Basic information

1995/0164(SYN) SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme **Subject** 4.20.01 Medicine, diseases 6.40.12 Relations with developing countries in general	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development and Cooperation	ANDRÉ-LÉONARD Anne (ELDR)	08/09/1995

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development and Cooperation	ANDRÉ-LÉONARD Anne (ELDR)	08/09/1995

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	BÉBÉAR Jean-Pierre (PPE)	07/09/1995
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
CONT Budgetary Control	WYNN Terence (PSE)	05/09/1995
FEMM Women's Rights	GLASE Anne-Karin (PPE)	26/09/1995

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	1996	1997-03-24
Development	1928	1996-05-28
Telecommunications	1941	1996-06-27

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
26/06/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0293	Summary
18/09/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
15/04/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
15/04/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0113/1996	
08/05/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
27/06/1996	Council position published	07285/2/1996	Summary
18/07/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
29/10/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
29/10/1996	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0341/1996	
11/11/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
10/01/1997	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0001	
24/03/1997	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
24/03/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/03/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0164(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 130W
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/4/08000

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0113/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0003	15/04/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0216/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0013-0036	09/05/1996	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0341/1996 OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0006	29/10/1996	
		T4-0577/1996		

Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0021-0043	12/11/1996	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	07285/2/1996 OJ C 264 11.09.1996, p. 0021	27/06/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0293 OJ C 252 28.09.1995, p. 0004	26/06/1995	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1996)1300	15/07/1996	
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1997)0001 OJ C 095 24.03.1997, p. 0036	10/01/1997	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 1997/0550
OJ L 085 27.03.1997, p. 0001 Summary

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 09/05/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

Adopting the report by Mrs Anne ANDRE-LEONARD (ELDR, B) Parliament approved the regulation setting up an assistance programme to help the developing countries combat the spread of HIV/AIDS and deal with the impact on health and social and economic development. It asked, however, that priority be given to the following strategies and action: * Priorities: Parliament called on the Community to support strategies aimed at: - promoting an effective policy to prevent HIV/AIDS from being transmitted sexually, perinatally or through the blood and for the prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, by funding health information and prevention campaigns promoting the correct use of all means of protection, particularly condoms, and campaigns planned with the involvement of such mass media as are capable of reaching the population; - breaking the "poverty-instability-HIV/AIDS" cycle, with particular attention being accorded to groups in high-risk environments (refugees, migrants, itinerant workers, soldiers, prisoners, prostitutes, etc.); - stressing the need to reduce the co-factors that cause AIDS (poverty, malnutrition and poor hygiene); - reinforcing health and social services (sexual education courses aimed at young people that respect their cultural identity); - developing regional and international medical cooperation exchanges; - including action against AIDS in the general measures against other diseases which still exist in the developing countries by improving primary health care; - promoting a dialogue with the religious communities that continue to reject an open and wide-ranging anti-AIDS campaign; - promoting a policy aimed at ensuring respect for the fundamental human rights referred to in the decisions of the Fourth World Women's Conference in Bejing; - developing scientific knowledge on the epidemic. * Action to be taken: Parliament called for action to: - provide sexual

and reproductive health education adapted to make it accessible to the target groups, with media involvement; - improve the availability and use of different means and methods of protection, in particular by means of improved information and through the promotion, distribution and social marketing of condoms; - promote methods for systematic HIV/AIDS screening among the populations in the developing countries; - increase the availability of medicinal products intended to treat sexually transmitted diseases; - study the setting up of a solidarity instrument to improve the treatment for people affected by HIV in the poorest countries, in conjunction with the Member States and the NGOs. - establish, with the active support of the major UN agencies and pharmaceutical laboratories, a financial connection between the treatments financed in the rich countries and the necessary treatments in the developing countries; - strengthen health services and care establishments; - involve local communities in the devising of local strategies for information campaigns and sexual education programmes; - promote freedom from stigma, isolation and ghettoization for those living with the virus; - improve national epidemiological surveillance notification and statistical systems; - support programmes that aim to increase women's decision-making powers in all spheres of the health sector. Parliament also asked that all AIDS prevention and control programmes should respect human rights and cultural and religious characteristics insofar as they are compatible with action against the disease. Parliament also wanted priority to be given during implementation to enhancing national capacities, particularly through training programmes designed to increase the beneficiary countries' involvement in and autonomy in relation to measures to control the spread of the virus. It also wanted a financial contribution from local partners, in particular to operating costs, in cases where a project is designed as a start-up for an ongoing activity.

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 26/06/1995 - Legislative proposal

1) Objective To formalise ongoing structural support to developing countries in their efforts to combat HIV/AIDS. 2) Content 1. The Community shall implement a programme to assist the developing countries in their efforts to combat the spread of the HIV/AIDS epidemic and help them cope with its impact on health and economic development. 2. Priority shall be given to promoting an effective policy to prevent HIV/AIDS transmission, breaking the "poverty-instability-HIV/AIDS" cycle, reinforcing health and social services, helping government assess the epidemic's impact and developing scientific knowledge of the epidemic. 3. The proposal defines the agents of cooperation eligible for financial support in the form of non-refundable grants to cover both investment (with the exception of the purchase of buildings) and operating costs. 4. The instruments to be employed include studies, technical assistance, training or other services, supplies and works, along with audits and evaluation and monitoring missions. 5. The Commission shall take all necessary measures to coordinate operations financed by the Community and those financed by the Member States. 6. The Commission shall appraise, decide and administer the cofinancing of operations according to the budgetary and other procedures in force. Participation in invitations to tender and the award of contracts shall be open on equal terms to natural and legal persons of the Member States and of the recipient country. 7. The Commission shall be assisted by an advisory committee made up of representatives from the Member States and chaired by a representative of the Commission, i.e. for the ACP countries, the EDF Committee; for the Mediterranean countries, the MED Committee; for the Asian and Latin American countries the ALA Committee. 8. After each budget year, the Commission shall report to Parliament and the Council, summarising the operations financed in the course of the year and evaluating the implementation of the Regulation. 9. A financial statement is annexed to the proposal. Source : Commission Européenne - Info92 - 12/95

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 27/06/1996 - Council position

In its common position the Council made certain changes to the text of the Commission proposal, notably: - the nature of the committee required to give an opinion on proposed measures: the Council agreed that this would be the relevant geographical committee (ALA, FED or MED) acting under the III(a) procedure (regulatory committee). It also stated that once a year there would be an exchange of views in a joint meeting of geographical committees on the general guidelines for measures to be carried out the following year; - duration of the regulation: unlike the Commission the Council thought that the regulation should apply for a limited period. It therefore limited it to three years (1997-1999) with a financial reference amount of ECU 45 m; - the Council also added a new article on assessment of measures (the assessments are to be made available to the Member States on request) and information for the committees on measures financed at various stages (before and after financing); - the Council stressed the complementarity of these measures with other development cooperation measures. Concerning Parliament's amendments, the Council retained the following: . taking account of the fact that AIDS is pandemic throughout the world and requires appropriate structural and multi-sectoral action; . details on the financial measures: addition of measures concerning improvement of the availability and use of means of protection (especially methods of transfusion and other forms of injection), better methods of protection against HIV/STD transmission (including better screening), technical support for local NGOs and local communities by means of networks to improve the effectiveness of efforts and information; encouragement of participation by local communities in sexual education; improvement of epidemiological surveillance; . definition of the agents of cooperation eligible for financial support: inclusion of local authorities, traditional social structures, local communities and the private sector; . details of the instruments to be employed in financing. All the other Parliament amendments were rejected by the Council.

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 28/05/1996

The Council expressed agreement on the common position in respect of the proposal for a regulation that would constitute the legal basis for implementing the programme and the budget line. After formal adoption, which would soon take place following finalisation of the text, the common position would be referred to Parliament under the terms of the cooperation procedure.

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 12/11/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In adopting the recommendation for second reading by Mrs Anne ANDRE-LEONARD (ELDR, B), Parliament adopted again the amendments not incorporated by the Council in its common position. The EP deleted the financial reference amount of ECU 45 m for the period 1997-1999, while calling for clarification. The programme should inter alia: - aim at reducing the transmission of HIV/AIDS and preventing and treating other diseases capable of being transmitted sexually or perinatally; - be based on respect for the rights of the individual and provide social training for the persons concerned. The EP called for the measures to be taken to include, as regards each objective, reducing the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other diseases capable of being transmitted sexually or perinatally through: - stepping up communication, information and training activities on sexual and reproductive health that respect the cultural identity. Special attention should be given to high-risk groups (refugees, migrants, itinerant workers, soldiers, prisoners and prostitutes) and to the most socially and economically vulnerable individuals and communities, in particular women and young people and their partners; - the promotion of better methods for the screening and the treatment of sexually transmitted diseases among the populations in the developing countries; - the promotion, distribution and social marketing of condoms; - measures that aim to emancipate women in all spheres of the health sector including those relating to sexual relations and to increase male awareness and responsibility for safe sexual behaviour. It also called for measures reinforcing health and social services through: - strengthening health services and care establishments; - the setting up of a solidarity instrument to improve the treatment of people affected by HIV in the poorest countries; - support for information and training programmes for local health workers; - the encouragement of freedom from discrimination and for combating the stigma and/or ghettoisation attaching to those living with the virus.

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 24/03/1997 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: implementation of a programme to assist the developing countries to minimize the spread of AIDS and to help them cope with its impact on health and social and economic development. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation 550/97/EC on HIV/AIDS-related operations in developing countries. SUBSTANCE: In this programme the Community is pursuing the following aims: . reducing the transmission of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases (STD) (in particular: information and education on sexual health with priority being given to at-risk groups and women, improved screening for STD and safety of transfusions, increasing women's power of decision, etc.); . reinforcing the health service so that it can cope with the spread of the disease (in particular: strengthening primary health services, studying ways of improving access to treatment for people infected, blood transfusion and nosocomial safety, improved training for medical personnel and epidemiological monitoring); . helping governments to assess the epidemic's impact and to define and implement strategies to combat it (in particular: technical back-up to analyse the social and economic impact of the epidemic and implementation of suitable strategies, support to optimize NGOs contribution to prevention activities, encouragement of participation by local communities in developing strategies for information); . developing scientific understanding of the epidemic, but excluding basic research (monitoring of programmes based on relevant indicators, support for the exchange of information); . combating discrimination against, and the social and economic exclusion of, persons infected (in particular: promoting respect for the rights of the individual and combating the stigma attached to infected persons). These various measures must take into account various principles including concern for the needs of vulnerable groups, gender-specific approach (men/women), respect for the rights of the individual, the various stages of development of the epidemic, etc. - Beneficiaries: the programme is directed primarily at the poorest and least developed countries and the most disadvantaged sections of the population of developing countries. - Agents of cooperation: national, regional and local government departments and agencies, local authorities and other decentralized bodies, regional and international organizations, research institutes and universities, local communities and the private sector (NGOs, women's organizations, representative associations with experience in the AIDS field). - Eligible expenditure: in the framework of the general objectives of this programme, Community financing may cover investment expenditure (except for real estate) and recurrent expenditure (administrative expenditure, maintenance and running costs). It also includes expenditure on studies, technical assistance, training or other services, supplies and works, as well as audits and evaluation and monitoring missions. Priority will be given to enhancing national capacity with a view to long-term viability. Co-financing with the Member States and the organizations involved in the projects is actively sought according to the nature of the operation concerned and according to the means of the partners concerned. - Form of aid: grants. - Profile of Community actions: measures will be taken to emphasize the Community nature of the planned projects. - Consistency and complementarity: coordination measures with the Commission are planned to guarantee the effectiveness of the operations between all the partners including the Member States (establishment of a system for the exchange of information and on-the-spot coordination of the implementation of operations). Coordination will also be ensured with the activities of other international organizations active in this field (Unaids). - Decision-making procedure: the Commission manages and implements the operations covered by this regulation. It is assisted by the geographically-determined committee competent for the country concerned (ALA, MED, FED) acting under the regulatory committee procedure (type IIIa). The Commission must inform the competent committee succinctly in advance of any decision concerning operations of a value of less than ECU 2 million. For decisions involving larger amounts the decisions will be taken in agreement with the committee. Participation in invitations to tender and the award of contracts is open to recipient countries and the Member States and other developing countries or possibly other third countries in exceptional cases. - Information: an annual report is forwarded by the Commission to Parliament and the Council summarizing the operations financed in the course of that year and evaluating them (any contracts concluded, independent assessments,

etc.). It will also inform the Member States, one month after the decision of the operations and projects approved. Once a year there is provision for an exchange of views between the Commission and the various committees concerned on the general guidelines for the operations to be carried out in the year ahead. - Assessment: the Commission will regularly assess operations financed with a view to establishing whether the objectives of the regulation have been achieved. These assessments are forwarded to the various committees and to the Member States requesting them. - Budget: ECU 45 million from 1997 to 1999.Annual appropriations are authorized by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial perspective. ENTRY INTO FORCE: the regulation enters into force on 30/03/1997. After three years of implementation a report should make an overall assessment of this programme with suggestions regarding future operations.

Public health and development: actions in the field of the AIDS in developing countries, 1997-1999 programme

1995/0164(SYN) - 27/06/1996

The Council formally adopted the common position, following the deliberations of the Development Council at its meeting of 28 May.