EC/Romania Europe agreement: implementation art. 64 and 9, Protocol 2, ECSC products

1998/0139(CNS) - 10/11/1998

The Committee has unanimously adopted the report by Kurt SCHWAIGER (EPP, D) on the proposal for a Council and Commission Decision on the position to be taken by the Community within the Association Council established by the European Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States of the one part, and Romania of the other part, signed in Brussels on 1 February 1993, with regard to the adoption of the rules for the implementation of Article 64(1)(i), (1)(ii) and (2) of the Europe Agreement and for the implementation of Article 9(1)(1), (1)(2) and (2) of Protocol 2 on ECSC products to the European Agreement. The REX Committee is recommending that Parliament approve the Decision. The agreement lays down that the two parties shall operate a competition policy and grant public aid in accordance with identical fundamental principles. As regards the rules relating to enterprises, those principles are laid down in Article 64(1) and (2) on the basis of Articles 85, 86 and 92 of the EC Treaty. Paragraph 3 confers on the Association Council the power to adopt the rules necessary for implementing the policy within a three-year deadline from the date of the agreement's entry into force. To enable the Association Council to take its decisions a common position must first be drawn up by the Union. The Council consulted the European Parliament on the draft Council and Commission decision concerning the common position that must be adopted by the Community within the Association Council. The draft decision by the Association Council, annexed to the common position, relates more specifically to the fundamental principles of the competition policy to be applied by the EU-Romania Association, the competent authorities in relation to competition, the consultation and information procedures on matters of mutual interest falling within the exclusive competence of one of the parties or of a cross-border nature, and administrative cooperation.