EC/Yemen relations: cooperation agreement

1997/0229(CNS) - 08/09/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: conclusion of a cooperation agreement between the Community and Yemen.
SUBSTANCE: The Agreement, initialled by the Community and Yemen on 24 February 1997, is based on respect of democratic principles and human rights. It is of a purely Community character (first pillar) in which the identity of Yemen as an Arab state is clearly set out. It is a non-preferential Agreement providing for most-favoured-nation treatment. It makes no reference to CFSP issues and makes no provision for a financial protocol. With regard to justice and home affairs (aspects relating to the fight against drugs, and money laundering) emphasis is placed on action within the limits of competence of the Community and Yemen. Projects specifically targeted at the most disadvantaged groups of the population are based on respect of human rights and will be aimed at achieving sustainable development. The various fields of cooperation addressed by the Agreement are: . trade cooperation; . development cooperation: increased importance is attached to the reduction of poverty and population growth with a view to maintaining sustainable economic and social development; . economic cooperation: provision is made for closer cooperation (one article provides for the establishment of a regular dialogue on macro-economic policy); . cooperation in the fields of the environment, culture, science, the development of social and human resources, tourism and regional cooperation; . financial cooperation. The Agreement also contains an evolutive clause for the expansion, if necessary, of the scope of cooperation. Regarding the institutional aspects, the Agreement establishes a Joint Cooperation Committee to set the priorities of the Agreement and ensure its proper functioning.