Satellite personal communication services in the Union: Community action

1995/0274(COD) - 14/10/1996 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal on a common framework for the harmonized development of satellite personal communications services in the Community incorporated 9 of the 22 amendments adopted by the European Parliament. The main changes made by the Commission were as follows: - a change to the title such as to present the purpose of the proposed measure in a different way; - changes to the text to take account of the difficulty of determining the timing of the decision, and in recognition of the need for urgent action; - emphasis on the harmonized promotion of S-PCS; - making it clear that one of the objectives of action is to ensure that common conditions are attached to national authorizations for satellite PCS space segment operators; - insertion of a reference to the proposal for a Directive on a common framework for general authorizations and individual licences in the field of telecommunications services; - provision for negotiations with third countries with the aim of allocating access to space segment in the light of the interests of all the countries concerned; - insertion of a reference to the Telecommunications Committee set up by the proposal for a Directive on a common framework for general authorizations and individual licences in the field of telecommunications services; - a call on the Council to draw up, by 31/12/1996, a common position on the allocation of the frequencies necessary for S-PCS and, if necessary, to give the Commission a mandate to negotiate within the relevant international bodies concerning access to space segment and the obligations to be attached to authorizations for space segment operators. The Commission did not accept the amendments concerning the following points: selection of space segment operators for S-PCS and alignment with the general Directive on licensing; the distinction between mobile and fixed satellite services; the advisory committee; trial licences and public meetings of the committee.