

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1977 - 1978

8 March 1978

DOCUMENT 573/77

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION (*)

tabled by Mr NOE', on behalf of the Committee on Regional Policy, Regional
Planning and Transport

with a request for consideration by urgent procedure pursuant to Rule 14 of the
Rules of Procedure

on the Community's regional policy and aid from the Fund from 1 January 1978

(*) Adopted unanimously on 1 March 1978.

Present: Mr Evans, chairman; Mr Nyborg, vice-chairman; Mr Adams (deputizing for Mr Joxe), Lord Bruce of Donington (deputizing for Mr Ellis), Mr Fuchs, Mr Hamilton, Mrs Kellett-Bowman, Mr Mascagni, Mr Osborn and Mr Seefeld

PE 52.568/fin.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Article 18 of Regulation (EEC) No. 724/75 of the Council of 18 March 1975 establishing a European Regional Development Fund¹, which stipulates that 'on a proposal from the Commission the Council shall re-examine this Regulation before 1 January 1978',
- Having regard to Article 2(2) of the said Regulation which states that 'When re-examining the Regulation as provided for in Article 18, the Commission shall in due course make the appropriate proposals for the Community's regional policy and for aid from the Fund during the subsequent period'²,
- Having regard to the proposals from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council of 3 June 1977 concerning Community regional policy guidelines³,
- Having regard to the favourable opinion of the European Parliament on these proposals delivered on 13 October 1977⁴,
- Having regard to the entry in the 1978 budget of commitment appropriations of 581 million ECU and payment appropriations of 525 million ECU for the European Regional Development Fund.

1. Deplores the fact that the Council of Ministers has not yet taken a decision on the June 1977 proposals concerning the re-examination of the regulation establishing the Regional Fund within the time-limit it itself set under Article 18 of the regulation;
2. Points out that a conciliation procedure must be initiated with the Council for general Community acts having important financial implications if the Council intends to depart from the opinion adopted by the Assembly, and that the adoption of the regulation of 18 March 1975 establishing a European Regional Development Fund was preceded by a conciliation meeting with the Council of Ministers on 5 March 1975;
3. Insists that a decision should be taken by the Council without delay to improve the operation of the Regional Fund and to strengthen the Community's regional policy in view of the fact that the Heads of State and Government gave 'high priority' to the implementation of a Community regional policy;
4. Points out that the Regional Fund established in March 1975 at the request of the Heads of State and Government is definitive in principle, whatever the results 'of the re-examination of the (basic) regulation';
5. Takes it for granted that if no Council decision is taken, the Commission will continue to apply the 1975 Regulation as regards financial aid from the Regional Fund on the basis that the appropriations entered in the 1978 budget must be allocated according to the scheme set out in Article 2(1), which was applicable until the end of 1977, the national quotas now having indicative value;
6. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities and, for information, to the Governments and Parliaments of the Member States.

¹ OJ No. L 73, 21 March 1975, p. 1

² Article 2(1) stipulates the financial assistance from the Fund only for the period 1975/77

³ OJ No. C 161, 9 July 1977

⁴ OJ No. C 266, 7 November 1977, p. 35