

# **European Communities**

# **EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

# **WORKING DOCUMENTS**

**English Edition** 

1985-86

3 June 1985

A SERIES

DOCUMENT A2-49/85

REPORT

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(85) 180 final/2 - Doc. C2-18/85 for a regulation instituting integrated Mediterranean programmes

PART A: MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

Rapporteur: Mr P. DE PASQUALE

PE 97.559/fin./A
Or. It.

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By letter of 23 April 1985, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion, pursuant to Articles 43, 127 and 235 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation instituting integrated Mediterranean programmes.

On 6 May 1985 the President of the European Parliament referred the proposal to the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy, the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment, the Committee on Transport and the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport for their opinions.

At its meeting of 25 April 1985 the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning appointed Mr Pancrazio DE PASQUALE rapporteur.

The committee considered the Commission's proposal and the draft report at its meetings of 25 April, 7 May and 23 May 1985.

At the last meeting the committee decided by unopposed vote with 3 abstentions to recommend to Parliament that it approve the Commission's proposal, subject to the following amendments.

The following took part in the vote: Mr DE PASQUALE, chairman and rapporteur; Mr DUCARME and Mr NEWMAN, vice-chairmen; Mr ALMIRANTE, Mr AVGERINOS, Mr Christopher BEAZLEY, Mr EPHREMIDIS (deputizing for Mr VERGES), Mr GERONTOPOULOS (deputizing for Mr GIUMMARRA), Mr HUTTON, Mr LAMBRIAS, Mr LIGIOS, Mrs LEMASS, Mr David MARTIN, Mr MATTINA (deputizing for Mr MORONI), Mr MUSSO (deputizing for Mr BARRETT), Mr O'DONNELL, Mr POETSCHKI, Mr ROMEO, Mr SCHREIBER, Mr TAYLOR and Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE.

The committee then adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole by unopposed vote with 1 abstention.

The following took part in the vote: Mr DE PASQUALE, chairman and rapporteur; Mr DUCARME and Mr NEWMAN, vice-chairmen; Mr ALMIRANTE, Mr AVGERINOS, Hr BARRETT, Mr Christopher BEAZLEY, Mr EPHREMIDIS (deputizing for Hr VERGES), Mr GERONTOPOULOS (deputizing for Mr GIUMMARRA), Mr GRIFFITHS, Mr HUTTON, Mr LAMBRIAS, Mr LIGIOS, Mr David MARTIN, Mr MATTINA (deputizing for Mr MORONI), Mr MUSSO (deputizing for Mrs LEMASS), Mr O'DONNELL, Mr POETSCHKI, Mr SCHREIBER, Mr TAYLOR and Mr VANDEMEULEBROUCKE.

The opinions of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy, the Committee on Transport and the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport are attached.

The opinion of the Committee on Budgets will be published separately.

The Committee on Energy, Research and Technology proposes to deliver its opinion in the form of an own-initiative report on the problems of enlargement.

The Committee on Social Affairs and Employment decided not to deliver an opinion.

The report was tabled on 29 May 1985.

The deadline for tabling amendments to this report will be indicated in the draft agenda for the part-session at which it will be debated.

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The Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning hereby submits to the European Parliament the following <u>amendments</u> to the Commission's proposal and motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

Proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation instituting integrated Mediterranean programmes  $(COM(85) 180 \text{ final/2}^{1} - Doc. C2-18/85)^{2}$ 

Text proposed by the Commission of the European Communities

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

# Preamble unchanged

AMENDMENT No. 1

Paragraph 1

Paragraph 1

Amend as follows:

- The situation in the southern regions of the present Community: standard of living, weakness of economic, agricultural and industrial structures and high unemployment, sometimes combined with an ageing population;
  - 1. The situation in the southern regions of the present Community: standard of living, weakness of economic, agricultural and industrial structures and high unemployment and underemployment, sometimes combined with an ageing population;

Paragraph 2 unchanged

AMENDMENT No. 2

Paragraph 2a

Add the following new paragraph:

2a. The Mediterranean regions have been less favoured than the other regions of the Community and the development gap between such regions and the others has not been bridged and has, in many cases, widened;

Paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 unchanged

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>6 Hay 1985

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>OJ No. C

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

AMENDMENT\_No.\_3

# Paragraph 6a

Add the following new paragraph:

6a. An improvement in the income situation in such regions is also linked to the state of the market in Mediterranean products, particularly as regards the guarantee and support prices;

# AMENDMENT No. 4

Paragraph 7

7. The link between the operations already carried out under the sociostructural policies, in particular the Community's regional development policy and the specific sectoral policies, which will continue to apply in these regions, and the measures to be taken under the integrated programmes; these latter measures will boost or complement the operations already covered by the existing structural Funds and allocations;

#### Paragraph 7

Amend as follows:

7. The link between the operations already carried out under the sociostructural policies, in particular the Community's regional development policy and the specific sectoral policies, which will continue to apply as normal in these regions, and the measures to be taken under the integrated programmes; these latter measures will boost or complement the operations already covered by the existing structural Funds and allocations;

#### Paragraphs 8 and 9 unchanged

# AMENDMENT No. 5

Article 1

1. This Regulation makes provision for specific Community action to accelerate the socio-economic development of the Mediterranean regions of the Community, and particularly Greece, to facilitate the adaptation of these regions to the new conditions created by enlargement and, if necessary, to support employment and incomes. This action shall take the form of a Community contribution to the implementation of integrated Mediterranean programmes, hereinafter referred to as 'IMPs', submitted to the Commission by the Member States concerned.

# Article 1

Amend Article 1(1) as follows:

1. This Regulation makes provision for specific Community action to accelerate the socio-economic development of the Mediterranean regions of the Community, and particularly Greece, to facilitate the adaptation of these regions to the new conditions created by enlargement and (two words deleted) to support employment and incomes. This action shall take the form of a Community contribution to the implementation of integrated Mediterranean programmes, hereinafter referred to as 'IMPs', submitted to the Commission by the Member States concerned.

AMENDMENT No. 6

Article 2

- 3. The operations shall concern the various spheres of economic activity:
  - agriculture, fisheries and related activities, including the agri-food industries;
  - crafts and manufacturing;
  - services, including tourism;

and any other sphere where such operations may contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the IMPs.

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

Article 2

Amend Article 2(3) as follows:

- 3. The operations shall concern the various spheres of economic activity:
  - agriculture, fisheries and related activities, including the agri-food industries and bioenergy;
  - crafts and manufacturing;
  - services, including tourism;

and any other sphere where such operations may contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the IMPs.

Article 3 unchanged

AMENDMENT No. 7

Article 4

- In the drafting and adapting of common policies and other Community measures, account shall be taken of the need to ensure consistency with the objective of the IMPs.
- 2. Operations under the IMPs shall be mutually complementary and shall be tailored to the characteristics of the various regions and areas so as to facilitate integration of all the national and Community resources used.

Article 4

Amend Article 4 as follows:

- UNCHANGED
- 2. UNCHANGED
- 2a. The Member States and the Commission shall ensure, at national and Community level respectively, that the operations carried out under the IMPs are consistent and compatible with the aims of these programmes.

**UNCHANGED** 

3. Operations under the IMPs must not affect the conditions of competition in breach of the relevant principles of the Treaty; they must therefore remain consistent in particular with the Principles of Coordination of Regional Aid Systems.

Article 5 unchanged

3.

AMENDMENT No. 8

Article 6

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

Article 6

1. UNCHANGED

Amena Article 6 as follows:

- 1. The Commission shall examine the IMPs with a view to establishing:
  - their consistency with this regulation;
  - the operations which are to receive Community financial assistance
- 1a. The Commission shall establish internal procedures designed to ensure the most effective possible coordination and integration between the various Community structural measures
- 2. The amount of Community assistance for the IMPs shall be based principally on the socio-economic situation of the inhabitants concerned at both local and national levels, priority being given to less-favoured areas. Account shall also be taken:
  - of the usefulness of operations in the light of the productivity, employment and income objectives;
- 2. The amount of Community assistance for the IMPs shall be based principally on the socio-economic situation of the inhabitants concerned at both local and national levels, priority being given to less-favoured areas. Account shall also be taken:
  - of the <u>contribution made</u> by operations in the light of the productivity, employment and income objectives;
  - of the need to encourage small and medium-sized undertakings and cooperative organizations with a view to increasing productivity and creating permanent jobs in less-favoured regions;
- of the size of the contribution made to the programme by the Member State, bearing in mind its budgetary resources,
- of the effectiveness of the machinery for coordinating and mobilizing initiatives;
- of the relevance of the Community instruments, aids or loans to the proposed operations.
- UNCHANGED

UNCHANGED

- UNCHANGED

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

# AMENDMENT No. 9

# Article 7

An Advisory Committee on integrated Mediterranean programmes shall be set up. The Committee shall be made up of representatives of the Member States and chaired by a representative of the Commission. It shalldeliver an opinion on each programme, paying special attention to the integration of operations, the coordination of measures and the use of the specific additional resources referred to in Article 3.

Without prejudice to all the provisions applicable to the Funds and budgetary allocations for structural purposes, the Commission shall approve the IMPs after consulting the aforementioned Committee.

# Article 7

# Amend Article 7 as follows:

- 1. An Advisory Committee on integrated Mediterranean Programmes shall be set up. The Committee shall be made up of representatives of the Member States and chaired by a representative of the Commission. It shall deliver an opinion on each programme, paying special attention to the integration of operations, the coordination of measures and the use of the specific additional resources referred to in Article 3.
- 2. Before delivering its opinion, the Advisory Committee may, on its own initiative or in response to a request, give a hearing to representatives of the regions concerned.
- 3. (16 words deleted) The Commission shall approve the IMPs after consulting the aforementioned Committee. Decisions shall be binding, including those which concern measures falling within the competence of the Funds and the other structural instruments.
- 4. Decisions on approval shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

#### ARTICLE 8 UNCHANGED

# AMENDMENT No. 10

#### Article 9

Implementation of the IMPs shall be facilitated by a Steering Committee for each programme and regulated by programme contracts concluded between the parties concerned (Commission, Member States, regional authority or any other authority designated by the Member States) and setting out their respective commitments. The role of the Steering Committee and the standard contents of the programme contract are specified in Annex IV.

# Article 9

# Amend Article 9 as follows:

- 1. Implementation of the IMPs shall be facilitated by a Steering Committee for each programme and regulated by programme contracts concluded between the parties concerned (Commission, Member States, regional authority or any other authority designated by the Member States) and setting out their respective commitments. The role of the Steering Committee and the standard contents of the programme contract are specified in Annex IV.
- 2. The programme contracts shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

# AMENDMENT No. 11

# Article 10

- Community financial assistance for the IMPs shall be provided from budgetary funds of an indicative amount of 4100 m ECU over 7 years, of which 2500 m ECU from the Funds and 1600 m ECU in the form of specific additional resources.
- It is estimated that over the same 7-year period, the IMPs could receive loans totalling 2500 m ECU, possibly at subsidized rates.
- 3. The IMPs submitted by Greece shall qualify under paragraph 1 for an amount of 2000 m ECU.

# AMENDMENT No. 12

# Article 11

- 1. For the period from 1986 to 1993, the financial assistance referred to in Article 10(1) shall be provided for out of the annual budgetary allocations for the Funds, without prejudice, however, to the measures for the priority or less-prosperous regions not covered by the IMPs. This shall be facilitated by an increase in real terms in the allocations received by the Funds during the period under consideration.
- 2. A special budget heading entitled: 'Integrated Mediterranean programmes additional contribution' shall be allocated differentiated approp riations as part of the annual budget procedure.

# Article 10

# Amend Article 10 as follows:

- 1. Community financial assistance for the IMPs shall be provided from budgetary funds of an indicative amount of 4500 m ECU over 7 years, of which 2500 m ECU from the Funds and 2000 m ECU in the form of specific additional resources.
- 2. Additional loans could be granted under the IMPs over the same 7-year period, at subsidized rates where appropriate, up to an amount of 2500 m ECU.
- 3. The IMPs submitted by Greece shall qualify under paragraph 1 for an amount of 2000 m ECU, except as provided in Article 12(2), point II.

# Article 11

# Amend Article 11 as follows:

- 1. For the period from 1986 to 1993, the financial contributions from the Funds and those laid down in Article 10(1), shall be provided for out of the annual budgetary allocations for the Funds. These allocations must be increased in real terms every year so as to permit the financing of the part of the IMPs relating to the Funds and at the same time to ensure a gradual increase in aid, more in line with the needs both of the areas excluded from the IMPs and those included under these programmes.
- 2. A special budget heading entitled:
   'Integrated Mediterranean programmes special additional resources' shall
   be allocated differentiated appropriations as part of the annual budget
   procedure, up to the level of the overall amount laid down for these additional resources in Article 10(1).

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

2a. The separation between Fund expenditure and Integrated Mediterranean Programme expenditure must be indicated in the budget.

AMENDMENT No. 13
Article 12

Article 12

Amend Article 12 to read:

Where IMPS are financed by the Funds or by way of other budgetary allocations for structural purposes, the relevant Community financial assistance shall be granted in accordance with the procedures laid down by the provisions governing those Funds or allocations.

The resources of the special budget heading referred to in Article 11(2) may be used in particular for:

- (a) granting Community assistance over and above the thresholds laid down by the provisions governing the Funds or other budgetary allocations for structural purposes;
- (b) measures outside the geographical scope of the Funds or other budgetary allocations for structural purposes and without regard to their respective qualitative and quantitative restrictions;
- (c) granting repayable aids for the financing of investment in the productive sector;
- (d) where appropriate, granting interest subsidies on Community loans made from EIB own resources and NCI resources in respect of investments by small and medium-sized enterprises or investments in energy, transport or telecommunciations infrastructures.

- 1. Where IMPS are financed by the Funds or by way of other budgetary allocations for structural purposes, the relevant Community financial assistance shall be granted in accordance with the procedures laid down by the provisions governing those Funds or allocations, subject to the provisions of Article 7(3).
- 2. The <u>specific additional</u> resources of the <u>special budget heading</u> referred to in Article 11(2) may be used (3 words deleted):

I. Up to an overall amount estimated at 1600 m ECU, in particular for:

- (a) UNCHANGED
- (b) UNCHANGED
- (c) UNCHANGED
- (d) where appropriate, granting interest subsidies on Community loans made from EIB own resources and NCI resources in respect of investments (7 words deleted) in energy, transport or telecommunications infrastructures.

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

- II. Up to an estimated overall amount of 400 m ECU, on which Greece may also draw, for:
- (a) granting interest rate subsidies on Community loans made from EIB

  own resources and NCI resources in respect of productive investment for small and mediumsized undertakings, craft undertakings and cooperatives;
- (b) helping to strengthen the capital of small and medium-sized undertakings;
- (c) providing finance for innovation in small and medium-sized undertakings, craft undertakings and cooperatives;

ARTICLES 13 AND 14 UNCHANGED

# AMENDMENT No. 14

# Article 15

The expenditure commitments relating to the budget heading referred to in Article 11(2) shall be effected, within the limits of the sums available, in annual instalments. The first instalment shall be committed as soon as the decision to grant assistance has been taken by the Commission. The commitment of subsequent annual instalments shall depend on the progress made with the programme.

Advances of up to 50% of the amount of the commitments shall be payable.

# AMENDMENT No. 15 Article 16

3. For a period of three years following the final payment made in connection with the programme, the Member State or the recipients mentioned in paragraph 1 shall keep available for the Commission all the supporting documents relating to programme expenditure or certified copies thereof.

# Article 15

# Amend Article 15 as follows:

- 1. The expenditure commitments relating to the budget heading referred to in Article 11(2) shall be effected (7 words deleted) in annual instalments geared to the financing requirements of the IMPs. The first instalment shall be committed as soon as the decision to grant assistance has been taken by the Commission. The commitment of subsequent annual instalments shall depend on the progress made with the programme.
- 2. UNCHANGED

# Article 16

# Amend Article 16(3) as follows:

3.For a period of <u>five</u> years following the final payment made in connection with the programme, the Member State or the recipients mentioned in paragraph 1 shall keep available for the Commission <u>and European Parliament</u> all the supporting documents relating to programme expenditure or certified copies thereof.

AMENDMENT No. 16

Article 17

1. The Commission shall be kept informed at all times of the implementation of the IMPs. This information shall be obtained from the documents sent or made available to it by the Member States, and from the monitoring which it carries out on its own initiative. The nature of these documents and the conditions governing monitoring operations, in particular the time limits for transmission or verification, shall be specified in the contract referred to in Article 9.

AMENDMENT No. 17

Article 18

1. Starting in 1987, the Commission shall each year produce a detailed report on the implementation of the IMPs covering the financial aspects of their implementation and containing an economic and social assessment of the results obtained.

Starting that same year, the Commission shall also draw up each year a statement of all the Community's structural financial resources, showing the proportion of those resources which has been used to implement IMPs.

 The reports and statements shall be sent to the Council, the European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee. Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

# Article 17

Amend Article 17(1) as follows:

1. The Commission shall be kept informed at all times of the implementation of the IMPs. This information shall be obtained from the documents sent or made available to it by the Member States, and from the monitoring which it carries out on its own initiative and as part of its budgetary responsibility. The nature of these documents and the conditions governing monitoring operations, in particular the time limits for transmission or verification, shall be specified in the contract referred to in Article 9.

# Article 18

Amend Article 18 as follows:

1. Starting in 1987, the Commission shall each year produce a detailed report on the implementation of the IMPs covering the financial aspects of their implementation and containing an economic and social assessment of the results obtained. The report shall, in particular, include data on the amount of Member State and Community aid broken down by sector of the economy, the number of jobs created or preserved in each sector, the change in GDP per capita and in the unemployment figures, with particular mention being made of unemployment amongst young people and long-term unemployment.

Starting that same year, the Commission shall also draw up each year a statement of all the Community's structural financial resources, showing the proportion of those resources which has been used to implement IMPs.

2. UNCHANGED

Article 19 unchanged

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

# ANNNEX\_I

# GEOGRAPHICAL SCOPE OF THE IMPS

FRANCE AND GREECE: UNCHANGED

AMENDMENT No. 18

Italy

Italy

Delete the text - including the footnote and <u>replace it</u> with the following:

The whole of the Mezzogiorno, 2 the regions of Liguria, Tuscany, Umbria and Marche, <sup>5</sup> and the Lagoons of the northern Adriatic between the Comacchio and Marano Lagunara complexes.

The regions of Abruzzi, Molise, Apulia, Campania, Basilicata, Calabria, Sicily, Sardinia and the provinces of Frosinone and Latina in the region of Lazio.

 $^{2}$ With the exception of the conurbations of  $^{2}$  DELETED Rome, Naples and Palermo. The Mezzogiorno includes the whole of Lazio. However, in the case of infrastructure projects, the areas taken into consideration are those covered by the Cassa del Mezzogiorno (Presidential Decree No. 1523 of 30 June 1967).

 $^{3}$ With the exception of the conurbations of 3 DELETED Florence and Genoa and the built-up coastal strip with all-year-round tourist activity, where only fisheries and

aquaculture measures are possible.

Where only certain aquaculture measures 4 DELETED are possible.

# ANNEX\_II

# OPERATIONS WHICH ILLUSTRATE THE OBJECTIVES OF DEVELOPMENT,

ADAPTATION AND SUPPORT

FOR THE COMMUNITY POLICY ON

# INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMMES

LETTERS (a) AND (b) UNCHANGED

AMENDMENT No. 19

Letter (c)

Letter (c)

Letter (c), first indent to read as follows:

-expanding small and medium-sized enterprises and craft firms by stepping up measures for which provision has already been made with this objective in mind, namely, physical investment aids and aids to improve business organization;

-expanding small and medium-sized enterprises, craft firms and coop-<u>eratives</u> by stepping up measures for which provision has already been made with this objective in mind, namely, physical investment aids and aids to improve business organization;

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

# AMENDMENT No. 20

Letter\_(c)

# Letter (c)

After the first indent, <u>insert</u> the following <u>new indent</u>:

-encouraging innovation and the use of new technologies in small and medium-sized undertakings, craft firms and cooperatives

# AMENDMENT No. 21

Letter (c)

Letter (c)

Letter (c), <u>second indent</u> to read as follows:

-facilitating the setting up of new enterprises, and, in Greece, also the relocation of those situated in Athens:

-in Greece, facilitating the setting
up of new enterprises and the relocation of those situated in Athens;

AMENDMENT No. 22

Letter (d)

Letter (d)

The opening phrase of letter (d) to read as follows:

(d) The programmes also involve operations aimed at enhancing the value of human resources, with special reference to young people and women:

(d) The programmes also involve operations aimed at enhancing the value of human resources:

# ANNEX III

# CONTENTS OF THE INTEGRATED MEDITERRANEAN PROGRAMMES SUBMITTED BY FRANCE, GREECE AND ITALY

# AMENDMENT No. 23

# 5th indent

 the administrative, legislative and financial measures adopted or planned for the purpose of implemeting the IMPs submitted;

# 5th indent

5th Indent to read as follows:

- the administrative, legislative and financial measures adopted or planned for the purpose of implementing the IMPs submitted, particularly those aimed at simplifying, coordinating and appending up the flow of payments of aid and finance in the form of impass:

Amendments tabled by the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning

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# ANNEX IV

# STEERING COMMITTEE AND PROGRAMME CONTRACT

# AMENDMENT No. 24

# Paragraph 1

1. For each programme, a Steering Committee shall be set up by mutual agreement between the Commission and the Member State concerned. The Committee, chaired by a representative of the Commission, shall assist the Member State, the regional authority or any other authority designated by the Member State to carry out the programme.

# Paragraph 1

Paragraph 1 to read as follows:

1. To activate, coordinate and monitor each programme, a Steering Committee shall be set up by mutual agreement between the Commission, (one word deleted) the Member State and the regional authorities concerned. The Committee, chaired by a representative of the Commission shall assist the Member State, the regional authority or any other authority designated by the Member State to carry out the programme.

# MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

<u>incorporating the opinion</u> of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation instituting integrated Mediterranean programmes

# The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council (COM(85) 180 final/2 of 6.5.1985),
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Articles 43, 127 and 235 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community (Doc. C2-18/85),
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Regional Policy and Regional Planning and the opinions of the Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy, the Committee on Transport and the Committee on Youth, Culture, Education, Information and Sport (Doc. A2-49/85),
- having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposal,
- having regard to the resolution of 29 March 1984 on the (first) proposal for a regulation instituting integrated Mediterranean programmes<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to the resolution of 14 March 1985 on the integrated Mediterranean programmes<sup>2</sup>,
- having regard to the political conclusions of the European Council in Brussels on 19 and 20 March 1984,
- having regard to the final declaration of the European Council in Brussels on 29 and 30 March  $1985^3$ ,
- 1. Approves, subject to the amendments set out above, the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities, which is intended to establish an independent Community policy to assist the Mediterranean regions of the Community with a view to:
  - (a) accelerating their overall socio-economic development,
  - (b) facilitating their adaptation to the conditions created by enlargement, seeking in particular to reduce the unfavourable consequences,
  - 2. Welcomes the fact that the new proposals comply with many of the requests put forward in the resolution of 14 March  $1985^2$  and, in particular:

<sup>10</sup>J No. C 117, 30.4.1984, pp. 109 et seq.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>See minutes of the sitting, PE 96.424 <sup>3</sup>See EP Bulletin No. 6/Add., 15 April 1985

- (a) the introduction of an outline regulation giving the Commission considerable freedom in the adoption of the programmes,
- (b) the involvement and acceptance of a responsible role by regional and local authorities,
- (c) stepping up intervention measures in non-agricultural sectors in line with the inherent potential for development in regions concerned,
- (d) gearing all Community policies to the objectives laid down in the integrated Mediterranean programmes,
- (e) the integration and coordination of the various instruments and measures in the framework of appropriate regional planning,
- (f) a policy of loans with interest rate subsidies;
- 3. Strongly condemns, however, the fact that the resources allocated to the financing of the integrated Mediterranean programmes (IMPs) are insufficient overall for the structural measures needed in the areas concerned, if the stated objectives of global development are to be achieved;
- 4. Considers it vital therefore to request that the part of the finance allocated 'to IMPs in the form of contributions from the various funds and structural instruments and in the form of loans, should be additional to the finance which the regions concerned already receive and should continue to receive in future;
- 5. Considers it vital, for this purpose, that the scheduled increases in real terms in the Community Funds should be sufficient to allow the financing of the IMPs from the quota of the Funds earmarked for this purpose, as well as the strengthening of structural policies for the Community as a whole;
- 6. Calls for increased support for small and medium-sized undertakings, craft undertakings and cooperatives, in the form of additional resources aimed exclusively at encouraging productive investment in these undertakings;
- 7. Endorses the approach taken by the Commission with regard to the various operations listed by way of illustration in Annex II of the proposal for a regulation and confirms the priorities adopted in its resolution of 29 March 1984 concerning the various economic sectors;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>OJ No. C 117, 30.4.1984, pp 109 et seq

- 8. Welcomes the role and the tasks assigned to the regions by the proposal for a regulation but considers that the regions concerned should be given still wider responsibility in the process of drawing up, adopting and administering the programmes;
- 9. Calls on the Commission, the governments and the regional authorities concerned to give top priority to the co-financing of those measures which, in addition to offering guarantees of economic viability, are also likely to create the maximum possible number of skilled and stable jobs, particularly for young people and women;
- 10. In the interests of the effective implementation of the IMPs, calls on the Commission to take all the necessary measures to:
  - (a) provide the regional and national authorities with the maximum possible technical assistance, particularly in the economic and regional planning sectors and in identifying local development potential,
  - (b) publicize the possibilities for using Community financial instruments and the conditions for their coordination with local and national measures,
  - (c) use the most simplified procedures possible to ensure that the various operations are truly integrated;
- 11. Demands also that the Commission, before adopting the programmes, submits to the relevant committee of Parliament the main guidelines and data resulting from the programmes as a whole;
- 12 Calls on the Council to institute the conciliation procedure established by the agreement between the three institutions of 4 March 1975 and points out that, should the Council intend to depart from the opinion adopted by Parliament, the application of this procedure is compulsory, under paragraph 4 of that agreement;
- 13. Instructs its President to forward to the Council, the Commission and the regional authorities of the areas in which the IMPs are being implemented, as Parliament's opinion, the Commission's proposal as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution.