Small and medium-sized enterprises SMEs in the European Union: 3rd multiannual programme 1997-2000

1996/0087(CNS) - 09/07/1996

In adopting a report by Marianne THYSSEN welcoming the Commission's new ECU 180m third multi-annual programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) under the consultation procedure, the economic and monetary committee is anxious to ensure that craft industries and the liberal professions also benefit and that the SME sector is helped to enjoy the benefits of the new information society. Small firms should also be encouraged to apply EU social policy provisions covering consultation between both sides of industry. The committee voted to recommend that the Commission produce an annual report on the implementation of the programme. In view of the pressure on funding, the committee decided not to call for money to be spent on studies.