Structural Fund: innovatory measures in the framework of the ERDF (actions art. 10 ERDF) 1995-1999

1995/2217(COS) - 19/01/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Richard HOWITT (PSE), the European Parliament called on the Commission to provide guidelines under Article 10 of the ERDF Regulation which were clear, concise and flexible, but which would not act as a constraint to innovation or creativity. It therefore called on the Commission to promote communication and exchanges between those involved in inter-regional cooperation, using modern technologies and information super highways. The EP suggested that the aim of promoting local and regional sustainable development, participation and partnership should underly all of the activities under Article 10. The Commission should encourage participation from smaller authorities and others without a record of participation in European programmes. Furthermore, the EP deplored that environmental sustainability had not been identified as a priority under Article 10 and suggested that this be integrated in all spatial planning projects as well as local and regional development strategies. It also requested a new area of action to encourage citizenship participation and democratic initiatives in order to combat exclusion of disadvantaged groups and to encourage local authorities to involve cooperatives and non-profit-making organizations as partners in the drawing up and execution of pilot projects, in particular those concerning potential sources of jobs.