SYNERGY multiannual programme: promotion of international cooperation in energy sector. Reconsultation

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In unanimously adopting the report by Mr André SOULIER (EPP, F) on a proposal for a regulation (consultation of Parliament), the Research Committee, in its amendments, sought to improve the Commission's proposal. In particular, it adopted an amendment, which was proposed by the rapporteur, in the form of an annex clarifying the substance and general direction of the programme, the geographical zones concerned, the types of action proposed, the indicative apportionment of credits by geographic zone and type of activity, etc. The Research Committee highlighted the need to introduce a global energy strategy in relation to non-member countries, and the programme should form one aspect of this. The strategy, which comprises three categories as presented in the White Paper (global competitiveness, security of supply and environmental protection), is described in the annex in the form of actions to be taken. Actions highlighted in the annex include: the promotion of energy efficiency in non-member states, the development of local and renewable energy sources, the promotion of regional energy integration, support for the dissemination of European technology and the penetration of industry in key markets in the energy sector (Asia and Latin America), dialogue with energy-producing and exporting countries (the Gulf States, Russia, etc. and the energy transit countries), support for the financing of the necessary investment in non-member countries for energy production and transit, the dissemination of Community energy and environmental techniques, the promotion of "clean" coal combustion technology, particularly in the major consumer countries (such as China), improving nuclear safety in existing facilities in the CCEE and the CIS, etc.