Energy: international cooperation, multiannual programme SYNERGY 1998-2002

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The Committee adopted the report in the field of multiannual energy programmes: all five are to do with the simplification and coordination of energy policy and is designed to establish priorities. The report by André SOULIER (EPP, F) was on the multiannual programme to promote international cooperation in the energy sector (SYNERGY). Mr Soulier felt that, in the light of the world and European energy outlook, it was now more necessary than ever to establish international cooperation in the field of energy policy. World energy reserves were still adequate, but they must be rationally managed. Helping non-Member countries to deal with the production and consumption of energy was the objective of energy cooperation as set up by the SYNERGY programme. Amendments were adopted on complementarity with other Community programmes, budgetary aspects and on the role of the EP. The programme, it was felt, should each year be allotted approximately 18% of the total amount earmarked for the Framework Programme for Energy.