Audiovisual: training scheme for professionals of European programmme industry, MEDIA II

1995/0026(SYN) - 10/07/1995 - Council position

In its common position on the MEDIA II programme, the Council has kept to the spirit of the Commission's proposal but has made a number of amendments. The main amendments relate to the following points: - financing: inclusion of a financial reference amount in the enacting terms in compliance with the interinstitutional declaration of 6 March 1995 concerning the inclusion of financial provisions in legislative acts. The Council has made provision for a financial reference amount of 45 million ecus which, according to the Council, strikes an acceptable balance between the wish to support a programme and the need to reflect the requirements of a tight budget; - comitology: the Council has opted for a joint committee, whose powers would be exercised depending on the subject matter, either under the management committee or the advisory committee procedure; - opening the programme to third countries: the Council has opened the programme to associated CEECs using procedures which comply with the additional protocols to association agreements, to Cyprus and Malta, to the Member States of the EEA and to other third countries with cooperation agreements which include audiovisual clauses; - strengthening the monitoring system: the Council has introduced a series of measures in the enacting terms to strengthen further the monitoring and control of the actions provided for in the programme. The Commission is required to carry out ex-ante appraisal, monitoring and ex-post control of actions planned. In this connection, the selected beneficiaries will be required to make an annual report to the Commission, which will submit an interim report to the European Parliament, the Council and the ESC, in association with the MEDIA programme committee. However, the Council did not include certain amendments by the European Parliament relating to the following points: - reference to the interinstitutional modus vivendi of 20 December 1994; - coordination of actions under the MEDIA II programme with institutions such as UNESCO or the Council of Europe; - creation of a European arts and audiovisual training centre; - information for the European Parliament on projects selected during the implementation of the programme, highlighting in particular the financial support granted by the Community and the impact on employment; - in the Annexes, provision for training in production and screenplay techniques; - allocation of 2% of the total budget for the programme to a coordination structure to monitor the implementation of the MEDIA programme.