Own resources: updating financial rules

2003/0131(CNS) - 01/07/2003 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to present a proposal to amend Regulation 1150/2000/EC, Euratom implementing Decision 2000/597/EC, Euratom on the system of the Communities' own resources. CONTENT: this proposal aims to update the financial rules in line with both the new Council Decision of 29 September 2000 and certain protocols attached to the Amsterdam Treaty. The proposal also sets out to improve the management of traditional own resources, which are recovered by the Member States. Briefly, - the first objective is to incorporate certain provisions included in the Council Decision 2000/597/EC, Euratom (and particularly, the new rate corresponding to the collection expenses for own resources that Member States can retain namely 25% of the amounts established instead of the previous 10%). This measure involves a loss of traditional own resources but this will be compensated for by an increase in the payments made in the framework of the fourth resource. This situation was taken into account when adopting the own resources Decision; - the second objective is to enable Member States to write-off amounts not recovered by a specific deadline (5 years) following the date on which the demand for payment became definitively enforceable. Moreover, amounts written-off in excess of EUR 50,000 should be communicated to the Commission in order for it to check whether the Member State in question had been diligent with regard to recovery.