EC/Cyprus agreement: participation in a Community programme within the framework of the Community audiovisual policy programme MEDIA II

1998/0138(CNS) - 03/11/1998 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: within the framework of the pre-accession strategy, to open up the MEDIA II programme to Cyprus. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Decision 2000/295/EC relating to the conclusion of a bilateral agreement between the Community and Cyprus on the participation of Cyprus in a Community programme as part of the Community's audiovisual policy. SUBSTANCE: this Decision aims to allow Cyprus to participate in the Community MEDIA II programme for the training of professionals in the audiovisual industry under the same conditions as those set out for the Member States. Cyprus shall participate in all actions of MEDIA II and should set up or make available the national structures and mechanisms needed for its participation (in particular through the establishment of a suitable MEDIA desk). It should also make a financial contribution to the Community budget for its participation, covering the financial support to the Cypriot participants, financial support to the MEDIA desk (up to 50% of its running costs) and the supplementary costs of an administrative nature related to the management of this programme by the Commission. This contribution is set at ECU 485 412 for the whole of the period concerned (1998-2000). Furthermore, Cyprus shall be associated with the monitoring of its participation in the programme in order to enable it to prepare for the Community decision-making process with a view to accession. It is also stipulated that the Commission and Cyprus should exchange information on and monitor the progress of legislative alignment in Cyprus in the audiovisual sector as regards Community law, within the framework of the Contact Committee provided for by Directive 97/36/EC. The aim is for Cyprus to be integrated into the Community audiovisual policy at the moment of its accession to the Union. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 1 May 1999. Cyprus' participation in the MEDIA II programme is valid until 31 December 2000.