

European Communities

---

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

1983-1984

---

10 October 1983

DOCUMENT 1-752/83/ANNEX

ANNEX

to the report by Mr B. SÄLZER  
drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Energy,  
Research and Technology

-----

Opinions of the Committee on Budgets and  
the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

-----

PE 85.119/fin/Ann.



OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Letter from the acting chairman to Mrs WALZ, chairman of the Committee on Energy, Research and Technology

Subject: Opinion of the Committee on Budgets on the draft decisions concerning structures and procedures for decision-making in the field of science and technology and the coordination of Community research, development and demonstration activities (Doc. 170/83).

Dear Madam chairman,

At its meeting of 21 and 22 September 1983, the Committee on Budgets unanimously approved the proposal to set up a Higher Policy Committee for Science and Technology and a consultative system to help the Commission implement and manage Community research, development and demonstration activities.

This unanimous decision was taken by the Committee on Budgets after it had been informed that the consultative system assisting the Commission would, without encroaching on the latter's management responsibilities, enable it to rationalize its activities in this field.

p.p. (signature)

C. BARBARELLA  
acting chairman

Present: Mrs BARBARELLA, acting chairman; Mr ADAM (deputizing for Mr ARNDT); Mr BALFOUR; Mr BARBAGLI; Mr BARBI (deputizing for Mr ADONNINO); Mr FICH; Mr LOUWES; Mr NEWTON-DUNN; Mrs SCRIVENER and Mr WOLTJER (deputizing for Mrs HOFF).

OPINION

(Rule 101 of the Rules of Procedure)

of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

Draftsman: Mr SCHINZEL

At its meeting on 25-26 May 1983 the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs appointed Mr Schinzel as draftsman of an opinion for the Committee on Energy and Research.

The Committee considered the draft opinion at its meeting of 27-28 September 1983 and adopted it unanimously.

The following took part in the vote :

Mr MOREAU (Chairman); Mr ROGALLA (replacing Mr Wagner and presenting the opinion in the absence of Mr SCHINZEL); Mr BEAZLEY; Mr BEUMER (replacing Mr Vergeer); Mr BONACCINI; Mr DAMSEAUX (replacing Mr Nordmann); Mrs DESOUCHES; Mr von ROMPUY; Mr WEDEKIND (replacing Mr Franz); Mr von WOGAU.

### The Commission's proposals

1. The Commission's proposals are aimed at improving the management procedures for Research and Development at Community level, and are thus complementary to the Commission's framework programme for a European scientific and technical strategy, as well as other related programmes such as that promoting the utilization of the results of Community sponsored R and D.
2. The Commission's document contains two draft Council Resolutions. The first, dealing with structures and procedures for decision-making in the field of science and technology, would dissolve the existing Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) and a number of other specialised groups, and replace them by a new Higher Policy Committee for science and technology (HCST). This would examine the priorities of Community research as a whole and, in particular, participate in the decisions that need to be taken on the Commission's proposed framework programme.
3. The second draft Council decision would dissolve the existing subcommittees of CREST, the Advisory Committees on Programme Management, and the Concerted Action Committees, and replace them by a series of new Management and Coordination Consultative Committees (CGC's). These would examine and make recommendations on Community R and D activities in specific fields.

### CONCLUSIONS

4. The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs welcomes proposals leading to the more efficient management of Community R and D activities, and replacing the existing complicated structure of committees and subcommittees by a somewhat simplified structure. It would, however, have welcomed an

evaluation by the Commission of how the existing structure has functioned over the last few years, and of the strengths and weaknesses that have emerged. The Committee wonders, furthermore, why the Commission is putting forward so many separate proposals in this field, and why it is not combining all of its various proposals within its suggested framework programme for a European scientific and technical strategy.

5. The Committee notes additionally that among the Management and Coordination Consultative Committees (CGC's) that would be set up by the second draft decision are ones concerning information technology (including automatic translation) and industrial technology (except ECSC steel research). The Committee welcomes the creation of these two CGC's in particular, (especially in view of the fact that there was no industrial technology group among the lengthy list of scientific and technical committees to be dissolved), and insists on being kept informed of their work and recommendations.