Basic information

1995/2308(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
Cohesion policy and environment **Subject** 3.70 Environmental policy 5.05 Economic growth	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
REGI Regional Policy	HATZIDAKIS Konstantinos (PPE)	21/03/1996

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	GHILARDOTTI Fiorella (PSE)	19/03/1996
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	PAPAYANNAKIS Mihail (GUE/NGL)	20/03/1996

Council of the European Union

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/11/1995	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1995)0509	Summary
11/03/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/10/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
29/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0360/1996	
17/02/1997	Debate in Parliament		
18/02/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/03/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/2308(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 148
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	REGI/4/07337

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0360/1996 OJ C 380 16.12.1996, p. 0003	29/10/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0041/1997 OJ C 085 17.03.1997, p. 0020-0042	18/02/1997	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1995)0509	22/11/1995	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0134/1996 OJ C 034 03.02.1997, p. 0022	18/09/1996	
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1072/1996 OJ C 030 30.01.1997, p. 0015	25/09/1996	Summary

Cohesion policy and environment

1995/2308(COS) - 22/11/1995 - Non-legislative basic document

OBJECTIVE: the Commission communication aims to set out the guidelines likely to increase the synergy between the cohesion policy and the environmental policy when implementing programmes under the Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund. SUBSTANCE: the Commission considers that, within the existing legal framework of the Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund, it has an important role to play in encouraging, screening and coordinating national practices in a climate of partnership. Various options may be chosen to implement this strategy: - dividing the appropriations for the Cohesion Fund equally between transport and the environment; - in terms of programming, stepping up the Commission's efforts to better understand the impact of measures likely to have a direct effect on the environment, and considering new possibilities for pilot projects in the field of the environment; - systematically including the aspect of the environment when monitoring and assessing programmes, in close collaboration with the Member States and, where necessary, the regions involved; - in terms of the selection of projects, drawing up criteria reflecting sustainable economic, social and environmental development and granting the Commission a more active role in preventing infringements of environmental rules; - encouraging dialogue between interested parties, including NGOs working in the field of the environment. Finally, the Commission points out that it agrees with the European Parliament's objective to increase the funds set aside in the budget for the environment.

Cohesion policy and environment

1995/2308(COS) - 25/09/1996 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee welcomes the Commission communication and makes a number of specific comments concerning, inter alia, improved coordination between the Funds, balance between transport projects and those dealing with the environment, and technical assistance.

Cohesion policy and environment

1995/2308(COS) - 18/02/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

In adopting the report by Mr Konstantinos HATZIDAKIS (EPP, GR) Parliament stated that at every level of the implementation of the Union's cohesion policy greater importance should be attached to the environmental dimension and that all the activities under the structural funds and the cohesion funds must take into consideration the goal of sustainable development. It considered that efforts should be made to further the integration of the cohesion policy with the CAP with a view to achieving the environmental objectives. The actions to be implemented should be those which are the most beneficial, or, at least, the least damaging for the environment. Parliament therefore called for an environmental impact assessment for each project and the creation of a group of environmental inspectors at Community and international level. It also called for an increase in funding and in the number of purely environmental actions. A special Community initiative should therefore be set up under the structural funds. Similarly the Union should respect the requirement to allocate 50% of the funding eligible for each of the actions financed in the transport and environment sectors. For investments in the transport sector, special support should be given to means of transport less harmful to the environment. Lastly, it stressed that the elected local and regional authorities should participate in the planning, implementing and monitoring of programmes funded by the structural funds and the cohesion fund.