Forests: protection against atmospheric pollution (amend. regul. 3528/86/EEC)

1996/0185(CNS) - 17/01/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Kenneth D. COLLINS (PSE, UK), Parliament accepted the extension of two Regulations on the protection of the Community's forests against atmospheric pollution and against fire. These seek to extend for a five-year period (1997-2001) the current protection measures including the collection and analysis of data. The proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2158/92 on protection of the Community's forests against fire involves a total budget of ECU 70 m, while the Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 3528/86 on protection of the Community's forests against atmospheric pollution involves ECU 40 m. Parliament proposed: - aligning the financial provisions of the proposals on the inter-institutional financial agreement and on the financial perspective of the Community (ceiling on expenditure); - replacing the proposed management committees with advisory committees (which would reduce the Council's influence) and establishing a scientific committee to evaluate the results obtained by the measure; - extending the legal basis of the proposals so as to include Article 130s (1) of the EU Treaty, which would reinforce the role of Parliament; - that the Commission submit to Parliament and the Council a progress report on the area covered by the Regulation and that it submit, before the end of 1999, a report on the impact of the measures planned in implementation of the programme as regards the ecological, economic and social aspects.