Basic information

1995/0165(SYN) SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries **Subject** 6.40.12 Relations with developing countries in general	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development and Cooperation	BALDI Monica Stefania (UPE) ANDREWS Niall (UPE)	19/07/1995 19/07/1995

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development and Cooperation	ANDREWS Niall (UPE)	19/07/1995

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	DI PRIMA Pietro Antonio (UPE)	27/09/1995
CONT Budgetary Control	WYNN Terence (PSE)	05/09/1995

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	1902	1996-01-29
Development	1967	1996-11-22
Development	1897	1995-12-20

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
26/06/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0291	Summary

14/11/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
23/11/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
23/11/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0302/1995	
14/12/1995	Debate in Parliament		Summary
29/01/1996	Council position published	12770/2/1995	Summary
15/02/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
24/04/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
24/04/1996	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A4-0136/1996	
20/05/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
31/07/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0425	Summary
22/11/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		Summary
22/11/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
28/11/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0165(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/4/07520

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0302/1995 OJ C 339 18.12.1995, p. 0004	23/11/1995	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0653/1995 OJ C 017 22.01.1996, p. 0420-0445	15/12/1995	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A4-0136/1996 OJ C 152 27.05.1996, p. 0005	24/04/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T4-0228/1996 OJ C 166 10.06.1996, p. 0016-0033	21/05/1996	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	12770/2/1995 OJ C 087 25.03.1996, p. 0029	29/01/1996	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0291 OJ C 235 09.09.1995, p. 0011	26/06/1995	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1996)0233	08/02/1996	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0425	31/07/1996	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 1996/2258
OJ L 306 28.11.1996, p. 0001 Summary

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 22/11/1996 - Final act

OBJECTIVE: the establishment of procedures for the administration of rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries that have suffered serious destruction through war, civil disorder or natural disaster. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council regulation 2258/96/EC on rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries. SUBSTANCE: The rehabilitation and reconstruction operations are to be of limited duration and launched as quickly as possible and seek: . to help re-establish a working economy and the institutional capacities needed to restore social and political stability to the countries concerned; . to meet the needs of the people affected as a whole. The operations must progressively take over from humanitarian action and pave the way for the resumption of medium-term and long-term development aid. They must in particular permit refugees, displaced persons and demobilized troops to return home and must help the entire population to resume normal civilian life in their countries and regions of origin. - Beneficiary countries: African, Caribbean and Pacific countries, the Mediterranean countries, the countries of Latin America and Asia and the developing countries of the Caucasus and Central Asia. - Cooperation partners: regional and international organizations, NGOs, national, provincial and local government departments and agencies, Community-based organizations, institutes and public and private operators. - Operations to be implemented: relaunch of production on a lasting basis; the physical and operational rehabilitation of basic infrastructure, including mine clearance; social reintegration, in particular of refugees, displaced persons and demobilized troops; the restoration of the institutional capacities needed in the rehabilitation period, especially at local level. - Community financing: covers both investment (except for the purchase of buildings) and recurring costs (administrative, maintenance and operational costs) which should be taken over by the beneficiaries. A financial contribution from the partners is to be sought within their means. Cofinancing with other providers of funds (in particular the Member States) should be sought. Steps are to be taken to emphasize the Community character of the operations and to ensure coherence and complementarity of these actions with those undertaken by the Community and/or the Member States. - Nature of aid: grants. - Decision-making procedure: the Commission is to manage and implement the operations undertaken under this Regulation. It is to be assisted by a regulatory committee of the IIIa type consisting of representatives of the Member States which should include, depending on the region, representatives of the EDF, MED or ALA committee. In its decision on the projects to be financed the Commission is to take into account a certain number of criteria including the effectiveness and viability of operations and

security and developments in the country with regard to the transition process towards democracy or respect for human rights. The Commission must also inform the committee succinctly of any financing decision it intends to take with regard to projects of less than ECU 2 million in value. For decisions over this amount the decisions are to be taken in agreement with the committee. - Information: an annual report is to be forwarded to the European Parliament and the Council summarizing the operations financed in the course of that year and giving an evaluation (any contracts concluded, independent evaluations etc.). - Evaluation: the Commission is to undertake regular evaluations in order to establish whether the objectives of the regulation have been achieved. These assessments are to be forwarded to the various committees and to any Member States requesting them. An overall assessment is to be submitted three years after the entry into force of this regulation to the European Parliament and the Council, on the basis of which amendments can be made with a view to the adoption of a new regulation. ENTRY INTO FORCE: the regulation enters into force on 1 December 1996.

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 15/12/1995 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr ANDREWS (RDE, IRL), the European Parliament approved this proposal for a regulation with the following amendments: - Parliament noted that high priority needed to be accorded to rapid aid and that food security and the restoration of basic social facilities needed to be treated as matters of the utmost importance; - to the agents of cooperation, Parliament added specialized international aid organizations and NGOs (it dropped local authorities and other decentralized agents); - particular attention should be paid to operations to reinforce national capacities, particularly through the training of staff and the restoration of basic physical, social and economic infrastructure with a view to sustainability; - a financial contribution from local partners should be sought as a priority in cases where a project was designed as a start-up for an ongoing activity; - mechanisms for consultation should be established by the Commission in order to ensure coherence and complementarity with projects of the Member States and other donors; - the meetings provided for by the regulation should be held in public and the full minutes transmitted to the EP and the Council (within ten days); an annual exchange of views to establish general orientations should be submitted to the relevant authorities and bodies in the countries receiving assistance; - the report to be transmitted to the EP should state the reasons for which operations admissible under this regulation were not funded by the EDF; - this regulation should be reviewed every five years.

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 29/01/1996 - Council position

The Council incorporated nine of Parliament's 14 amendments at first reading in its common position, either in a new position or changing the wording. The amendments concerned: - taking account of aid requirements for rehabilitation and the need for substantial funding; - incorporating rehabilitation measures into a medium or long-term development plan; - taking action through experienced international organizations or NGOs; - considering strengthening institutional capacities with regard to rehabilitation; - financing operating expenditure during the rehabilitation period; - providing for the assessment of measures financed under the regulation and its future in this context. The Council did not retain the other amendments, such as tax status of consignments and services financed by the Commission under rehabilitation measures (the fact that they should be exempt from taxes, duties and charges) and the distribution of the minutes of the Committee's meetings. Among the new provisions introduced by the Council were: - extending the geographic scope of the regulation to developing countries in the Caucasus and Central Asia; - taking account of security aspects and transition to democracy in decisions on rehabilitation measures; - taking account of certain criteria in assessing the projects to be financed; - informing the Committee in advance on decisions concerning projects of less than ECU 2 m in value and informing the Member States subsequently; - assessing measures financed at regular intervals and a general assessment of these measures to appraise the regulation's effectiveness; - a type-III(a) committee (regulatory committee), with regard to commitology.

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 21/05/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

Adopting the recommendation for second reading by Mr Niall ANDREWS (UPE, IRL) and Mrs Monica BALDI (UPE, I), Parliament approved the common position of the Council with the following amendments: - it pointed out that it had taken the initiative in 1986 to establish an item in the budget aiming to provide support to the countries in southern Africa which were affected by the deliberate destabilization orchestrated by South Africa; - it also called for operations, to commence at the earliest possible stage, to take over from humanitarian action and pave the way for the resumption of medium-term and long-term development aid. These operations should facilitate the return of refugees, displaced persons and the demobilized military and the reintegration of the entire population into normal civilian life in their home countries and regions; - Parliament considered that the priorities for operations should be the physical and operational rehabilitation of basic infrastructure, including mine clearance, the relaunch of production, the reintegration into society of refugees, displaced persons and the demobilized military, training and education to counter the effect of internal conflict and destabilization operations, and the restoration of institutional capacities. It also called for resources to be used to develop economic activity, particularly through the creation of SMEs and by promoting regional and economic integration between the Member States and the SADCC ; - it called for the cooperation partners to include regional and specialized aid organizations. It also called for a financial contribution from local partners, in particular to operating costs, where a project is designed as a start-up for an ongoing activity, in order to ensure the sustainability of such projects after Community funding has ceased; - it called for the reinforcing of coherence and complementarity between the actions financed by the Community,

Member States and other donors, such as UN agencies, and for continuity in the efforts made; - with regard to comitology, it called for the Commission to be assisted by an advisory committee (the committee changing according to the beneficiary country or region concerned). Parliament also asked to be present as an observer at the general policy meetings organized by the Commission.

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 31/07/1996 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's amended proposal retained a number of amendments adopted by Parliament, particularly those which: - stressed that the Commission needed to ensure that the efforts made in the areas of humanitarian aid, rehabilitation and development were coherent and continuous; - gave priority to the question of rapid and effective aid; - highlighted the need to implement as quickly as possible measures that enabled refugees, displaced people and demobilised troops to return home and helped the entire population to resume normal civilian life in their countries and regions of origin; - provided for the possibility of using resources to help develop economic activity, particularly through the creation of SMEs and by promoting regional economic integration; - provided for financial support for specialised NGOs; - asked that the Commission be assisted by an advisory committee made up of representatives of the Member States and chaired by a Commission representative in accordance with the country or region concerned: the EDF committee for ACP countries, the MED committee for Mediterranean countries, and the ALA committee for Latin American and Asian countries; - established the regulation's date of application from 1 January 1997. The Commission did not take over the other amendments as they did not conform to the objectives or methods involved in 'rehabilitation', because they implied excessive restrictions in terms of management, or because they were unacceptable for institutional reasons.

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 20/12/1995

The Council adopted unanimously the common position on the Regulation on rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries. This common position, which the Commission did not support, will be forwarded to the European Parliament under the cooperation procedure (Article 189b).

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 26/06/1995 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: to establish procedures for the administration of rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries in the intermediate stage immediately after the emergency stage and before the resumption of medium- or long-term development cooperation. CONTENT: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations are of limited duration and seek to help reestablish a working economy and the institutional capacities needed to restore social and political stability in the countries concerned and meet the needs of the people affected as a whole. They take over from humanitarian operations and pave the way for the resumption of long-term development aid. - Recipients: developing countries or regions which have suffered serious destruction through war, civil disorder or natural disaster. - Cooperation partners: national, regional and local government departments and agencies, local authorities and other decentralized bodies and NGOs. - Operations to be implemented: re-starting production, physical and operational rehabilitation of basic infrastructure, social reintegration, restoration of the institutional capacities needed in the rehabilitation period (especially at local level). They mainly include financing studies, technical assistance, training, the provision of services and other works etc. Community funding covers the cost of investments (except real estate) and operations in foreign or local currency. Joint funding will be actively sought from local partners, within their means, and from Member States. Coordination measures are planned along these lines. - Form of aid: grants. - Decision-making procedure: the Commission will administer operations covered by the regulation. It will be assisted by an advisory committee, consisting of representatives of the EDF, ALA or MED committee, depending on the region. Participation in invitations to tender and the award of contracts is open to the recipient country and the Member States and to other third developing countries in exceptional cases. - Exchanges of view: the Commission and the representatives of the MED, EDF and ALA committees will hold an exchange of views once a year with the three committees concerned on future operations to be conducted within the framework of this cooperation. - Information: an annual report will be submitted to the European Parliament and the Council summarizing and evaluating the operations financed in the course of the financial year (any contracts concluded, external evaluations etc.). - Budget: the financial statement makes provision for the sum of ECU 65 million in 1996 (this cooperation does not include any provision as to its duration and it is therefore renewable annually).

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 08/02/1996 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission did not support the Council's common position for reasons of comitology: the Commission did not accept the use of a regulatory committee (type IIIa committee) for the purposes of this regulation. It also had two comments entered in the Council minutes to the effect that: - the

inclusion of developing countries in central Asia and the Caucasus should give rise to an increase in budgetary contributions in order to fund these operations and they should be consistent with the TACIS programme; - the information to be provided to the committee on operations costing less than ECU 2 million should be far more restricted.

EC/developing countries: rehabilitation and reconstruction operations in developing countries

1995/0165(SYN) - 22/11/1996

The Council adopted the regulation. The Commission is charged with implementing operations covered by this regulation. It will be assisted by a committee of representatives from Member States; for decisions relating to grants of more than 2 MECU it will have to act in accordance with the opinion of the committee (type IIIa - regulatory committee procedure).