Development cooperation, women participation: integration of gender issues

1997/0151(SYN) - 13/02/1998 - Modified legislative proposal

Following the opinion by the European Parliament of 19 November 1997, the Commission has submitted an amended proposal incorporating 9 of the 17 amendments adopted by Parliament on first reading. The amendments adopted concern in particular: - the coordination and integration of such questions within development policy, - measures to take account of inequalities between men and women regarding education and training, decision-making processes affecting political, economic, social and family life as support for measures seeking to eliminate inequalities, - support for actions taking into account the specific status of women, - support for measures leading to modifications to legislative and administrative acts to strengthen equality between men and women, - assistance provided under this regulation should seek to reinforce and coordinate not only other Community instruments but also those existing at intergovernmental and/or national level, - inclusion of public utility associations among beneficiaries of funding. The amendments not included in the amended proposal include: - measures relating to comitology seeking to achieve clarity and legal assistance with other similar regulations in the field of development, - amendments relating to human and institutional resources which are the responsibility of the Commission alone. In addition, the Commission has included in its modified proposals certain elements in line with Parliament's opinion and taking account of discussions within the 'development' Council drawing up the common position. These provisions relate to: - the adoption of a gender sensitive approach in all Community policies and need to include this in all Community measures in this area by the year 2003. - inclusion of agricultural and craft cooperatives and bodies among the beneficiaries of funding, - the issuing of invitations to tender to natural and legal persons in the beneficiary country and possible other third countries, by way of exception, - information for Member States regarding actions already approved, - comitology, - the introduction of a general review of this regulation three years after its entry into force.