Basic information

1995/0107(SYN) SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC) **Subject** 3.70.12 Waste management, domestic waste, packaging, light industrial waste	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	VIRGIN Ivar (PPE)	31/05/1995

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	VIRGIN Ivar (PPE)	31/05/1995

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
RELA External Economic Relations	TOIVONEN Kyösti (PPE)	23/05/1995
JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
DEVE Development and Cooperation	SCHMID Gerhard (PSE)	31/05/1995

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	1929	1996-05-28
Agriculture and Fisheries	1985	1997-01-20
Environment	1978	1996-12-09
Environment	1905	1996-03-04
Environment	1873	1995-10-06

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
26/04/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0143	Summary
16/06/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/10/1995	Debate in Council		Summary
18/10/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
18/10/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0267/1995	
16/11/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary
09/01/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
20/02/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0062 	Summary
28/05/1996	Council position published	05601/2/1996	Summary
20/06/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
03/09/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
03/09/1996	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0266/1996	
17/09/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
21/10/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0515 	
20/01/1997	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/01/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/01/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0107(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 130S-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/4/07903

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0267/1995 OJ C 323 04.12.1995, p. 0005	18/10/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading /single reading		T4-0551/1995 OJ C 323 04.12.1995, p. 0077-0109	16/11/1995	Summary
		T4-0005/1996		

Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		OJ C 032 05.02.1996, p. 0016-0031	16/01/1996	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0266/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0004	03/09/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0458/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0064-0075	18/09/1996	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	05601/2/1996 OJ C 219 27.07.1996, p. 0019	28/05/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0143 OJ C 164 30.06.1995, p. 0008	26/04/1995	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0062	20/02/1996	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1996)1014	14/06/1996	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0515	21/10/1996	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1155/1995 OJ C 018 22.01.1996, p. 0018	25/10/1995	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 1997/0120
OJ L 022 24.01.1997, p. 0014 Summary

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 16/01/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

This proposal for a regulation was approved by the European Parliament with the amendments adopted at the sitting of 16 November 1996, together with the following compromise amendment: - the Commission must draw up as soon as possible an Annex IIa listing the wastes appearing on the list of hazardous waste as adopted by Council Decision (EC) 94/904 (and which are not listed in Annex III or IV of this regulation) and exports of which will also be prohibited from 1 January 1998 onwards. This amendment replaces the amendment adopted at the plenary sitting of 16 November 1996 which prohibited exports of all wastes listed in Annex I and II of the Basel Convention, and those set out in Decision 94/904/EC.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 20/01/1997 - Final act

PURPOSE : To amend Regulation 259/93/EEC on the supervision and control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the European Community. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Regulation 120/97/EC. CONTENT : The Regulation amends the Regulation 259/93/EEC on the supervision and control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the European Community in view of prohibiting all exports of hazardous waste which are destined for recycling or recovery operations from OECD to non-OECD States as of the 1 January 1998. This amendment brings into play the Decision II/12 adopted at the time of Second Conference of the Parties to the Basle Convention in March 1994. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 27/01/1997.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 26/04/1995 - Legislative proposal

The proposal for a regulation amends Regulation (EEC) No 259/93 on the supervision and control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the European Community with a view to prohibiting all exports of hazardous waste for the purposes of recycling from OECD countries to non-OECD countries as of 1 January 1998. This amendment implements Decision II/12 adopted during the Second Conference of the parties to the Basle Convention in March 1994.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 28/05/1996 - Council position

The Council adopted the common position unanimously. It considered that the essential factor was to incorporate as quickly as possible into Regulation (EEC) No 259/93 the substance of Decision II/12 (confirmed by Decision III/1), namely a ban (immediate or delayed, depending on the type of operations involved) on exports of hazardous waste, irrespective of the technical points that would have to be clarified. None of the amendments adopted by Parliament and accepted by the Commission were incorporated into the common position. These amendments covered: - the decision of the Third Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention; - the need to adjust EU definitions and lists of hazardous waste to bring them into line with the Basel Convention; - the establishment of a new Annex II (a), also subject to the export ban.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 25/10/1995 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The ESC fully agreed that it was necessary to control the shipment of waste within and outside the Community, and to avoid the uncontrolled export of hazardous waste to countries that lacked the requisite instruments for detecting and neutralising the hazards. The ESC therefore approved in principle the objective of the proposal for a regulation. It feared, however, that this objective could only be achieved by revising the entire body of legislation on the matter. In particular, it was concerned at the differing interpretations that surround the classification of hazardous waste, and reiterated the view of its 1991 Opinion that the total export ban should apply to hazardous waste alone. The conventions, regulations and decisions of the different bodies (European Union, OECD, Basel Convention) were not mutually consistent. The ESC feared that their discrepancies, shortcomings and overlaps could be exploited improperly or give an active stimulus to ‘waste exports’. The ESC also considered that the proposed regulation should be more flexible and give consideration to waste for recycling, given that the recovery of reusable materials from waste was, in principle, economically and ecologically sound. However, the existing Regulation and the proposal (Decision II/12 of the Basel Convention) indiscriminately restricted the recovery of recycling materials, when this should only be prohibited in the case of hazardous waste or of waste that was exported for recovery without sufficient guarantees that recovery would actually be effected. Indeed, strict controls should be exercised on waste for recycling in the country of origin, together with controls on its processing in the country of destination.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 16/11/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament approved the proposal but the vote on the draft resolution was postponed under Article 60 (2) of the Rules of Procedure. The report by Mr Ivar VIRGIN (PPE, S) was therefore referred back to committee. The amendments approved by plenary repeated the objectives of the Basle Convention in the recitals (ban on exports of hazardous waste from OECD countries to non-OECD countries for the purposes of recycling as of 1 January 1998). The European Parliament again pointed out that the definitions of hazardous waste all differ and deplored the fact that specifically Community definitions were not completely in line with the definitions in the Basle Convention. The European Parliament therefore called for the list of banned products in Community legislation to be revised and for the "Community" definitions of hazardous waste to be brought into line with the Basle Convention.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 18/09/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

Parliament adopted the recommendation for second reading by Mr Ivar VIRGIN, (PPE, S) on the proposal for a Council Regulation on the control of shipments of waste. In amending the common position of the Council, Parliament called on the Commission to introduce a new waste category, i.e. mainly containing contaminated metal scrap, which would otherwise escape the export ban. Under the Basle Convention, the export of hazardous waste for recycling purposes is prohibited from 1 January 1998.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 20/02/1996 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal incorporates four of the five amendments adopted by Parliament at first reading. The amendments made by the Commission seek to: - insert a reference to the decision of the Third Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention and draw attention to the need to bring the EC definitions and lists of hazardous waste into line with the Basel Convention; - establish as soon as possible by way of the appropriate procedure an Annex II(a) listing those wastes which appear on the Community's list of hazardous waste but are not listed in Annexes III or IV to the Regulation, in order to ensure that such wastes are also subject to the export ban from 1 January 1998.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 04/03/1996

The Council confirmed the existing agreement on the common position

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 06/10/1995

Pending delivery of Parliament’s opinion, the Council held a detailed discussion on the proposal for the amendment of Regulation (EC) No 259/93 on shipments of waste so as to ban all exports of dangerous waste intended for recycling operations to non--OECD countries. This proposal corresponds to the outcome of the Third Conference of Parties to the Basle Convention (Geneva, 18 to 22 September 1995); at the Community’s instigation the Conference approved the introduction of an amendment to the Convention providing for a ban on exports to non--OECD countries of dangerous waste for the purpose of disposal or recovery no later than 31 December 1997. The discussion made it possible to establish the existence of a common approach within the Council in favour of the proposal. Regulation (EC) No 259/93 already bans exports of waste for disposal to non--EFTA countries not parties to the Basle Convention. In addition, all exports of waste to the ACP states is banned under the Lomé Convention.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 14/06/1996 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission took note of the Council's unanimous decision to adopt the common position. However, it regretted that the Council had not taken account of the Commission's amended proposal in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Treaty.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 09/12/1996

The Council reached unanimous political agreement on the Regulation amending Regulation No 259/93.

Waste: control of shipments of waste within, into and out of the EC (amend. Regul. 259/93/EEC)

1995/0107(SYN) - 28/05/1996

Following the political agreement reached at its sitting of 4 March 1996, the Council unanimously adopted the common position. This would then be referred to Parliament for a second reading under the cooperation procedure.