

Amendment

to the

Rules of Procedure

of the European Parliament

adopted on 26 July 1989

September 1989

ANNEX VI (1)

Powers and responsibilities of standing committees

I. Political Affairs Committee

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. political and institutional aspects of relations with other international organizations and with third countries (the Committee on Institutional Affairs will give an opinion on this matter, in so far as it is concerned);
2. political aspects of international problems;
3. problems concerning human rights in third countries;
4. problems of political union and questions pertaining to cooperation in the sphere of foreign policy and the policy on security and disarmament;
5. political aspects of the seat of the Community institutions;
6. political and institutional aspects of accession or association agreements with third countries at the application and negotiation stage; in this context, the delegations for relations with third countries which have applied for accession will cooperate closely with this committee on preparing for and discussing the outcome of their meetings (the Committee on Institutional Affairs will give an opinion on this matter, in so far as it is concerned).

The delegations will cooperate closely with this committee in preparing for and discussing the outcome of their meetings. They may consult with the Committee on External Economic Relations on economic and commercial aspects.

¹⁾ Adopted by decision of Parliament of 19 May 1983 in accordance with Rule 109 and amended by its decisions of
25 July 1984,
21 January 1987 and
26 July 1989.

II. Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development

This committee is generally responsible for all matters relating to Title II, Articles 38 to 47, of the EEC Treaty:

1. operation and development of the common agricultural policy;
2. rural development including the activities of the EAGGF — Guidance Section;
3. establishment, operation and development of a common fisheries policy;
4. veterinary legislation relating to the control and elimination of diseases in domestic animals;
5. supplies of agricultural raw materials;
6. agri-foodstuffs industry and production system;
7. legislation on animal husbandry;
8. animal feedingstuffs.

The committee will be required to give its opinion on all matters which, although arising in a different specific field (public health, economic policy, external economic relations, relations with European or other associated countries), may have some bearing on the organization of the Community's agricultural market or on the organization of the market in fisheries products, and on matters pertaining to commercial policy with regard to agricultural and fisheries products.

III. Committee on Budgets

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. the definition and exercise of the European Parliament's budgetary powers;
2. the budgets of the Communities;
3. multiannual estimates of the European Communities' revenue and expenditure and the interinstitutional agreements concluded on these matters;
4. financial resources of the Communities (including levies, own resources, Member States' contributions);
5. financial implications of Community acts;

6. preparation and coordination of the conciliation procedure between the Parliament and the Council, with the involvement of the Commission, on Community acts having financial implications;
7. problems relating to the administrative and accounting management and the staff of the Communities which involve budgetary authorization in so far as they do not have substantial implications for the legal status of officials;
8. transfers of appropriations which constitute authorization of expenditure;
9. Parliament's budget, administration and accounts (Rule 134 of the Rules of Procedure);
10. the acts connected with the above points.

As regards problems relating to the budget of the European Parliament,

the Bureau and the Committee on Budgets will take decisions in successive stages on:

- a. the establishment plan,
- b. the preliminary draft and the draft estimates.

The decisions concerning the establishment plan will be taken according to the following procedure:

- a.1. the Bureau will draw up the establishment plan for each financial year,
- a.2. it will ask the Committee on Budgets for its opinion,
- a.3. a conciliation procedure between the Bureau and the Committee on Budgets will be opened in cases where the opinion of the latter diverges from the initial decisions taken by the Bureau,
- a.4. at the end of the procedure, the Bureau will take the final decision, in accordance with Rule 133 (3) of the Rules of Procedure.

As regards the estimates proper, the procedure for drawing up the estimates will begin as soon as the Bureau has taken a final decision on the establishment plan. The stages of this procedure will be those laid down in Rule 134 of the Rules of Procedure, viz.:

- b.1. the Bureau will draw up a first preliminary draft of the estimates of revenue and expenditure (paragraph 1),
- b.2. the Committee on Budgets will deliver its opinion on the first preliminary draft estimates (paragraph 2),
- b.3. the enlarged Bureau will adopt the preliminary draft estimates (paragraph 2),

- b.4. before or after these estimates are adopted, a conciliation procedure will be opened in cases where the positions of the Committee on Budgets and the enlarged Bureau are widely divergent.

In exercising its powers the Committee on Budgets will cooperate closely with the Committee on Budgetary Control. As regards the Financial Regulation, the division of powers between the two committees will depend on the nature of the questions raised by the proposal for a regulation: financial regulations or parts thereof dealing with the implementation, management and control of budgets will be the responsibility of the Committee on Budgetary Control.

IV. Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. monitoring initiatives on the completion of the internal market in accordance with Articles 8b, 8c and 100b of the EEC Treaty;
2. questions of monetary policy, balance of payments, capital movements and borrowing and lending policy (control of movements of capital originating in third countries, measures to encourage the export of Community capital, application of Articles 67 to 73 and 104 to 109 of the EEC Treaty);
3. the Community's industrial policy, including the implementation of the Community's general strategy in specific sectors;
4. operation of the common market, more specifically for the application of Articles 9 to 37 of the EEC Treaty, relating to the movement of goods, customs duties and quotas and problems arising in this area as a consequence of the Community's enlargement;
5. questions of competition, i.e. the application of Articles 85 to 90 of the EEC Treaty (rules on competition, agreements and monopolies), in so far as these are not specific questions falling within the terms of reference of other committees (transport, public health, etc.);
6. 'internal' dumping practices (Article 91 of the EEC Treaty);
7. public subsidies apart from aspects connected with regional policy (Articles 92 to 94 of the EEC Treaty);
8. medium and long-term economic and monetary planning (Articles 67 to 73, 102a, 109 and 130b of the EEC Treaty);
9. Community technical standards and norms (in conjunction with the European standards institutes);

10. the application of new technologies in given sectors of industry and services (standards, rules on competition, freedom of movement and services and general problems of the organization of various production sectors);
11. the steel industry (the stabilization of markets and prices, control of concentrations under Community programmes) (Articles 4, 46 and 56 to 67 of the ECSC Treaty);
12. application of Articles 95 to 99 of the EEC Treaty on tax provisions connected with the free movement of goods, persons, services and capital within the internal market;
13. all measures and actions to be taken for the progressive establishment of economic and monetary union (machinery for cooperation and conciliation in short-term economic policy, harmonization of medium-term planning, industrial policy, short or medium-term financial support, arrangements for protection and monetary cooperation, etc.).

V. Committee on Energy, Research and Technology

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. all questions pertaining to energy supplies and energy policy in general, including coal and nuclear energy under the ECSC and EAEC Treaties;
2. all questions pertaining to fundamental, precompetitive, prenormative or preindustrial research, technological progress, the EEC technological research and development framework programme and other specific programmes including COST and EUREKA and the technological research and development agreements with third parties, and the application of such technological research and development, in so far as it is not covered by the internal market and industrial policy (cf. Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy) such as space technology;
3. research and development of biotechnology;
4. the Joint Research Centres and the Central Office for Nuclear Measurements;
5. dissemination of information and the definition of information technologies necessary for the storage, access, transmission, reception and synthesis of information;

6. patents and industrial property (in agreement with the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights as the committee responsible);
7. the coordination of Member States' research and development programmes and their coherence within the Framework Programme.

VI. Committee on External Economic Relations

This committee is responsible for matters relating to foreign trade and agreements concluded in this sector, including in particular:

1. coordination of Member States' commercial policies and problems associated with the common commercial policy;
2. economic and commercial aspects of relations with third countries and with international organizations such as the OECD, EFTA and GATT (the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development will be required to give its opinion on all matters pertaining to commercial policy with regard to agricultural and fisheries products);
3. problems relating to the common external tariff and dumping practices by third countries;
4. problems of external trade with third countries and agreements or conventions concluded in that sphere;

The delegations will cooperate closely with this committee with regard to economic and commercial aspects of relations with third countries.

VII. Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. legal aspects of the creation, interpretation and application of Community laws, including the choice of legal basis for Community acts;
2. legal aspects of the creation, interpretation and application of international law, in so far as it affects the Community;
3. human rights problems in the Community (including the legal implications of Community acts intended to safeguard the protection of human rights);
4. all matters relating to the definition and codification of the rights of Community citizens and the security and free movement of persons;
5. the creation of a European legal and judicial area;

6. coordination at Community level of national legislation:
 - a. in regulations on freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services (Articles 52 to 66 of the EEC Treaty) including problems of company law (in exercising this particular responsibility — and unless the problems are purely legal — the committee will generally consult the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy except in cases where the regulations apply to an area for which a different committee has more specific responsibility),
 - b. in the application of Article 220 of the EEC Treaty (protection of natural and legal persons) and all measures with wider application;
7. the Staff Regulations of the Communities (Article 24 of the Merger Treaty) with the exception of matters pertaining to remuneration, unless they have substantial implications for the legal status of staff;
8. Parliament's involvement in actions before the Court of Justice, except for those concerning disputes between Parliament and its staff.

Questions concerning the approximation of national legislation will be dealt with in each case by the committee responsible for the subject area of the proposals. However, the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights may give its opinion pursuant to Rule 120 of the Rules of Procedure on these proposals whenever it considers this necessary.

The committee will also be required to give its opinion on the discussions leading to the finalization of a uniform electoral procedure (the legal aspects thereof).

VIII. Committee on Social Affairs, Employment and the Working Environment

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. improving living and working conditions;
2. protection of workers in the workplace, in particular with regard to health, hygiene and safety (Article 118a of the EEC Treaty);
3. employment policy, particularly where it affects young people;
4. wages, pensions and incomes policy and capital formation;
5. vocational training, particularly as regards access to the labour market and to retraining in connection with reconversion and occupational mobility;

6. harmonization of vocational qualifications;
7. paid holidays schemes;
8. activities of the European Social Fund (retraining, readaptation, etc);
9. free movement of workers;
10. social security of Community and non-Community migrant workers;
11. housing policy and low-cost housing schemes;
12. promoting cooperation between the Member States in the field of social policy, with particular emphasis on labour law and the approximation of social legislation;
13. promotion of a 'European social budget';
14. equal pay and equal job and vocational training opportunities for men and women;

The committee will also be required to give its opinion on matters relating to the rights of migrant workers.

IX. Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. Community regional policy understood as a structural policy aimed at alignment of the economies, economic and social cohesion, the harmonious development of the EEC and the removal of disparities;
2. the drawing up, implementation and evaluation of all Community regional policy plans and projects relating to the development of less-favoured regions (Objective 1), regions in industrial decline (Objective 2) and rural regions (Objective 5b);
3. the special problems of the regions which are disadvantaged either because their economies are predominantly agricultural or because their industrial sectors are in a state of crisis;
4. the impact of the other Community policies on the regions involved in regional policy;
5. the impact of any enlargement of the European Community and association treaties on the regional policy of the Community;

6. problems related to the management, effectiveness and control of the European Regional Development Fund and the other instruments of Community regional policy;
7. coordination of Community structural financial instruments;
8. problems related to the criteria for and effective use in the Member States of Community regional aid and the coordination of national regional aid schemes;
9. the development of a Community regional planning policy and problems related to the relationship between national town and country planning forecasts and decisions and Community regional policy;
10. relations with local and regional authorities in the spirit of the Treaties and their participation in the drawing up of regional policy;
11. transfrontier cooperation.

X. Committee on Transport and Tourism

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. the development of a common transport policy (Articles 74-84 of the EEC Treaty);
2. the creation of a European transport network;
3. the liberalization of international transport;
4. discrimination, harmonization and coordination in the sphere of transport;
5. problems involved in transport by air, sea and pipeline;
6. the Community's policy on ports;
7. possible areas of interference between a common transport policy and its tariffs and the rules on competition or the requirements of social, agricultural, energy or regional policy (see Articles 3 (e) and 74 of the EEC Treaty and Articles 70 *et seq.* of the ECSC Treaty);
8. postal communications;
9. the European Community's tourism policy.

The committee will be required to give its opinion on matters pertaining to the fields of competition, the removal of barriers, the right of establishment and freedom to provide services, where transport policy is involved.

XI. Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. environment policy and environmental protection measures:
 - a. pollution of air, earth and water,
 - b. classification, packing, labelling, transport and use of dangerous substances,
 - c. fixing permissible noise levels,
 - d. treatment and storage of waste (including recycling),
 - e. international and regional measures and agreements aimed at protecting the environment (for example, the Rhine, the Mediterranean),
 - f. protecting fauna and its habitat,
 - g. giving opinions on energy and research programmes affecting the environment,
 - h. provisions of the Law of the Sea regarding the environment.

2. consumer protection
problems concerning the implementation of the legislation proposed in the Community action programmes, viz:
 - a. protection of consumers against risks to health and safety,
 - b. protection of consumers' economic interests,
 - c. improvement of legal protection for consumers (assistance, advice and legal redress),
 - d. improvement of consumer information and education,
 - e. appropriate consultation and representation of consumers during the preparatory phase of decisions affecting their interests.

3. public health
 - a. programmes in the field of health education (with the emphasis on preventive action in respect of tobacco, the use of drugs, cardiovascular illnesses, dietary products),
 - b. checks on foodstuffs,
 - c. veterinary legislation concerning protection against dangers to human health arising from bacteria and residues in animal products, health controls for products (meat, milk, etc.) and production systems (slaughterhouses, dairies, etc),

- d. pharmaceutical products, including veterinary products,
- e. medical research,
- f. cosmetic products,
- g. civil protection.

XII. Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, the Media and Sport

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. questions pertaining to the information of the general public on the activities of the European Communities;
2. youth exchanges, including the exchange of young workers, and other measures designed to promote the involvement of young people in the development of the European Community;
3. the policy designed to preserve and restore the cultural heritage and safeguard natural areas in cooperation with the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection;
4. proposals relating to the establishment of a cultural Community;
5. the activities of the European Youth Forum;
6. education policy;
7. the European Foundation;
8. education programmes, harmonization of syllabuses and mutual recognition of diplomas;
9. the development of the European University and cooperation between institutions of higher education;
10. promoting the system of European Schools;
11. continuing education for adults and home-study courses;
12. questions relating to information and the media;
13. questions pertaining to the development of policy on sports;
14. leisure.

The committee will be required to give its opinion on problems associated with the youth employment policy and vocational training.

XIII. Committee on Development and Cooperation

This committee is responsible for examining and monitoring the policy of the Community on development with particular reference to:

1. the North-South dialogue;
2. emergency aid and food aid;
3. technical, financial and educational cooperation;
4. the generalized system of preferences;
5. industrial, agricultural and rural development.

This committee is also responsible for matters pertaining to:

1. the application of the ACP-EEC Convention;
2. the application of the cooperation agreements with the Maghreb and Mashreq countries;
3. relations with certain developing countries or groups of developing countries with which the Community has concluded cooperation or association agreements;
4. financial and technical cooperation with the developing countries;
5. relations with international organizations which specialize in development and cooperation.

XIV. Committee on Budgetary Control

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. the control of financial, budgetary and administrative implementing measures taken on the basis, in the framework of, or in relation with the General Budget of the European Communities (including the EDF), the financial and administrative activities of the ECSC, the financial activities of the EIB carried out on the basis of instructions from the Commission and the coordination of all the financial activities of the EIB with the other financial instruments of the European Communities;
2. the Financial Regulation;
3. the decisions on discharge taken by Parliament and measures accompanying or implementing these decisions;
4. accounts and balance sheets relating to decisions concerning the closure, presenting and auditing of Parliament's revenue and expenditure as well as measures accompanying or implementing these decisions, in particular in the framework of the internal discharge procedure, requiring close collaboration with the President and the Bureau of the European Parliament;

5. the closure, presenting and auditing of the accounts and balance sheets of the European Communities, their organs and any bodies financed by them, including the establishment of appropriations to be carried over and the settling of balances;
6. monitoring accompanying the implementation of current budgets on the basis of periodic reports provided by the Commission and measures taken for such implementation which do not constitute budgetary authorization, i.e. transfers and other measures, excluding transfers on the basis of Chapter 100, release of appropriations, and carry-over or reinstatement of appropriations falling within the competence of the Committee on Budgets;
7. the assessment of the effectiveness of the various forms of Community financing, the coordination of the various financial instruments and the assessment of the cost-benefit ratio in the implementation of the policies financed by the European Communities;
8. consideration of the credit terms, financing mechanisms and the administrative structures designed to implement them, by examining cases of fraud and irregularities;
9. the drawing up of legislative opinions on regulations or part of regulations relating to the implementation of budgets, including administrative management, the organization of checks on the prevention, prosecution and suppression of frauds and irregularities and opinions addressed to the Committee on Budgets for decisions which assume an assessment of the implementation and management of expenditure (budgetary procedure, adjustment and revision of financial perspectives, carry-over of appropriations, etc.);
10. opinions and information to be given, on request or on its own initiative, to parliamentary committees and other parliamentary bodies, on matters coming under the heading of budgetary control;
11. the consideration of reports and opinions of the Court of Auditors of the European Communities;
12. relations with the Court of Auditors of the European Communities and the appointment of its members, without prejudice to the powers of the President of Parliament;
13. the consideration of confidential documents relating to a field under the responsibility of the Committee on Budgetary Control, in strict accordance with the provisions of Annex VII to the Rules of Procedure.

In exercising these duties the Committee on Budgetary Control will cooperate closely with the Committee on Budgets.

XV. Committee on Institutional Affairs

The task of this committee will be to draft proposals — and in particular to continue to work on the basis of the draft Treaty adopted on 14 February 1984 — with a view to the establishment of the European Union.

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. the drawing up of draft uniform electoral procedure;
2. problems of political union;
3. general relations with the other institutions or organs of the Community;
4. the institutional structures of the Communities within the framework of the existing Treaties (the Political Affairs Committee and the Committee on Legal Affairs and Citizens' Rights, in so far as they are concerned, will each give an opinion on these matters in so far as they involve the interpretation, application or extension of the provisions of the Treaties governing the internal operation of each institution and relations between the institutions);
5. the development of European integration in the framework of the intergovernmental conference;
6. the assessment of the institutional implications of the Single European Act and the implementation thereof, save for the political and institutional aspects of accession agreements which shall be the responsibility of the Political Affairs Committee.

XVI. Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities

This committee is responsible for:

1. matters relating to the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure, i.e.:
 - a. the formulation of the Rules of Procedure, including Annexes thereto,
 - b. the examination of and reporting on proposed amendments to the Rules tabled under Rule 132,
 - c. the interpretation of the Rules of Procedure pursuant to Rules 101 and 131;
2. the application of the provisions of Rule 6 and Rule 7 (7) of the Rules of Procedure:
 - a. to verify the credentials of newly-elected Members, and
 - b. to rule on any disputes;
3. matters relating to privileges and immunities.

XVII. Committee on Women's Rights

This committee is responsible for matters relating to:

1. the definition and evolution of women's rights in the Community, based on the European Parliament's resolutions on this subject;
2. the implementation and improvement of directives relating to equal rights for women and the formulation of new directives;
3. social, employment and training policy in respect of women and young girls, and measures to combat female unemployment;
4. information policy and studies on women;
5. the assessment of common policies from the point of view of women and the consequences for women of the completion of the internal market;
6. problems relating to the professional activities of women and their family role;
7. women in the Community Institutions;
8. women in the international sphere (United Nations, International Labour Office, etc.);
9. the situation of migrant women and the partners of migrant workers and the status of women who are both European citizens and nationals of non-European countries within the framework of European legislation relating to the internal market.

XVIII. Committee on Petitions

This committee is responsible for matters relating to petitions, the examination thereof and the action to be taken thereon.