Basic information

1994/0084(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
Specific research programme RTD: environment and climate (1994-1998) **Subject** 3.70.03 Climate policy, climate change, ozone layer	

Key players

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Environment	1817	1994-12-15
Research	1810	1994-12-01

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
30/03/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0068	Summary
21/04/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/11/1994	Vote in committee		Summary
14/11/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0062/1994	
17/11/1994	Debate in Parliament		
15/12/1994	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
15/12/1994	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/12/1994	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1994/0084(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 170 EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 130I-p4
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENER/3/05557

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	**Committee**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0062/1994 OJ C 341 05.12.1994, p. 0014	14/11/1994	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0129/1994 OJ C 341 05.12.1994, p. 0106-0133	17/11/1994	Summary
European Commission				
Document type		**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
Legislative proposal		COM(1994)0068	30/03/1994	Summary
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	**Document type**	**Reference**	**Date**	**Summary**
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1019/1994 OJ C 393 31.12.1994, p. 0117	14/09/1994	

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 1994/0911 OJ L 361 31.12.1994, p. 0001	Summary

Specific research programme RTD: environment and climate (1994-1998)

1994/0084(CNS) - 15/12/1994 - Final act

The Council decision adopted a specific programme for RTD, including demonstration, in the field of environment and climate for the period 1994-1998. - Objectives: to help implement the EU's policy in the field of the environment, taking account of the Community's fifth framework programme of action for the environment and the European Environment Agency; to help meet the objectives of the world programmes of research into global change; to help define a global strategy for the EU in order to fulfil the commitments resulting from the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development; to help develop environmental products, technologies, techniques and services, which responded to new needs and whose exploitation could help to boost economic growth and create employment. - Amount deemed necessary: ECU 532 million. Indicative breakdown by area (in million ecus): - Natural environment, environmental quality and global change: 250 - Environmental technologies: 133 - Space techniques applied to environmental monitoring and research: 109 - Human dimensions of environmental change: 40. Participation in the programme was open, with financial support from the Community, to all legal entities established in the Community or in an associated country, following the conclusion of an

agreement with the third country in question, and to the Joint Research Centre. The programme would be implemented through shared-cost actions, concerted actions, specific measures and accompanying measures relating to international cooperation, to the dissemination of results and to training for researchers and users.

Specific research programme RTD: environment and climate (1994-1998)

1994/0084(CNS) - 17/11/1994 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

"Horizontal" amendments to the specific programmes. As with its consideration of the 12 specific programmes approved by the EP at the end of the previous parliamentary term, the EP adopted horizontal amendments which dealt with the same issues but which were located in different places in the texts of the individual projects. These amendments related to: 1) the EP's prerogatives with regard to the budget: the Committee on Research felt that the final amounts for the programmes should be adopted by the budgetary authority in accordance with the resources available under the financial perspective and the relative priority laid down for the fields covered by the various programmes. 2) the progress made in implementing the programmes: as far as the committee was concerned, any increase in the overall maximum amount of the Fourth Framework Programme for RTD would depend, in particular, on the evaluation of the progress made in implementing the programmes; in this respect, it stressed that for the progress to be deemed satisfactory, it was important for the first commitments of appropriations to be effected within a period of 12 months following the adoption of the programme in question. 3) the need to speed up the selection procedures and make them more transparent: it was important to simplify and speed up the application and selection procedures in order to make it easier for small and medium-sized entreprises, research centres and universities to take part in the specific programmes. 4) information for the EP: the work programme drawn up by the Commission setting out in detail the scientific and technological objectives and specifying the stages in the implementation of the programme as well as the proposed financial arrangements should be forwarded to the EP along with any updated versions. 5) comitology: the EP reiterated its support for consultative committees rather than regulatory committees. It also recommended that any expenses involved in taking part in the committees should be borne by the Member States. 6) international agreements: the EP proposed extending the scope of the negotiations undertaken by the Commission with a view to involving, through international agreements, third countries in Europe in the RTD programmes, so as to also include third countries in the Mediterranean. Environment and climate. From the outset, the EP stressed that this programme should be incorporated into a general European Union strategy with a view to fulfilling international undertakings entered into following the Rio Conference and, in particular, those relating to a reduction in greenhouse gases. The EP added a further theme to the three themes included in the Commission proposal: that of the "human dimensions of environmental change". This fourth theme would cover activities in four areas of research: 1 - Social and economic causes and effects of environmental change 2 - Economic and social responses to environmental issues 3 - Sustainable development and technological change 4 - Integration of scientific knowledge and of economic and social considerations in the formulation of environmental policies. In order to ensure funding for the research activities under this fourth theme, the EP proposed reducing the percentages allocated to the other three themes. Furthermore, the EP stressed that priority should be given to projects submitted by SMEs, provided that they were of equal scientific value. It supported the creation of regional interdisciplinary research networks responsible for studying the specific problems of "given land and sea areas of Europe" such as the Mediterranean Sea, the Baltic Sea, the North Sea and the Alps. Within the first theme - "Natural environment, environmental quality and global change", the EP proposed the creation of a coordinating centre for the collection and evaluation of seismic data using the structures already in place at the JRC. The exploitation of data in the area of seismic risks should provide the basis for the elaboration of adequate building standards to guard against such risks and permit the appraisal of the technical solutions required to rationalise and improve the effectiveness of operations following a disaster. Within the second theme - "Environmental technologies" - the EP proposed the inclusion of a fifth area of activity concerning "technologies and methods to protect human health and improve industrial safety". The aim of research in this field was mainly to develop methods and technologies for the assessment and management of the risks of industrial accidents. As far as the third theme was concerned - "Space techniques applied to environmental monitoring and research" - the EP recommended an improvement in the European technical capacity in the acquisition of data from space. This data and these technologies should meet the needs of the European Environment Agency. Moreover, in order to ensure optimum use of the data obtained by satellite for environmental purposes, it was important to improve cooperation between users. In this respect, the EP called for research to identify user requirements with regard to the Union's policy for satellite services and to develop new instruments on the basis of these requirements. Parliament also stressed the need to involve developing countries' scientific institutions in the research on global change carried out under the specific environment and climate programme. It emphasised the fact that this programme should be carried out in coordination with Action II of the fourth framework programme - Cooperation with third countries.

Specific research programme RTD: environment and climate (1994-1998)

1994/0084(CNS) - 30/03/1994 - Legislative proposal

The purpose of this proposal for a decision is to establish a specific RTD and demonstration programme in the field of the environment and the climate for the period 1994-1998. The amount deemed necessary to implement the programme is ECU 532 million. The programme will cover three research subjects: - natural environment, environmental quality and overall change: climate change and impact on natural resources, atmospheric physics and chemistry, biospheric process and impact, human dimension of environmental change; - environmental technologies: sustainable development and technological change, instruments, techniques and methods for monitoring the environment, technologies and methods for protecting the environment, technologies to prevent and reduce natural risks; - space technology applied to environmental monitoring and research: research into methods and pilot projects, research and development of leading-edge sensor technologies, Earth observation centre. Participation in the programme is open, with financial support from the Community, to all legal entities established in the Community or in an associated country following an agreement with the said third country, and to the Joint Research Centre. The programme will be implemented through shared cost actions, concerted actions, specific measures and accompanying measures relating to international cooperation, the dissemination of results and the training of researchers and users. The Commission is authorised to start negotiations with a view to concluding international agreements with third European countries, in order to associate them with all or part of the programme.