Structural improvements in inland waterway transport (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1101/89)

1995/0120(SYN) - 23/05/1995 - Legislative proposal

The Commission proposes to amend Regulation (EEC) No 1101/89 on structural improvements in inland waterway transport, mainly with a view to reducing the over-capacity of fleets through scrapping schemes coordinated at Community level. These schemes are already being applied to existing over-capacity. Because of the structural weakness of the inland waterway sector, the scrapping fund has limited financial resources to satisfy the new applications for scrapping premiums filed with it since 30 June 1994. Consequently, the proposal for a regulation seeks to make provision for additional intervention by the Community in scrapping schemes in order to reduce the structural over-capacity in cargo, estimated at approximately 15% in both sectors (dry cargo and liquid cargo). The objective of this large-scale action is to improve the long-term structure of the inland waterway market while gradually liberalizing it. In order to achieve this, additional financial resources are needed for a period of three years (1996-1997-1998), both from the Community budget and from the budgets of the Member States affected and the industry. It also proposes that: - financial solidarity should apply to all the scrapping funds' income and expenditure; - the Commission should coordinate the scrapping funds in order to promote proper cooperation between them and uniform application of the regulation.