Research RTD, 6th Framework-programme 2002-2006: direct actions, Joint Research Centre JRC, Euratom programme

2001/0126(CNS) - 28/05/2002

The committee adopted the report by Konrad SCHWAIGER (EPP-ED, D) approving the programme under the consultation procedure, subject to a number of amendments designed to clarify the role of the JRC. The committee said that efforts should be made to harmonise nuclear safety criteria both within the Community and with a view to enlargement, as regards both reactor safety and the safety of the nuclear fuel cycle. Because of its independence and technical expertise, the JRC should play a unifying role with regard to these very sensitive subjects, which would be of particular importance in the light of enlargement. Other amendments specified that: - the research activities carried out should take into account public acceptability of these activities; - the JRC should step up its activities and research in international efforts to detect clandestine activities and combat the illicit trafficking of nuclear materials; - the JRC should support the non-proliferation and the disarmament of nuclear and other weapons for mass destruction to prevent any use of the material, including for terrorist purposes.