>
<p>encouraging opportunities for transnational cooperation, especially for SME's cooperatives, mutuals and associations sector, and the quest for new fields of activity by groups of partners.</p>	<p>encouraging opportunities for transnational cooperation, especially for SME's cooperatives, mutuals and associations sector, and the quest for new fields of activity by groups of partners, <u>without prejudice, however, to the effects resulting from adoption of the proposals for European Parliament and Council Regulations on the Statute for a European association, the Statute for a European cooperative society, and the Statute for a European mutual society;</u></p>
<p>Article 2, paragraph 1, letter B</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment n° 5 and 9 Article 2, paragraph 1, letter B, indent 4, (a), (b) and (c) (new)</p>
<p>- Strengthening the role of cooperatives, mutuals, associations and foundations as vehicles of Community policies</p>	<p><u>- creating better opportunities for women employers;</u></p> <p><u>- giving small businesses and associations the opportunity to create jobs by employing persons in receipt of public support;</u></p> <p><u>- supporting, coordinating and supplementing the member States and their players in the mutually-supportive and 'économie sociale' sector in developing new forms of employment and new services;</u></p>
<p>Article 3, paragraph. 2, second indent</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment n° 6 Article 3, paragraph 2, second indent</p>
<p>- the content and timetable of, <u>and financial assistance for</u>, measures and calls for proposals.</p>	<p>- the content and timetable of measures and calls for proposals.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Article 4</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment n° 7 Article 4</p>
<p>A committee shall be set up, attached to the Commission, composed of the representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission.</p> <p>The representative of the Commission shall submit to the committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft within a time limit which the chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter. <u>The opinion shall be delivered by the majority stipulated in Article 148(2) of the Treaty in the case of decisions which the Council is required to adopt on a proposal from the Commission. The votes of the representatives of the Member States within the committee shall be weighted in the manner set out in that Article. The chairman shall not vote.</u></p> <p><u>The Commission shall adopt measures which shall apply immediately. However, if these measures are not in accordance with the opinion of the committee, they shall be communicated by the Commission to the Council forthwith. In that event, the Commission shall defer application of the measures which it has decided for a period of two months from the date of communication.</u></p> <p><u>The Council, acting by a qualified majority, may take a different decision within the time limit referred to in the previous paragraph.</u></p>	<p><u>The Commission shall be assisted by a consultative committee composed of representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission</u></p> <p>The representative of the Commission shall submit to the committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft within a time limit which the chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter, <u>proceeding where necessary to a vote.</u></p> <p><u>The opinion shall be entered in the minutes. In addition, each Member State shall have the right to ask for its position to be included in the minutes</u></p> <p><u>The Commission shall take full account of the committee's opinion. It shall inform the committee of the form in which the opinion has been taken account of.</u></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Article 6, paragraph 2</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment n° 8 Article 6, paragraph 2</p>
<p>2. The budgetary authority shall determine the appropriations available for each financial year in accordance with the principles of good management referred to in Article 2 of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities.</p>	<p>2. The budgetary authority shall determine the appropriations available for each financial year in accordance with the principles of good management referred to in Article 2 of the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities <u>and on the basis of the information contained in the updated financial statement.</u></p>

Annex, part II, point 1, letter A, indent 1	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment n° 2</p> Annex, part II, point 1, letter A, indent 1
- conducting studies on the development of the sector in the Community,	- conducting studies on the development of the sector in the Community, <u>particularly by establishing an observatory along the lines of the observatory set up for SMEs to monitor the performance and operation of the sector in the single market</u>
Annex, part II, point I, letter B, indent 4	<p style="text-align: center;">Amendment n° 9</p> Annex, part II, point I, letter B, indent 4, a, b, c, (new)
- Strengthening the role of cooperatives, mutuels, associations and foundations as vehicles of Community policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>creating better opportunities for women employers</u> - <u>giving small businesses and associations the opportunity to create jobs by employing persons in receipt of public support;</u> - <u>supporting, coordinating and supplementing the Members States and their players in the mutually-supportive and 'économie sociale' sector in developing new forms of employment and new services</u>

Annex Part II, A.1. a)	<p align="center">Amendment n° 2 Annex Part II, A.1. a)</p>
<p>A programme of studies and forecasts will provide the necessary information to identify the major trends in the development of cooperatives, mutuals, associations and foundations, both in general terms and with regard to individual activities.</p>	<p>A programme of studies and forecasts will provide the necessary information to identify the major trends in the development of cooperatives, mutuals, associations and foundations, both in general terms and with regard to individual activities <u>particularly by establishing an observatory along the lines of the observatory set up for SMEs to monitor the performance and operation of the sector in the single market.</u></p>
Annex, II, A 2.d.	<p align="center">Amendment n° 9 Annex, II, A 2.d. Indent 4, a, b c, d (new)</p>
<p>The "cooperatives" unit seeks to identify innovative projects, to publicise them and to stimulate cooperation between them.</p>	<p><u>Furthermore, special support will be given to:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>establishing favourable conditions and assessing the impact of Community policies;</u> - <u>creating better opportunities for women employers</u> - <u>giving small businesses and associations the opportunity to create jobs by employing persons in receipt of public support;</u> - <u>supporting, coordinating and supplementing the Members States and their players in the mutually-supportive and 'économie sociale' sector in developing new forms of employment and new services</u>

Financial Statement, 4.1, point 2, 5th indent	Amendment n° 9 Financial Statement, 4.1, point 2, 5th indent a,b,c,d (new)
- Strengthening the role of cooperatives, mutuals, associations and foundations as vehicles of Community policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>establishing favourable conditions and assessing the impact of Community policies;</u> - <u>creating better opportunities for women employers</u> - <u>giving small businesses and associations the opportunity to create jobs by employing persons in receipt of public support;</u> - <u>supporting, coordinating and supplementing the Members States and their players in the mutually-supportive and 'économie sociale' sector in developing new forms of employment and new services</u>
Financial Statement, 7.2, A.1, 3rd paragraph	Amendment n° 2 Financial Statement, 7.2, A.1, 3rd paragraph
Implementation of studies on the development of the sector within the Community	Implementation of studies on the development of the sector within the Community <u>including an observatory</u>
Financial Statement, 7.2, A.2	Amendment n° 9 Financial Statement, 7.2, A.2, indents 6,7,8, (new)
Strengthening the role of cooperatives, mutuals, associations and foundations as vehicles of Community policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>creating better opportunities for women employers</u> - <u>giving small businesses and associations the opportunity to create jobs by employing persons in receipt of public support;</u> - <u>supporting, coordinating and supplementing the Members States and their players in the mutually-supportive and 'économie sociale' sector in developing new forms of employment and new services</u>

Financing Plan, A.1., a)	<p align="center">Amendment n°2</p> Financing Plan, A.1., a)
Studies on the development of the sector within the Community	Studies on the development of the sector within the Community <u>including an observatory</u>
Financing Plan, A.2.	<p align="center">Amendment n° 9</p> Financing Plan, A.2.e), A.2.f) and A.2.g)(new)
A.2.d Strengthening the role of cooperatives, mutuals, associations and foundations as vehicles of Community policies	<p><u>A.2.e - creating better opportunities for women employers</u></p> <p><u>A.2.f - giving small businesses and associations the opportunity to create jobs by employing persons in receipt of public support;</u></p> <p><u>A.2.g- supporting, coordinating and supplementing the Members States and their players in the mutually-supportive and 'économie sociale' sector in developing new forms of employment and new services</u></p>

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