Basic information

1998/0314(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Decision	Procedure completed
Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community Amending Decision No 210/97/EC 1995/0087(COD) **Subject** 2.10.01 Customs union, tax and duty-free, Community transit 7.30.02 Customs cooperation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
JURI Legal Affairs and Internal Market	MORAES Claude (PSE)	23/09/1999

Former committee responsible	Former rapporteur	Appointed
ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy	PEIJS Karla M.H. (PPE)	25/09/1997

Former committee for opinion	Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	BRINKHORST Laurens Jan (ELDR)	08/12/1998
CONT Budgetary Control	BARDONG Otto (PPE)	01/12/1998

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2201	1999-09-13
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2193	1999-06-21
Fisheries	2237	1999-12-16

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Taxation and Customs Union	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/11/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0644	Summary
02/12/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
18/03/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
18/03/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0136/1999	
15/04/1999	Debate in Parliament		
01/06/1999	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0253	Summary
13/09/1999	Council position published	09601/1/1999	Summary
07/10/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
30/11/1999	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
30/11/1999	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0085/1999	
02/12/1999	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0127/1999	Summary
16/12/1999	Act approved by Council, 2nd reading		
17/12/1999	Final act signed		
17/12/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/01/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0314(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Amendments and repeals	Amending Decision No 210/97/EC 1995/0087(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 095
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	JURI/5/12079

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0136/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0005	18/03/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0321/1999 OJ C 219 30.07.1999, p. 0368-0409	15/04/1999	Summary

Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0085/1999 OJ C 194 11.07.2000, p. 0006	30/11/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T5-0127/1999 OJ C 194 11.07.2000, p. 0013-0044	02/12/1999	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	09601/1/1999 OJ C 317 04.11.1999, p. 0012	13/09/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(1998)0471	24/07/1998	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0644 OJ C 396 19.12.1998, p. 0013	11/11/1998	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1999)0253 OJ C 247 31.08.1999, p. 0028 E	01/06/1999	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1999)1376	01/10/1999	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(1999)0715	15/12/1999	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(2003)0672	11/11/2003	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0322/1999 OJ C 138 18.05.1999, p. 0001	24/03/1999	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2000/0105
OJ L 013 19.01.2000, p. 0001 Summary

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 24/07/1998 - Document attached to the procedure

PURPOSE: As required by Article 17 of decision 210/97/EC of 19/12/96, the Commission is presenting a report on the first 18 months of the implementation of the Customs 2000 programme, together with the guidelines the Commission intends to propose to improve the effectiveness of its operations in the future. CONTENT: during the period under consideration, given the available resources, the Member States and the Commission gave priority to aspects of the programme which it was hoped would open up customs administrations' activities and lay the foundations of a genuine Community customs network. Certain actions were given priority, notably: - promoting the coordinated development and application of new working methods by structuring customs controls on the basis of risk-analysis techniques, using audit techniques to check undertakings' accounts, concluding memoranda of understanding with economic operators, simplifying customs procedures, using resources rationally (creating a European network of customs laboratories), developing a common approach to management and coordinating development of computerised handling of customs procedures (priority area within Customs 2000); - strengthening the common training policy, developed within the Matthaeus programme through the establishment of a "common core of training", to serve the objectives of customs policy (for example, further development of the common training programme, finalisation of training modules that are to be taught in the national training centres...); - improving the dissemination of information to and communication with those who use customs services (organising seminars open to traders); - helping to create an international customs environment conducive to optimum management at the external frontier (deeper cooperation with the CEECs, the EFTA countries and other international bodies responsible for customs). As regards the budget, the report indicates that all the appropriations scheduled in the initial decision for the period in question have been used, with a slightly higher level of expenditure overall than planned on the development and implementation of computerised applications for the exchange of data and information between the Union's customs administrations. Overall, the Commission presents a positive appraisal of the period covered by the report, although it is too short to properly assess the impact of Customs 2000 or to produce measurable results in terms of the effectiveness of controls. Nevertheless, the report underlines the commitment of customs administrations to the operation and confirms their determination to set their activities within a stronger Community framework. The report finally makes a number of proposals with a view to improving the second phase of the programme. In view of the experience already acquired, the Commission proposes a new legal instrument, bringing together all actions currently undertaken under Customs 2000, IDA and Matthaeus. This legal instrument should strengthen cooperation with third countries and cover a longer period (until 31/12/2002). These different elements will be the subject of the next amending proposal for decision 97/210 /EC.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 01/06/1999 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission's modified proposal accepts 12 out of the 19 amendments adopted by the Parliament at its second reading. In particular, it deals with the amendments which aim at : - the increase in the amount of money in the Customs 2000 budget (142.3 million EUR instead of 136 million EUR); - budgetary transparency but also transparency of all the EU customs policy, as well as the transparency of the comitology decisions; - the implementation of a programme involving a partnership between the Commission and the Member States; - the suppression of the reference to 1998 in the programme text; - the computerisation of transit procedure from 30/06/2003; - the fight against fraud at all levels of implementation of the programme; - the definition of performance criteria by the Commission in order to contribute to the monitoring of the Member Statesin regard to the management and collection of custom duties; - the drafting of reports on the progress made in the framework of the programme, as well as on the strengths and weaknesses of the computerized customs system set in place. On the other hand, the Commission has not accepted the idea of creating a single Committee to replace the current Committee on customs policy or any of the amendments adopted on comitology aspects (participation of representatives from the candidate countries, excessive transparency of meetings,...).

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 13/09/1999 - Council position

The common position retains a good number of amendments adopted by the European Parliament in its first reading. In regard to the amendments relating to comitology, the Council adopted a new approach which makes a distinction between matters on customs policy strategy, on the one hand, and matters connected with the implementation of the programme, on the other. Customs strategy will be drawn up in partnership by the Commission and the Member States in the Customs Policy Committee, composed of Heads of Customs Administrations or their deputies. The Commission shall be responsible for implementing the programme. Concerning the amendment relating to budgetary questions, the Council agreed on a compromise solution fixing the financial framework for the implementation of this programme at EUR 135 million in accordance with the arrangements set out in the Annex. Lastly, the Council has introduced some technical amendments to the Commission's proposal concerning : - the renaming of the programme, which shall be known as Customs 2002; - an additional reference to 'Community databases'; - rules dealing with the powers of officials participating in exchanges; - the dates for the submission of reports by the Member States and the Commission.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 17/12/1999 - Final act

OBJECTIVE : to adopt an action programme for customs which widens the scope of the existing programme and gives a unified approach to assisting Member States increase the efficiency of customs operations. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Decision 105/2000/EC adopting an action programme for

Customs in the Community (Customs 2000) and repealing Council Decision 91/341/EEC. CONTENT : The programme, which has been in force since 1 January 1996, is intended to supplement action by Member States in the customs field. Its aim is to contribute to the development and modernisation of customs administrations by increasing the effectiveness of procedures and controls at the entry and exit points of the community customs territory, and ensure the best possible management of the internal market. - This new measure widens the scope of the programme by bringing various provisions relating particularly to the computerisation of transit, vocational training of customs officials and technical assistance to certain third countries within a single instrument. It is financed from a single budget heading. - Vocational training for customs officials will take place along the lines instituted by the Mattheus programme set up by the Council in 1991. - The programme will be open to participation by the applicant countries of Central and Eastern Europe, Cyprus, Malta and (on a case-by-case basis) Turkey. - The programme's budget is increased to 135 million. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 19/01/2000.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 11/11/1998 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to amend the Decision of the 19th December 1996 adopting an action programme for customs in the Community (Customs 2000). CONTENT: Based on the Commission's report to the European Parliament and the Council of the 24th July, this proposal makes provision for the following : - to integrate into a single legal instrument under a single budget heading joint measures with the Member States to develop new working methods, computerisation (so far covered by the first IDA programme), training measures currently covered by the Matthaeus programme and access for non-EU countries to cooperation and technical assistance operations in the customs field ; - opening up the programme to the Eastern and Central European applicant countries, Cyprus and Turkey, on condition that they make a financial contribution to the programme and, where relevant, their representatives are allowed to attend the monitoring committee as observers ; - opening up the programme to Malta, based on the joint Association Council decision of 28th April 1998. - the setting up of a Management Committee to replace the present Matthaeus Committee and assist the Commission in the implementation of the guidelines set out for the different spheres of activity in the amended Decision; - the extension of the period of application of the programme to 31st December 2002.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 11/11/2003

PURPOSE : to present the report from the Commission on the implementation of the Customs 2002 programme (1998-2002). CONTENT : Customs 2002 covers two types of project: "joint" actions and computer applications. I) The first part of the report concerns joint actions, i.e. those aspects of cooperation that are not directly related to information technology: exchanges of officials, project groups, seminars, benchmarking and training. It looks at the joint actions carried out over the last three years of Customs 2002 (2000, 2001, 2002) for a total cost of EUR 6.75 million, since those carried out earlier are covered in the 2001 interim report. Exchanges of officials (EUR 2.55 Million, 38% of the total) provided opportunities for contacts to be established between Community and national administrations. During 2000 to 2002 inclusive, approximately 1400 exchanges were organised, with some major events such as the exchange fairs held in Brussels, Vienna and Larnaca. The exchanges have generally been found to be quite useful; improvements could be made in terms of monitoring and the selection of subjects and candidates. The applicant countries have recently been included under this instrument. Participants in the 38 project groups (EUR 2.02 million, 30% of the total) found them highly satisfactory. The improvements proposed concern the preparation of meetings, the choice of subjects and more pooling of information. The 29 seminars (EUR 1.52 million, 23% of the total) organised during the period under consideration were generally well appreciated. Possible improvements here, too, would concern the selection of participants, preparation and follow-up. The 18 benchmarking operations, introduced relatively recently, were organised by the Member States for a cost of EUR 0.375 million, or 5.4% of the total. The participants were generally fairly satisfied with the results, but suggested certain improvements, particularly as regards preparation. Most of the participants in the training measures (EUR 0.251 million, 3.7% of the total) found them useful. Some participants felt that a specific institutional context could enhance the result of future training measures. The different aspects of the programme interested the national administrations, who were, by and large, satisfied with the course and results of the operations. In the participants' opinion, the improvements to be made relate above all to an even more finely tuned selection of subjects and participants. The dissemination of the results could be improved. II) The second part presents the results and impact of the different computer applications and the organisational and management tools of the IT projects. A total of EUR 84 million was committed to the IT side of Customs 2002. Since the computerised systems have Community and national components, Customs 2002 only finances the Community component. The development and deployment of the CCN/CSI communication network required an investment of EUR 23 million, of which half was financed by Customs 2002 and the other half by Fiscalis. The NCTS application represents 51% of the Customs 2002 IT budget (including half of the CCN/CSI expenditure and the management tools). The NCTS gave rise to considerable costs, since both development and deployment were involved. Most of the othercustoms applications were already in operation before the beginning of the programme. The "tariff" applications account for 15% of the total budget (those requiring most work were TARIC, TQS, EBTI, ISPP and SMS). AFIS/ SID and SIGL account for 13% and 5% respectively of the total budget. Lastly, the report states that overall, Customs 2002 has helped enhance cooperation both among Member States and between Member States and the Commission. In addition, it has prepared the way for the integration of future Member States' administrations into the management of Community customs. Because of the direct involvement of national and EU administrations in this type of programme, the credibility of evaluations would be improved if they could be based on the work of independent consultants. The positive effects of the programme must not let the Commission lose sight of the scale of the objectives and the variety of national customs cultures and situations. The objective of ensuring that Member States' customs administrations "work together as one" justifies intensifying all efforts. This is all the more necessary in view of the coming accession of new Member States and the changes to the external borders of the EU that this will bring with it. To ensure that our common external borders are well managed, facilitating cross-border traffic while controlling risks, it may be necessary to engage in more coordination between the various services concerned and renewed cooperation with our neighbours. The successors to Customs 2002 should be capable of taking such developments into account.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 15/12/1999 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

In its opinion on the European Parliament's second reading, the Commission indicates that it is able to accept as they stand the 2 amendments to the common position approved by the Parliament.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 01/10/1999 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission considers that the Council's common position is close to the amendments presented by the European Parliament at first reading, most of which have been incorporated in the Commission's amended proposal.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 02/12/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

This was a procedure without debate. The Parliament made two amendments to the common position: - the Customs Policy Committee becomes the Customs Policy Group; and - the second sub-paragraph of Article 1 (8) is re-drafted with a view to making the text clearer concerning exchanges of officials.

Customs 2002: action programme 1996-2002 in the Community

1998/0314(COD) - 15/04/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The Parliament adopted its opinion, drafted by Ms. Karla Peijs (The Netherlands, EPP), subject to a number of technical amendments. These included one to ensure that the computerisation of the transit system has been completed by 13 June 2003.