Small and medium-sized enterprises SMEs in the European Union: 3rd multiannual programme 1997-2000

1996/0087(CNS) - 19/09/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mrs Marianne THYSSEN (PPE, B), Parliament approved the Third Multiannual Programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) while calling for its extension to craft enterprises. The EP also called for measures to promote access of SMEs to the information society and to allow them full participation in the European social dialogue. It sought to stimulate the development of and access to venture capital and the starting up of SMEs through favourable tax provisions. Finally, the EP expressed the hope that the participation of employees in SMEs would be stimulated and that environment-friendly production and distribution schemes would be encouraged.