

Basic information	
1999/0015(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management Repealed by 2004/0220(COD) Subject 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity 3.70.20 Sustainable development 6.30 Development cooperation	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	DELE EP Delegation to Conciliation Committee		FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN Fernando (PPE-DE)
	Former committee responsible		Former rapporteur
	DEVE Development and Cooperation		FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN Fernando (PPE-DE)
	DEVE Development and Cooperation		POMÉS RUIZ José Javier (PPE)
	Former committee for opinion		Former rapporteur for opinion
	BUDG Budgets		PIMENTA Carlos (PPE)
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	Development	2263	2000-05-18
	Fisheries	2237	1999-12-16
European	Commission DG		Commissioner

Commission	Development	
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Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
03/02/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0041 	Summary
21/04/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
21/04/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A4-0237/1999	
16/12/1999	Council position published	12487/1/1999	Summary
20/01/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
09/02/2000	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0054 	Summary
22/02/2000	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
22/02/2000	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0048/2000	
13/03/2000	Debate in Parliament		
14/03/2000	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0089/2000	Summary
18/05/2000	Parliament's amendments rejected by Council		
28/06/2000	Formal meeting of Conciliation Committee		Summary
28/06/2000	Final decision by Conciliation Committee		
05/07/2000	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3632/2000	
21/08/2000	Report tabled for plenary, 3rd reading	A5-0216/2000	
04/09/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
07/09/2000	Decision by Council, 3rd reading		
20/09/2000	Debate in Parliament		
21/09/2000	Decision by Parliament, 3rd reading	T5-0396/2000	Summary
07/11/2000	Final act signed		
07/11/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
15/11/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/0015(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	Repealed by 2004/0220(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 179

	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 175
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CODE/5/12790

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0237/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0007	21/04/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0399/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0162-0191	05/05/1999	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0048/2000 OJ C 346 04.12.2000, p. 0005	22/02/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T5-0089/2000 OJ C 377 29.12.2000, p. 0021-0034	14/03/2000	Summary
Report tabled for plenary by Parliament delegation to Conciliation Committee, 3rd reading		A5-0216/2000 OJ C 135 07.05.2001, p. 0014	21/08/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading		T5-0396/2000 OJ C 146 17.05.2001, p. 0017-0077	21/09/2000	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Council position	12487/1/1999 OJ C 064 06.03.2000, p. 0055	16/12/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1999)0041  OJ C 087 29.03.1999, p. 0097	03/02/1999	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(2000)0065 	17/01/2000	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(2000)0054  OJ C 248 29.08.2000, p. 0097 E	09/02/2000	Summary
Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading	COM(2000)0308 	24/05/2000	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary

EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0701/1999 OJ C 258 10.09.1999, p. 0013	07/07/1999	
CSL/EP	Joint text approved by Conciliation Committee co-chairs	3632/2000	05/07/2000	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Regulation 2000/2494 OJ L 288 15.11.2000, p. 0006 Summary

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 24/05/2000 - Commission opinion on Parliament's position at 2nd reading

The Commission's presented its opinion on the 12 amendments, set out by the European Parliament at second reading. The Commission retained amendments concerning drafting improvements while another requires that the Parliament be informed of the annual guidelines for activities to be funded under the Regulation. One amendment specifies a financial framework of EUR 249 million (over 7 years). This figure represents an acceptable compromise between the initial proposals for Council and Parliament. Certain other amendments can be accepted in principle, subject to some reformulation. These concern the split comitology arrangement proposed by Parliament, whereby the annual guidelines for the implementation of the Regulation would be subject to a management procedure, while approval of projects of over EUR 2 million would be subject to an advisory procedure. On the other hand, the amendments not accepted by the Commission relate to: - the unnecessary reference to the need for substantial financial resources and to environmental disasters; - the term "serious doubts" which the Commission considers is subjective and not appropriate for a Regulation; - the evaluations to take into account views of local people; - to the possible lifting of the requirement for bank guarantees.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 21/09/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, 3rd reading

The Parliament approved the joint text.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 09/02/2000 - Modified legislative proposal

The Commission was able to accept 18 EP amendments in full or in part, in some cases subject to some rewording or insertion in a different part of the regulation text than initially proposed. Most of these were amendments concerning policy or technical issues, in particular indigenous peoples' rights - most of the latter amendments were consolidated into one clause. The amendments or important parts of the amendments that the Commission was unable to accept can be grouped under several of the following categories: - amendments concerning management issues which are of the competence of the Commission; - procedural or administrative proposals that were not in accordance with standard formulations and practices of similar regulations, including the Financial Regulation; - quotes from legal acts or policy documents which were considered to be redundant and to unnecessarily lengthen the text; - amendments considered to be unclear or subjective, or which repeated ideas expressed elsewhere in the Regulation or in other accepted amendments; - amendments which, if accepted, would reduce the focus and hence the effectiveness of the activities contemplated under the Regulation.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 17/01/2000 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission and the Council have seen fit to adopt more than half of the amendments proposed by the Parliament in its first reading, thus revealing a broad concordance of views between the three institutions as to the purpose and the scope of the proposed Regulation. The Commission maintains its basic reservations concerning the following aspects of the Council's common position: - the financial reference amount (the Commission considers that the amount cannot be fixed until agreement is reached between the two wings of the legislative and budgetary authority); - duration of the Regulation (the Commission considers that it is preferable not to set an expiry date for the validity of the legal instrument); - committee procedures (given the nature of the decisions to be taken and the funding envisaged for the duration of the programme, the Commission nonetheless considers that it would be more appropriate for the geographically determined committee assisting the Commission to be of the advisory type). As regards the abovementioned horizontal aspects, the Commission adopts a position which is essentially different from that of the Council in that it rallies more closely to the concerns expressed by Parliament. By maintaining its position on these aspects and not endorsing the common position, the Commission has obliged the Council to adopt the common position by unanimous vote.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 07/11/2000 - Final act

PURPOSE : to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in developing countries. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Regulation 2494/2000/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on measures to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in developing countries. CONTENT : The Regulation is an important instrument to enable the Community to meet its commitments to the conservation and management of forests in the context of sustainable development. It will ensure the continuation of activities implemented under Council Regulation 3062/95/EC, after its expiry on 31/12/1999. The financial framework for implementing this Regulation during the period from 2000 to 2006 shall be EUR 249 million. This instrument shall complete and reinforce the actions provided under other Community instruments for development and co-operation. The activities to be carried out under this Regulation shall aim at: - Raising the status of forests in national policies and integrating forest policies based on sustainable forest management in development planning; - Promoting the production and use of wood and non-wood forest products from sustainability managed resources; - Contributing to the adequate valuation of forest resources and services; - Ensuring active participation of forest-dependent people and local communities in the development of national forest policies and in development planning; - Improving co-ordination and the flow of information between Commission and Member States projects so as to put in place coherent actions in that area. The activities to be financed shall address: - Development of appropriate national and international forest policy frameworks based on realistic valuation of forests, which include land use planning, equitable trade in sustainability produced forest products, legal and fiscal measures, etc. These shall take into account other sectoral policies which have an impact on forests and the interests and customary rights of forest-dependent people; - Conservation and restoration of forest which are considered to be of importance due to their high ecological value (protection of hydrographic basins, prevention of soil erosion, or of climate change); - Sustainable forest management and utilisation to provide economic, social and environmental benefits, and including inter alia, forest certification -taking account of the different management conditions for small and large forest areas - and environmentally sound harvesting of both wood and non-wood forest products and natural and assisted forest regeneration; - Economic viability of sustainable forest management and marketing through more efficient utilisation of forest products and technical improvements of downstream activities related to the forest sector such as small and medium scale processing and marketing of wood and non-wood forest products, the sustainable use of wood as an energy source and the promotion of alternatives to agricultural practices based on forest clearing; - Knowledge and information generation and management concerning forest services and products, in order to provide a sound scientific basis. This instrument will finance strategic actions such as pilot projects and innovative actions in developing countries, and studies to increase the effectiveness of Community assistance and of developing countries' efforts for the conservation and sustainable management of forests. The priorities set out form a coherent framework for the Community's development co-operation on forests, addressing the development of appropriate national and international policy frameworks, forest conservation, sustainable forest management, improvement of downstream processing and marketing of forest products and applied research, with an overall objective of achieving sustainable development, as well as poverty reduction. Under this overall framework, the activities financed may address a broad range of forest issues, allowing for the necessary flexibility to respond adequately to new ideas and challenges, according to regional and countries' specific needs. Measures are also provided in order to ensure the transparency of Community action. The Commission shall be responsible for appraising, taking decisions to finance and administering activities covered by this Regulation. It will be assisted in its task by a geographically-determined committee responsible for development. Decisions relating to grants EUR 3.5 million or more for individual activities financed under this Regulation shall be adopted by the commission. The Commission shall submit an annual report to the European Parliament and the Council summarising the activities financed in the course of that year. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 18.11.2000.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 03/02/1999 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : Proposal for a Council Regulation on measures to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in developing countries. CONTENT : The proposed Regulation will be an important instrument to enable the Community to meet its commitments to the conservation and management of forests in the context of sustainable development. It will ensure the continuation of activities

implemented under Council Regulation 3062/95/EC, after its expiry on 31/12/1999. The proposed legal instrument takes into account relevant developments within the Community, the results of the international discussion on Forests through the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests /Intergovernmental Forum on Forests process, the evolution in the forest sector, as well as experience acquired during the implementation of the existing regulation. EC development co-operation in forestry stems from clear Community commitments to the conservation of forests and sustainability of development activities. Arts. 130u and 130r of the Treaty are of specific relevance. Art. 130u states that Community policy in the sphere of development co-operation shall foster the sustainable economic and social development of the developing countries. Art. 130r states that the Community shall promote measures at international level to deal with regional or worldwide environmental problems, and also that environmental protection shall be integrated into the definition and implementation of other Community policies/ Recognising the importance of forests at local and global levels, the European Parliament has called on the Commission to prepare an integrated international strategy for the conservation and sustainable management of forests. The proposed Regulation is a key means by which this strategy will be implemented. An independent evaluation of the EC contribution to the forest sector development co-operation was finalised in 1998. It recognised the positive achievements of the actions funded by budget line B7-6201 while emphasising its complementary role with respect to other financial instruments. The proposed regulation sets the framework for the management of budget line B7-6201, the most specific financial instrument available to the EC for the implementation of the above commitments. This instrument will finance strategic actions such as : - pilot projects and innovative actions in developing countries, and - studies to increase the effectiveness of Community assistance and of developing countries' efforts for the conservation and sustainable management of forests. The priorities set out form a coherent framework for the Community's development co-operation on forests, addressing the development of appropriate national and international policy frameworks, forest conservation, sustainable forest management, improvement of downstream processing and marketing of forest products and applied research, with an overall objective of achieving sustainable development, as well as poverty reduction. Under this overall framework, the activities financed may address a broad range of forest issues, allowing for the necessary flexibility to respond adequately to new ideas and challenges, according to regional and countries' specific needs. Since forest sector development co-operation is a long-term commitment, it is suggested that the regulation be given an unlimited duration. Four years after the entry into force of this regulation, the Commission will submit to the European Parliament and to the Council an overall assessment of the operations financed together with suggestions concerning the future of this regulation. Meanwhile, the Commission will ensure regular assessments of the progress of operations. In order to allow for the continued funding of measures to promote the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in developing countries under budget line B7-6201, the Commission urges that this new regulation should be adopted as soon as possible and be applicable from 1 January 2000.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 05/05/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting without debate its report, drafted by Mr. José Javier POMES RUIZ (EPP, Spain), on the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests and other forests in developing countries, the Parliament stresses the role and the impact of the destruction of forests on indigenous populations. In particular, it considers that the financial sum mentioned in the proposal is an absolute minimum for the protection of tropical and other forests in developing countries (this sum includes the necessary technical assistance for the implementation of the programme). In the framework of this programme, it wants the Community not only to provide financial assistance but also technical and economic competences to the developing countries. It also strengthens the measures by adding to the list drawn up by the Commission the following : - the improvement of sustainable management of forests, - the improvement of the co-ordination and the flow of information between Community and national projects in order to ensure coherence between actions undertaken in these regions, - the intention of active participation of the forest communities and the local communities in the drawing up of forestry policies and in planning for development. Furthermore, it seeks specific assistance for the creation of new forests and the protection of forested areas in regions other than those in which there are deteriorating forests. The EP emphasises strongly that forest populations should be consulted and fully involved in the decisions relating to and the implementation of actions (including the evaluation tasks) and that these should take into account their priorities. It stresses in particular the social, economic and environmental sustainability of actions and adds that no finance will be available if there are any serious doubts with respect to the sustainability of actions. With respect to comitology, the Parliament is fully in favour of a consultative procedure. In addition, it calls for the minutes of the Commission's meetings regarding the selection of projects should be transmitted to the European Parliament. It also calls on the Commission should consult an external expert before selecting projects. Lastly, the Parliament wishes to be kept regularly informed regarding approved projects.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

1999/0015(COD) - 14/03/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

In adopting its report, drafted by Mr. Fernandez Martin (EPP, Spain) on the conservation and sustainable management of tropical forests, the Parliament made several amendments of the Common Position. Parliament emphasised the importance of the active participation of forest-dependent people, and stipulated that activities carried out should be evaluated taking their opinion into account. It increased the financial framework for implementation from EUR 63 to 249 million. In addition, Parliament requires it be informed of the strategic guidelines and priorities for implementing activities. The management procedure has also been changed from that in the Common Position.

Tropical forests, developing countries: conservation and sustainable management

The Council has been able to accept a substantial number of the amendments proposed by the European Parliament. Where the Commission and the Council were unable to accept Parliament's amendments or parts of them it was usually for one or several of the following reasons : - procedural or administrative proposals that were not in accordance with standard formulations and practices of similar regulations, including the Financial Regulation; - quotes from legal acts or policy documents which were considered to be redundant and to unnecessarily lengthen the text; - amendments considered to be unclear or subjective, or which repeated ideas expressed elsewhere in the Regulation or in other accepted amendments; - amendments which, if accepted, would reduce the focus and hence the effectiveness of the activities contemplated under the Regulation; - amendments concerning management issues which are of the competence of the Commission. In its common position, the Council has approved the essence and wording of the Commission's proposal with the exceptions to various point. Moreover, the Council thought desirable to integrate a new task for the joint Committees' meeting which aims at the approval of annual strategic guidelines and priorities to underline the focus on a strategic approach. In addition, the Council believes that the legal basis put forward by the Commission in its proposal is the most appropriate in view of the aim and content of the proposal. As far as duration of the Regulation is concerned, the Council has opted for a seven year period (2000-2006) which corresponds to the period for which financial perspectives have been fixed. The Commission's evaluation report will be due four years after the entry into force of the Regulation and shall contain suggestions concerning the future of the Regulation. Furthermore, as a consequence of the seven year programme, the financial reference amount has been fixed at EUR 63 million, which results from the 2000 draft budget appropriations of annual EUR 10 million. This amount has further been reduced by 10% to take account of the July Decision of the Budget Council on Category 4 expenditures. By the introduction of this indicative amount, the Council has partially taken into consideration the European Parliament's amendment No. 34. The Council has also changed the committee procedure whereby the powers of the committee would be exercised under the management committee procedure, as set out in the Council Decision of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedure for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission. The Council considers that such a committee procedure will ensure maximum coordination with Member States activities and thus contribute to necessary complementarity. In addition, an annual Commission document on strategic guidelines and priorities will be submitted to the appropriate geographical committee which will approve the document in accordance with the management committee procedure. In conclusion, the Council adopted in full the 18 amendments adopted by the Commission and in essence the first part of the amendment No.34 proposed by the Parliament. On the other hand, apart from the amendments not adopted by the Commission the Council could not accept other amendments for the reason that it was not possible to reach the requisite unanimity. However, the Council considers that its common position constitutes a balanced text to ensure the continuation of activities implemented under Council Regulation 3062/95/EC of 20 December 1995 after its expiry on 31 December 1999. It reflects the need to meet the Community's commitments to the conservation and management of tropical forests and forests in the context of sustainable development.