2003 budget: EP's estimates

2002/2042(BUD) - 14/05/2002 - Budgetary text adopted by Parliament

The European Parliament adopted a resolution on Parliament's estimates for 2003, based on a report by Per STENMARCK (EPP-ED, Sweden). (Please refer to the document dated 17/04/02.) The budget takes into account the costs of enlargement. The estimates for the year are put at EUR 1051 million, which is an increase of 1.6% on last year's figure. EUR 32.4 million concerns enlargement-related expenditure, including provision for 114 posts for the candidate countries. Parliament authorised the creation of an enlargement reserve, with a provisional allocation of EUR 51 million. With regard to 2004, the importance of Parliament's active role in a wide debate on the future of Europe was stressed. Parliament agreed to an increase of 15% in appropriations earmarked for public information measures. It expressed its concerns on staffing related to increased work and delays in establishing the Interinstitutional Recruitment Office, and reiterated its support for an early retirement scheme that includes staff of all the institutions and the political groups of the Parliament. The resolution reaffirms the principle of equality for all the languages and points out that the largest share of additional expenditure is accounted for by multilingualism. Finally, it agrees to the establishment of a property reserve amounting to EUR 16.4 million for the continuation of Parliament's property policy in connection with the forthcoming enlargement. A full review of all new construction to be undertaken for enlargement is to be presented by the Secretary General By June 2002.