RTD 5th framework-programme 1998-2002: preserving the ecosystem. Specific Euratom programme

1998/0187(CNS) - 10/06/1998 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: to adopt a specific programme (Euratom) for research and training on 'Preserving the ecosystem' (1998 to 2002). SUBSTANCE: with a view to the implementation of the fifth framework programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for research and training, the Commission proposes adopting a specific programme on 'preserving the ecosystem' for the period 1998-2002. The amount deemed necessary for the implementation of the specific programme is ECU 1141 m (ECU 375 m for 1998-1999; ECU 766 m for 2000-2002). The objective of the programme is to help exploit the full potential of nuclear energy, partly by making current technologies even safer and more economic and partly by exploring new promising concepts. It has three distinct components: a) a key action on controlled thermonuclear fusion, the aim of which is to further develop the necessary basis for the possible construction of an experimental reactor, as well as basic concepts and technologies required in the long term for the reactor; b) a key action on nuclear fission, the aims of which are to enhance the safety of Europe's nuclear facilities and the protection of workers and the public from radiation, to help solve waste management problems and to improve the competitiveness and social acceptability of Europe's nuclear industry; c) research and technological development activities of a generic nature, the aim of which is to consolidate and advance European knowledge and competence in several areas that are important for the safe and competitive use of nuclear fission and other industrial and medical uses of ionising radiation and for the management of natural sources of radiation.