

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(93)132 final

Brussels, 30 March 1993

Amended proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

adopting the second phase of the Trans-European
Cooperation Scheme for Higher Education
(TEMPUS II)

(presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 149(3)
of the EEC-Treaty)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. On 9 March 1993 the European Parliament approved the European Commission's proposal for a Council Decision adopting the second phase of the Trans-European Co-operation Scheme for Higher Education (TEMPUS II, 1994 - 1998) subject to certain amendments.
2. Following the opinion of the European Parliament, the Commission accepted in the plenary session of the Parliament six amendments which have been incorporated in the revised Commission proposal.
3. The Commission respects the Parliament's wish that TEMPUS II should not only provide an important contribution to the development of a market economy in Central and Eastern European countries but should also pay particular attention to the development of a democratic society in those countries. The Commission agreed that particular emphasis should be laid upon democratic education within curriculum development. Moreover, it agreed that structural development within the programme should focus on the development of internal democratic and administrative structures within higher education institutions as an important contribution to the development of a democratic society in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the social reform process as a whole. These aspects have been taken into consideration by the Commission in the revised text of the 2nd and 12th recitals and in Article 2.
4. The Commission agreed that particular emphasis should be laid upon the positive effect of the TEMPUS programme in promoting cultural exchange between the eligible countries and the European Community as well as social and socio-economic cohesion. The Commission, therefore, accepted the respective amendments of the Parliament for the 5th and 13th (new) recitals in order to give greater emphasis to those important aspects of the programme.
5. The Commission agreed that, in the interest of cost-effectiveness, Joint European Projects should preferably be linked to existing networks funded in the framework of the ERASMUS, COMETT and LINGUA programmes and, therefore, accepted the Parliament's amendment to the annex to the Council Decision (Annex/Joint European Projects, para. 1, third subpara.). However, the Commission also believes that there are other benefits to be derived from such links apart from the question of cost.
6. The Commission accepted the substance of the two European Parliament amendments relating to the objectives of TEMPUS II and to the dialogue with the eligible countries on national strategies and priorities.
In order to take into account the concerns expressed by Parliament in this respect, the Commission proposes to amend Article 4 on the objectives of TEMPUS II and to introduce a new Article 4 (bis) on the dialogue with the eligible countries.

The revised Article 4 now reflects more clearly the aim of TEMPUS II. The Commission shares the European Parliament's view that TEMPUS II should help to establish a democratic society and should contribute to the economic, social, socio-economic, democratic and administrative reform process in those countries, in particular, through support of structural reform of higher education institutions and curriculum development.

The Commission also agrees with the European Parliament on the need for a continuing dialogue with the eligible countries on the formulation of national strategies and the setting of national priorities in order to maximise the impact of TEMPUS II on their economic, socio-economic and democratic reform. The new Article 4 (bis) encapsulates the substance of Parliament's proposal to define national priorities and strategies on the basis of consultations between the Commission and the competent authorities in the eligible countries.

7. The revised Article 4 no longer includes Youth activities since the Commission believes that these activities do not fit in well with the overall objectives of TEMPUS II. However, the Commission proposes to continue Youth activities as a very small part of TEMPUS, based on the reference in the Annex to the Council Decision under "Individual grants and complementary activities", in the absence of a more appropriate framework for such activities between the Community and Central and Eastern Europe.

Amended proposal for a

COUNCIL DECISION

adopting the second phase of the Trans-European
Cooperation Scheme for Higher Education
(TEMPUS II)

COM(92) 407 final

Original text

Amended text

First recital

First recital

Unchanged

Unchanged

Second recital

Second recital

Whereas experience gained in the management of the Phare programme of aid to central and eastern Europe points to the need to adapt and further diversify forms of assistance according to national needs and priorities for structural reform and to adopt where possible a multiannual approach to the programming of aid;

Whereas experience gained in the management of the Phare programme of aid to central and eastern Europe points to the need to adapt and further diversify forms of assistance according to national needs and priorities for reform of the higher education systems concerned and of the structure (and legal status) of higher education establishments and to adopt where possible a multiannual approach to the programming of aid;

Third and fourth recital

Third and fourth recital

Unchanged

Unchanged

Fifth recital

Fifth recital

Whereas cooperation in higher education is conducive to closer economic and cultural relations between the different peoples of Europe;

Whereas cooperation in higher education reinforces and consolidates the whole network of relations between the different peoples of Europe, promotes common cultural values, allows fruitful exchanges of ideas and facilitates multinational activities in the scientific, cultural, socio-economic, artistic and commercial spheres;

Sixth to eleventh recital

Sixth to eleventh recital

Unchanged

Unchanged

Original text

Amended text

Twelfth recital

Twelfth recital

Whereas the Ministers of Education of certain Republics of the former Soviet Union have expressed their wish to participate in Tempus as an appropriate instrument for the transformation of their higher education systems in the context of economic reform and recovery and that the first three years of the implementation of the Tempus Scheme have generated appropriate experience and insight into the problems of higher education transformation which are directly relevant for these Republics;

Whereas the Ministers of Education of certain Republics of the former Soviet Union have expressed their wish to participate in Tempus as an appropriate instrument for the transformation of their higher education systems in the context of social reforms, which include economic reform and recovery and democratically administrative reforms, and whereas the first three years of the implementation of the Tempus Scheme have generated appropriate experience and insight into the problems of higher education transformation which are directly relevant for these Republics;

Thirteenth recital

Thirteenth recital

Unchanged

Unchanged

Thirteenth recital new

Thirteenth recital new

Whereas Tempus II can be regarded as a programme which will promote social and socio-economic cohesion between the Community and the countries of central and eastern Europe and thereby reveal Europe as a community of values;

Fourteenth recital

Fourteenth recital

Unchanged

Unchanged

Article 1

Article 1

Unchanged

Unchanged

Article 2

Article 2

Tempus II shall concern the countries of central and eastern Europe designated as eligible for economic aid by Regulation (EEC) No. 3906/89 and the Republics of the former Soviet Union as defined in Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No. 2157/91. These countries shall be referred to hereinafter as 'the eligible countries'. Participation shall be decided by the national authorities in agreement with the Commission in the context of the national programming of Community assistance for economic reform.

Tempus II shall concern the countries of central and eastern Europe designated as eligible for economic aid by Regulation (EEC) No. 3906/89 and the Republics of the former Soviet Union as defined in Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No. 2157/91. These countries shall be referred to hereinafter as 'the eligible countries'. Participation shall be decided by the national authorities in agreement with the Commission in the context of the national programming of Community assistance for social and economic reform.

Original text

Article 3

Unchanged

Article 4

Objectives

In the broader context of economic and social reform, the objectives of *Tempus II* are the following:

- a) to promote the structural development and to facilitate the adaptation of higher education systems in the eligible countries, in particular through cooperation and interaction with partners in the Member States of the European Community taking into consideration the priorities laid down by each of the eligible countries;
- b) to help address specific manpower and skill shortages during economic reform and
- c) to promote exchanges of young people between the Community and the eligible countries.

In realising the objectives of the *Tempus II* Scheme the Commission shall ensure respect of the Community's general policy on equal opportunity for men and women. The same shall apply for disadvantaged groups, such as handicapped. In addition, account shall be taken of the need to ensure that as many regions as possible are able to participate in the Scheme.

Article 4 (bis) (new)

Article 5 to article 10

Unchanged

Annex - 'Joint European Projects'
para. 1, third subpara.

Such projects may be linked, as appropriate, to existing networks, notably those funded in the framework of the Erasmus, Comett and Lingua programmes, or to the other assistance programmes focused on related aspects of economic and social reform.

Rest of Annex

Unchanged

Amended text

Article 3

Unchanged

Article 4

The objectives of *TEMPUS II* are to promote, as part of the overall objectives and guidelines of the PHARE and TACIS programmes in the context of economic and social reform, the development of the higher education systems in the eligible countries, through as balanced a co-operation as possible with partners from all the Member States of the European Community. Specifically, *TEMPUS II* seeks to help the higher education systems of the eligible countries to address:

- (a) issues of curriculum development and overhaul in priority areas;
- (b) the reform of higher education structures and institutions and their management;
- (c) the development of skill-related training to address specific higher and advanced level skill shortages during economic reform, in particular through improved and extended links with industry.

In realising the objectives of *TEMPUS II*, the Commission shall ensure respect of the Community's general policy on equal opportunity for men and women. The same shall apply for disadvantaged groups, such as those with handicaps.

Article 4 (bis) (new)

Dialogue with eligible countries

The Commission shall agree with the competent authorities in each eligible country detailed objectives and priorities for the role of *TEMPUS II* in the national strategy of economic and social reform, on the basis of the programme's objectives and the provisions of the Annex, and in accordance with, in particular:

- (a) (i) the overall objectives of the PHARE programme;
(ii) the overall objectives of the TACIS programme, with particular reference to its sectoral focus;
- (b) each eligible country's policy for economic, social and education reform;
- (c) the need for an appropriate balance to be struck between the selected priority areas and the resources allocated to *TEMPUS II*.

Article 5 to article 10

Unchanged

Annex - 'Joint European Projects'
para. 1, third subpara.

Such projects should preferably be linked, in the interests of cost-effectiveness, to existing networks, notably those funded in the framework of the Erasmus, Comett and Lingua programmes, or to the other assistance programmes focused on related aspects of economic and social reform.

Rest of Annex

Unchanged

COM(93) 132 final

DOCUMENTS

EN

16

Catalogue number : CB-CO-93-157-EN-C

ISBN 92-77-54060-5

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities
L-2985 Luxembourg