

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM (89) 283 final -SYN 136

Brussels, 6 June 1989

4412.1  
05 0214-1989

RE-EXAMINED PROPOSAL  
FOR A COUNCIL DECISION  
ADOPTING A SPECIFIC PROGRAMME FOR THE DISSEMINATION  
AND UTILISATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH  
RESULTS (VALUE)  
(1989 to 1992)

---

(presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 149.2 (d)  
of the EEC Treaty)



## II

*(Preparatory Acts)*

## COMMISSION

**Re-examined proposal for a Council decision adopting a specific programme for the dissemination and utilization of scientific and technological research results (VALUE) (1989 to 1992)**

COM(89) 283 final — SYN 136

*(Presented by the Commission pursuant to Article 149.2(d) of the EEC Treaty on 6 June 1989)*

(89/C 214/01)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community and in particular Article 130 Q(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

In co-operation with the European Parliament <sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee <sup>(2)</sup>,

Whereas Article 130 G(c) of the Treaty assigns to the Community the task of, *inter alia*, disseminating and optimising the results of activities in Community research, technological development and demonstration;

Whereas Article 130 K of the Treaty states that the Framework Programme shall be implemented through specific programmes developed within each activity;

Whereas, by Decision 87/516/Euratom, EEC <sup>(3)</sup>, as amended by Decision 88/193/EEC, Euratom <sup>(4)</sup>, the Council adopted a Framework Programme for Community activities in the field of research and technological development (1987 to 1991), providing for activities in the field of dissemination and utilisation of scientific and technological research results in order to increase the efficiency of the research and technological development work itself and to stimulate the process of innovation and industrial exploitation in Europe;

Whereas the Council decided on the same occasion to give more attention to these horizontal activities, which constitute an essential part of the Community's scientific and technological strategy;

Whereas Decision 87/516/Euratom, EEC stipulates that a specific objective of Community research must be to strengthen the scientific and technological basis of European industry, particularly in strategic sectors of advanced technology, and to encourage industry by making it more competitive at the international level, and whereas the same Decision also lays down that Community action is justified if it contributes, among other things, to enhancing the Community's economic and social cohesion and to encouraging its overall harmonious development, while at the same time being consistent with the pursuit of scientific and technical excellence; whereas the VALUE programme is planned to contribute to the pursuit of these objectives;

Whereas a specific programme for the dissemination and utilisation of the results of scientific and technological research should complement the activities carried out in this area in the context of other specific Community research and development programmes and should also be closely co-ordinated with Community programmes in related fields, such as the SPRINT programme and the action plan for small and medium-sized enterprises;

Whereas it is desirable to promote co-operation between European Community research and development programmes and EUREKA projects; whereas, in the context of the present programme decision, it is desirable for appropriate links with the EUREKA COSINE project to be established;

<sup>(1)</sup> Opinion delivered on 16 November 1988 (not yet published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*).

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No C 337, 31. 12. 1988, p. 12.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ No L 302, 24. 10. 1987, p. 1.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ No L 89, 6. 4. 1988, p. 35.

Whereas this programme must make use of the latest telecommunications and information technology to achieve its objectives, for example by the creation of computer networks;

Whereas the dissemination of results should be carried out taking into consideration the technologically strategic interests of participants in the Member States and of the Community and in conformity with any requirements of confidentiality;

Whereas it is appropriate for the special needs of small and medium-sized enterprises to be taken into account as regards technological information and assistance for exploitation;

Whereas the Commission, in implementation of the Treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, carries out activities in the coal and steel sectors which do not come under the RTD Framework Programme and the results of which must be disseminated and used through appropriate autonomous activities;

Whereas the actions for the dissemination and utilisation of results of specific Community technological research and development programmes laid down in the Framework Programme (1987 to 1991) are downstream from these specific programmes;

Whereas the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (CREST) has given its opinion;

HAD ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

#### *Article 1*

A specific programme for the dissemination and utilization of results from research in science and technology, hereinafter called 'dissemination and utilization programme', is hereby adopted for an initial period of three years from 1 January 1989.

#### *Article 2*

The programme shall comprise two sub-programmes.

The objectives and scientific and technical content of these sub-programmes are set out in detail in Annex I.

#### *Article 3*

1. The funds estimated as necessary for the Community's financial contribution to the execution of the programme amount to 38 million ecus, including expenditure arising from a temporary staff of 20.

2. An indicative breakdown of appropriations, for the estimated total amount, between the various activities listed in Annex I is given in Annex II.

#### *Article 4*

Detailed rules for the implementation of the programme and the rate of the Community's financial participation are set out in Annex III.

#### *Article 5*

1. The Commission shall be responsible for the implementation of the programme.

The Commission shall be assisted by a committee of an advisory nature composed of the representatives of the Member States and chaired by the representative of the Commission.

#### *Article 6*

1. The Representative of the Commission shall submit to the Committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft, within a time limit which the Chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter, if necessary by taking a vote.

2. The opinion shall be recorded in the minutes; in addition, each Member State shall have the right to ask to have its position recorded in the minutes.

3. The Commission shall take the utmost account of the opinion delivered by the Committee. It shall inform the Committee of the manner in which its opinion has been taken into account.

#### *Article 7*

The procedure laid down in Article 6 shall apply in particular to:

- the content of calls for tenders,
- the assessment of the proposed projects and the estimated amount of the Community's contribution to them,
- confidentiality criteria for the dissemination of results,
- departures from the general rules governing Community financial participation set out in Annex III,
- any adaptation of the indicative breakdown of appropriations set out in Annex II,
- the precise implementing procedures resulting from agreements with third countries,
- the measures to be undertaken to evaluate the programme.

#### *Article 8*

1. In the first half of the third year of the programme implementation, the Commission shall undertake a review of the programme and the extent to which the objectives set out in Annex I have been achieved. The Commission shall address a report to the European Parliament and the

Council on the results of this review, together, if necessary, with any proposals for modification or prolongation in the light of the interim results achieved.

2. At the end of the programme, the Commission shall report to the European Parliament and the Council on the evaluation of the results achieved.

3. The reports provided for in paragraphs 1 and 2 shall be drawn up having regard to the objectives set out in Annex I to this Decision and in conformity with Article 2(2) of Decision No 87/516/Euratom, EEC.

#### Article 9

1. The Commission is hereby authorised to negotiate, in accordance with Article 130 N of the Treaty, agreements with third countries taking part in European Co-operation in the field of Scientific and Technical Research (COST) with a view to associating them wholly or partially with the programme. These agreements shall be founded on the criteria of mutual advantage.

#### Article 10

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

### ANNEX I

#### Objectives and scientific and technical content

The general objective of the VALUE programme is to promote the effective utilization of the results of Community RTD activities with a view to attaining the declared goal of the Framework Programme to strengthen the scientific and technological basis of European industry and with a view both to encouraging industry by making it more competitive at the international level and to contributing to the completion of the single internal market and the strengthening of economic and social cohesion.

#### SUB-PROGRAMME I: DISSEMINATION AND UTILIZATION OF THE RESULTS OF COMMUNITY RTD ACTIVITIES

##### 1. Objectives

Whilst respecting the contractual arrangements governing Community RTD activities, to disseminate, by appropriate channels, the results of those activities so as to ensure an improvement in the level of exploitation and the resulting creation of economic activities. In order to improve the competitiveness of European industry, the interests of SMEs will be taken into account and special consideration will be given to their needs as regards technological information and assistance for exploitation.

##### Lines of action:

1.1. Collection and dissemination of information concerning existing or planned Community RTD programmes, using appropriate methods and means, such as:

- computerized data bases,
- electronic information services,
- information and dissemination centres in the Member States,
- the editing and distributing of printed matter (newsletters, brochures, reviews, articles).

This activity should facilitate participation in general in RTD activities and the search for partners. As far as possible, use will be made of existing data bases and associated information services including, where appropriate, services offered by private organizations.

1.2. Identification, characterization and screening to establish their suitability for dissemination or exploitation of relevant results of Community RTD activities by:

- examining contracts and reports,
- assessing their scientific/technical and utilisation potential,
- examining the need for protection by means of patent applications, etc.

- 1.3. Action on legal protection of the results by:
  - having recourse to selected patent agents advisers,
  - examining reports to ensure confidentiality and protection before publication,
  - assisting contractors and inventors,
  - information and awareness activities.
- 1.4. Dissemination of results which need not be protected by:
  - publications (books, reports, summaries, newsletters, etc.),
  - organization of, and participation in, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, etc.,
  - organisation of targeted dissemination activities,
  - transfer of knowledge by (short-term) secondment of research workers participating in Community RTD projects,
  - collaboration with, and assistance to, organisations in the Member States in the setting up of mechanisms for dissemination,
  - electronic means such as data bases and associated services.
- 1.5. Promotion of the exploitation of relevant results by:
  - assessing, with the help of experts, the potential for exploitation of the results,
  - providing expert advice in the setting up and planning of exploitation projects,
  - assisting in matters of legal and technical protection,
  - exhibitions, assisting in finding partners for joint ventures or work under licence,
  - providing financial and technical support for developing laboratory prototypes for collaborative precompetitive use,
  - advising participants in finding financial support from third parties;

## SUB-PROGRAMME II: COMPUTER COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS

### 2. Objectives

To promote, with a view to improving the efficiency of distributed research and development activities throughout Europe, while paying due regard to the requirements for confidentiality and integrity of Community RTD information (see 2.2), a common integrated computer communications infrastructure and associated services, accessible to the various public and private research centres in Europe.

#### Lines of action:

- 2.1. General support to the development of computer communications networks in the field of RTD.
  - Technical assistance and support to the RARE (Réseaux associés pour la recherche européenne) Association, particularly its pan-European projects (e.g. in the message handling and files transfer areas), to the implementation phase of the EUREKA COSINE project, and to Member States wishing to develop or adapt networks for the purposes of this programme.
- 2.2. Work on requirements for confidentiality and integrity of Community RTD information.

## ANNEX II

## Indicative breakdown of appropriations

		<i>(million ecu)</i>
SUB-PROGRAMME I:		
Dissemination and utilization of the results of Community RTD activities		
1.1. Collection and dissemination of information concerning existing or planned Community RTD programmes	6,0	
1.2. Identification, characterization and screening of results of Community RTD activities	2,0	
1.3. Actions on legal protection of results (patents, etc.)	2,0	
1.4. Dissemination of results	8,0	
1.5. Promotion of the exploitation of results	10,0	
Sub-total		28,0
SUB-PROGRAMME II:		
Computer communications networks		
2.1. General support to the development of computer communications networks in the field of RTD		
— Technical assistance and support to the RARE Association (Réseaux Associés pour la Recherche Européenne) particularly its pan-European projects (e.g. in the message handling and files transfer areas), to the implementation phase of the EUREKA COSINE project, and to Member States wishing to develop or adapt networks for the purposes of this programme	6,0	
2.2. Work on requirements for confidentiality and integrity of Community RTD information	2,0	
Sub-total		8,0
To be allocated after mid-term programme review		2,0
Total		38,0

## ANNEX III

## Programme implementation

## I. GENERAL

In the implementation of the programme, the Commission shall study, select and apply methods for the efficient dissemination and take-up of technological innovations. It will apply the accumulated experience and best practice of both European and international experts in this field. In its exploitation work, the Commission will take into consideration the legitimate interests of the contractors.

## II. SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES

1. The activities set out in Annex I are to be implemented by means, *inter alia*, of contracts for studies and services to be carried out on behalf of the Commission.
2. With regard to the actions to be implemented on the basis of shared-cost contracts, the Community's participation will in principle be up to 50 % of the total expenditure.

Alternatively, in respect of universities and research institutes carrying out projects, the Community may bear up to 100 % of additional expenditure involved.

3. Call for proposals or for tenders (restricted or public) are to be published where appropriate in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.
4. Support for European co-operation networks is a further means of achieving the objectives of the programme. The Commission may also nominate bodies to be its correspondents for the local promotion of the objectives of the programme in Member States or regions where the infrastructure for these activities needs to be developed.



**COMMENTS OF THE COMMISSION ON THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE  
COMMISSION**

The European Parliament has proposed in its second reading, 24th May 1989, three amendments, which have not been accepted by the Commission, to the common position relative to a decision (CEE) adopting a specific programme for the dissemination and utilization of the results from scientific and technological research (VALUE).

The Commission considers that the introduction of a budgetary amendment is not desirable for the proposal for decision which is currently under consideration, since it would delay the adoption of the programmes in question;

The Commission considers it inopportune to mention its duty, 'The coordination of the activities of various programme managers and competent D.Gs' in a proposal relating to a specific programme.

Amendment n° 4 relates, particularly, to the adoption of a proposal to reduce linguistic obstacles and regional differences. Its content was introduced in the modified proposal of the Commission. However it was not retained in the common position adopted by the Council. The Commission therefore requested that a declaration be included in the minutes to mark its intention of respecting the spirit of this amendment. It did not therefore seem necessary to reintroduce this amendment in the present proposed reconsidered proposal.

**AMENDMENT No 2**

Commission for Energy, Research and Technology

*Recommendation for the second reading (doc. A2-131/89)*

*Rapporteur: M. Kolokotronis*

Common position of the Council (doc. C2-20/89. — SYN 136)

VALUE programme

COMMON POSITION OF THE COUNCIL

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY PARLIAMENT

(Amendment 2)

*Article 3*

paragraph 1a (new)

1a. The Commission shall each year, in the context of the annual budget approval procedure, propose to the budgetary authority that it determine the amount of the appropriations to be entered in respect of the programme with due regard for actual requirements in the financial year concerned and the financial forecasts as set out in the Inter-Institutional Agreement.

## AMENDMENT No 3

Commission for Energy, Research and Technology

*Recommendation for the second reading (doc. A2-131/89)**Rapporteur: M. Kolokotronis*

Common position of the Council (doc. C2-20/89. — SYN 136)

VALUE programme

COMMON POSITION OF THE COUNCIL

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY PARLIAMENT

(Amendment 3)

Article 4, second paragraph (new)

The Commission shall be responsible for ensuring the coordination of the activities of the various programme managers and the competent Directorates-General.

## AMENDMENT No 4

Commission for Energy, Research and Technology

*Recommendation for the second reading (doc. A2-131/89)**Rapporteur: M. Kolokotronis*

Common position of the Council (doc. C2-20/89. — SYN 136)

VALUE programme

COMMON POSITION OF THE COUNCIL

AMENDMENTS ADOPTED BY PARLIAMENT

(Amendment 4)

*Article 8(1)*

1. In the first half of the third year of the programme implementation, the Commission shall undertake a review of the programme and the extent to which the objectives set out in Annex I have been achieved. The Commission shall address a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the results of this review, together, if necessary, with any proposals for modification or prolongation in the light of the interim results achieved.

*Article 8(1)*

1. In the first half of the third year of the programme implementation, the Commission shall undertake a review and it shall report to the Council and the European Parliament on the results of this review (giving statistics on the achievement of the various objectives listed in Annex 1), together, if necessary, with any proposals for modification or prolongations in the light of the interim results achieved. In the course of the same period, proposals for measures designed to reduce the negative effects of linguistic barriers in the field of dissemination and utilization of results from research in science and technology, as well as the negative effects arising from regional variations in the adequacy of the infrastructure for activities of this nature, shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure set out in Article 130 Q(2) of the EEC Treaty.