

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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7 May 1984

DOCUMENT 1-207/84

## Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on  
Economic and Monetary Affairs

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(84) 119 final - Doc. 1-151/84) for a decision concerning the coordination of the actions of the Member States and the Commission related to the implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations

Rapporteur: Mr J. MOREAU

PE 90.189/fin.  
Or Fr



By letter of 6 April 1984, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision concerning the coordination of the actions of the Member States and the Commission related to the implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations.

On 11 April 1984, the President of the European Parliament referred the proposal to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology for their opinions.

At its meeting of 21/22 March 1984, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs appointed Mr J. Moreau rapporteur.

The committee considered the Commission's proposal and the draft report at its meeting of 25/26 April 1984.

At the last meeting, the committee decided unanimously to recommend to Parliament that it approve the Commission's proposal with the following amendments:

The committee then adopted the motion for a resolution as a whole unanimously.

The following took part in the vote: Mr J. Moreau, chairman and rapporteur; Mr Macario, vice-chairman, Mr Delorozoy, Mr Marchesin (deputizing for Mrs Desouches), Mr Moreland (deputizing for Miss Forster), Mr Rogalla (deputizing for Mr Schinzel), Mr Vergeer, Mr Wagner, Mr Welsh and Mr von Wogau.

The opinions of the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology are attached. The opinion of the Committee on Budgets will be published separately.

The explanatory statement will be submitted orally in plenary sitting.

The report was tabled on 2 May 1984.

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 Economic and Monetary Affairs hereby submits to the European Parliament the following amendments to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision concerning the coordination of the actions of the Member States and the Commission related to the implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations

Amendments tabled by the  
Committee on Economic and  
Monetary Affairs

Text proposed by the Commission of the  
European Communities

Preamble unchanged

Article 1

(unchanged)

Article 2

(unchanged)

Article 2a

The Commission shall report annually to Parliament on the introduction of CADDIA telematic systems and the implementation of the long-term programme.

Article 3

(unchanged)

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The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a decision concerning the coordination of the actions of the Member States and the Commission related to the implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council (COM(84) 119 final),
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-151/84),
- having regard to its resolution of 23 April 1982 on INSIS and CADDIA,
- having regard to its resolution of 9 April 1984 on the need to implement the internal European market,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and the opinions of the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology (Doc. 1-207/84),
- having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposal,

1. Stresses the importance of the action taken by Parliament, along the lines set out in its resolution of 9 April 1984 to secure a simplification of customs formalities, in particular the collection of data;
2. Welcomes, in this respect, the CADDIA project which could simplify and speed up the administration of the customs union, the agricultural policy and the commercial policy; emphasizes, nevertheless, that the benefits of such an improvement should not be confined to the Commission and the Member States but should also be extended to users, in particular importers and exporters, and should entail a simplification and reduction of customs formalities;
3. Takes the view that coordination of the activities of the Member States as regards the use of telematics in the information systems referred to above may contribute to compatibility between the telematic systems of the various Member States and hence to the competitiveness of European industry in this sector;
4. Underlines, in this connection, the crucial importance of a rapid agreement being reached on the question of standards, in particular those relating to data and messages; considers that preference should be given to the utilization of international standards if they meet European requirements, failing which suitable European standards should be drawn up without delay;
5. Notes that the Commission's proposals for a long-term development programme do not include individual ten-year development plans for each of the Member States but are based instead on the common use of newly developed advanced information technology standards that will enable systems produced by different manufacturers to communicate with each other; nevertheless urges the Member States to formulate as soon as possible their long-term development programmes, enabling the Commission to ensure that these national programmes are compatible with each other and if not to formulate the necessary proposals to achieve this objective;

6. Considers, therefore, in order to limit the risk of differences and incompatibility between the data processing systems used in the Member States, the CADDIA work programme, and in particular the work of specifying standards and functions of the common facilities to be installed by the Member States to meet CADDIA requirements together with the joint planning procedures proposed for this purpose, should continue without delay.
7. Recalls that on 25 November 1983, the Council reached agreement on the list of data that may be demanded by Member States in connection with intra-Community trade; considers that in order to achieve the objective of simplifying data collection, all the data on that list should be covered by CADDIA; calls for the rapid computerization of these data and administrative procedures and for this to be taken into account in the design of a single customs document;
8. Emphasizes that the CADDIA project should be designed in such a way that data relating to the management of the common agricultural policy and intra-Community trade do not need to be collected at frontiers but may be collected further inland in the Member States, in accordance with the long-term objective pursued by Parliament;
9. Approves, subject to the above reservations, the Commission's proposals;
10. Instructs its President to forward to the Council, the Commission and the governments of the Member States, as Parliament's opinion, the Commission's proposal as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution.



OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Mr MOREAU,  
chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Dear Mr Moreau,

At its meeting of 24 and 25 April 1984, the Committee on Agriculture considered the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities for a Council decision on the coordination of the actions of the Member States and the Commission related to the implementation of a long-term programme for the use of telematics for Community information systems concerned with imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations (COM(84) 119 fin.). It noted with great interest the report drawn up by the Caddia Preliminary Task Force and the plans and prospects for the deveopment of the CADDIA systems in the short and long term.

It is generally recognized that competitiveness and productivity are becoming increasingly dependent on the efficient use of information exchange networks.

The success of the CADDIA project is, therefore, extremely important for the agricultural sector, not only because it will make better market management possible, with resultant control over income and expenditure, but also because it will facilitate consultation of information sources and promote more efficient forecasting.

The Committee on Agriculture does not wish to go into the technical difficulties or thep roblems of standardization but hopes that the project will be developed not only by the Commission in cooperation with the Member States but that the other Community institutions will also be closely involved therein.

Finally, the Committee on Agriculture hopes that the Commission will published regular progress reports on these activities so that the utilization of the financial resources allocated may be closely monitored and Parliament given the opportunity to make suggestions in connection with the further development of the projects.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) D. Curry

The following took part in the vote: Mr Colleselli, vice-chairman and acting chairman; Miss Brookes (deputizing for Mr Hord), Mr Dalsass, Mr Gautier, Mr Goerens (deputizing for Mr Delatte), Mrs Le Roux (deputizing for Mr Papapietro), Mr Marck, Mr M. Martin (deputizing for Mr Pranchère), Mr McCartin (deputizing for Mr Clinton), Mr Mertens, Mr d'Ormesson, Mrs Pauwelyn (deputizing for Mr Maher), Mr Provan, Mr Stella (deputizing for Mr Ligios) and Mr Vgenopoulos.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Mr J. MOREAU, chairman  
of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Brussels,

Subject: Opinion of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology on the communication from the Commission to the Council concerning plans and proposals for the use of telematic systems in the processing of data on imports/exports and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations (CADDIA) and on the proposals for a Council decision contained therein (COM(84) 119 final)

The Committee on Energy, Research and Technology examined this communication and the proposal for a decision contained therein at its meeting of 26/27 April 1984<sup>1</sup>.

In view of the need to deliver its opinion in time for the May part-session, the committee decided to forward this opinion to you in the form of a letter.

The committee wholeheartedly supports the Commission's intention to standardize and computerize the Community's systems in the spheres of import/export data and the management and financial control of agricultural market organizations. It congratulates the Preliminary Task Force (PTF), consisting of representatives of the Member States and of the Commission's services, which undertook the preparatory work for CADDIA (Cooperation in Automation of Data and Documentation for Imports/Exports and Agriculture) and whose report is attached as an appendix to the communication under consideration.

<sup>1</sup> Present: Mrs Walz, chairman; Mr Selgiman, vice-chairman; Mr Adam, Mr Fuchs, Mr Herman, Mr Linkohr, Mr Moreland, Mr Normanton, Mr Petersen, Mrs Phlix, Mr Price, Mr Purvis, Mr Rinsche, Mr Salzer, Mr Schmid and Mr Veronesi

The committee notes that the brief of the PTF was to analyze 'the needs, feasibility, costs and benefits of a concerted ten-year development programme for the use of telematic systems' in the spheres in question. It further notes that the PTF subsequently came to the conclusion that the aim of preparing a concerted ten-year development programme was 'unrealistic' for a number of practical reasons, 'mainly diversity in the degree of development and orientation of the computer systems used in the Member States for agricultural customs and statistics purposes'<sup>1</sup>.

The committee considers that CADDIA is extremely important both because it represents the introduction of information technology on a large-scale into major areas of Community activity, and because it offers a major opportunity to the information technology industry of Europe. It is not only a marketing opportunity; it is also an opportunity to enhance cooperation on the efforts being made to agree on international standards in data-processing and telecommunications equipment.

CADDIA involves standardization on two levels, each of which is inter-related. First, there is the standardization of procedures, in particular, of methods of collecting and presenting data. Second, there is the standardization of - or at least making compatible of - the equipment used by different bodies in different countries. The one type of standardization has to proceed hand-in-hand with the other.

The committee attaches great importance to the efforts which are already being made to achieve international standards in data-processing and telecommunications equipment. It therefore welcomes the statement in the communication that 'the use of telematic systems by the CADDIA community must be carried out in the framework provided by international standards for the communication processing of digital data'.

The committee notes that the reasons for present diversities between the various systems and procedures used in the Member States may reflect custom and tradition as well as diversity at the technical level. However, it expresses the hope that authorities in the Member States will cooperate fully with the Commission in CADDIA.

The committee notes the statement in the communication that the telex communications which CADDIA is intended to replace are 'relatively expensive'<sup>2</sup>. Accordingly, it would like to have seen more information in the Financial Sheet on the savings which are expected to be gained by CADDIA as well as the expenditure to which it will give rise.

With these observations the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology gives a favourable opinion to the Commission's proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Hanna WALZ

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<sup>1</sup>PTF report, 1.6

<sup>2</sup>page 4, paragraph 2.1.1