

Community action programme promoting non-governmental organisations primarily active in the field of environmental protection (2002-2006)

2001/0139(COD) - 01/03/2002 - Final act

PURPOSE : to establish a Community action programme promoting environmental NGOs.

COMMUNITY MEASURE : Decision 466/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down a Community action programme promoting non-governmental organisations primarily active in the field of environmental protection. **PURPOSE** : The general objective of this Programme is to promote NGOs which are primarily active in the field of environmental protection and enhancement at a European level. The activities should involve contributing to the development and implementation of Community environmental policy legislation in different parts of Europe. The Programme will also promote the involvement of NGOs at all stages of the Community environmental policy making process, by ensuring relevant representation in stakeholder consultation meetings and public hearings. It will contribute to the strengthening of small regional or local associations working to apply the acquis in relation to the environment and sustainable development in their local area. The financial framework for the implementation of the programme for the period 2002-2006 is set at EUR 32 million. The Call for Proposals will be published by 30 September each year for grants in the following calendar year. The Commission must make a decision by 31 December each year and payments are to be made immediately. Support from the programme will target the priority areas from the Sixth Environment Action Programme, grouped under the four main headings of limiting climate change; nature and biodiversity - protecting a unique resource; health and environment; ensuring the sustainable management of natural resources and waste. A grant may not exceed 70% of the applicant's average annual audited eligible expenses during the preceding two years for Community NGOs or 80% for NGOs based in the candidate or Balkan countries. The programme runs from 01/01/02 to 31/12/06. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : 17/03/02.