Basic information

1999/0232(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
Research: supplementary programme, Joint Research Centre JRC for the EAEC 2000-2003, Petten reactor **Subject** 3.50.02.02 Euratom framework programme, research and training programmes	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2240	2000-01-24
Research	2231	1999-12-02

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Joint Research Centre	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
11/11/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0578	Summary
02/12/1999	Debate in Council		
13/12/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		

13/12/1999	Vote in committee		
15/12/1999	Decision by Parliament	T5-0146/1999	Summary
24/01/2000	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
24/01/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
04/02/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1999/0232(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Euratom Treaty A 007 Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/12295

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0146/1999 OJ C 296 18.10.2000, p. 0034-0090	15/12/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1999)0578 OJ C 056 29.02.2000, p. 0004 E	11/11/1999	Summary

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2000/0100
OJ L 029 04.02.2000, p. 0024 Summary

Research: supplementary programme, Joint Research Centre JRC for the EAEC 2000-2003, Petten reactor

1999/0232(CNS) - 24/01/2000 - Final act

PURPOSE : to adopt a supplementary research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision (2000/100/Euratom) adopting a supplementary research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community. CONTENT : the aims of the supplementary programme on the operation of the HFR are primarily: - the safe and reliable operation of the high flux reactor (HFR) at Petten; this activity involves the normal use of the installation for more than 250 days a year, the management of the fuel cycle under the safety and quality controls; - the rational use of the reactor will be developed in a broad range of disciplines; the major research and development themes involving the use of HFR are illustrated by the following examples: the study of materials, the support of R & D work for the safety of the nuclear fuel cycle, the possibility to test nuclear fuel for peaceful purposes in order to eliminate plutonium resulting from nuclear disarmament, the development of medical isotopes to answer the questions of medical research, the testing of medical theraputic techniques. With regard to the financial contributions, these are estimated as necessary for the execution of the programme amount to EUR 38,97 million. The Commission shall each year, before 15 April, submit to the European Parliament, the Council, and the Economic and Social Committee a report on the implementation of this Decision.

Research: supplementary programme, Joint Research Centre JRC for the EAEC 2000-2003, Petten reactor

1999/0232(CNS) - 11/11/1999 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to adopt a supplementary research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community. CONTENT : on 27 June 1996, the Council adopted a four-year supplementary research programme to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre for the European Atomic Energy Community (1996-1999) concerning the operation of the High Flux Reactor (HFR) of Petten. This programme is therefore due to expire on 31 December 1999. The present proposal for a decision presents a new four-year programme (2000-2003). The High Flux Reactor (HFR) of Petten is operated by the Commission in accordance with the Euratom / Netherlands agreement of 25 July 1961. Under this agreement, on behalf of the Community, the Commission has committed itself to build the necessary facilities and to provide additional equipment in order to make "optimum use" of these facilities (including the HFR). This agreement was signed for a period of 99 years. In order to execute it, the two parties concluded a long lease for 99 years conferring a right in rem (bail emphyotéotique) on 31 December 1962. HFR plays an important role, in the European Union, in medical research and applications, in materials research and in support to safe nuclear technologies. For example: - the reactor produces isotopes necessary for more than 60% of the 10 million of medical diagnoses executed every year in Europe. Its qualities and reliability make it an indispensible device for all the European pharmaceutical companies in this field. Moreover, through its location in Europe, the reactor's production is rapidly directed to the European medical centres. This is essential for the most currently used short-life isotopes; - the closure of the HFR reactor could quickly lead to the monopolistic situation of a non European company. The fact would have major technical and financial consequences for the European Union: a reduced guarantee for the provisioning of short-life isotopes and a price increase that had to be supported by the social systems of the Member States; - HFR is also used by an association of European centres working on a new treatment for encephalic cancers by using the BNCT (Boron Neutron Capture Therapy) techniques. This disease causes about 15,000 deaths a year in Europe. Only Japan, the United States and Finland have developed installations of the BNCT type; - the HFR reactor also supports other research: production of new isotopes, development of other technical BNCT-aplications, research on new alpha-immuno-therapy products, studies on materials for medical prothesis...; - fundamental research makes use of neutron beams for the study of the material's structure. This activity is under permanent development and even leads to the construction of new reactors such as FRM II in Germany. In this frame, a unique European device for measuring the residual stresses in industrial structural components of up to one Ton was assembled in the reactor in 1998; - despite the decrease in R+D resources in the nuclear field, HFR remains very active in the safety of the existing reactorsas well as for the development of future safer reactors. HFR contributes to the following programmes: reactors' ageing and life management, transmutation of nuclear waste in view of a better safety of waste storage, improvement of the fuel efficiency and safety; - fuel containing plutonium (Mixed oxides of U and Pu and high temperature reactor fuel) are studied in view of the elimination of military grade plutonium; - the design and realisation of the future safer reactors are conditioned by the performance of several materials. These materials are tested in the HFR reactor. Under the present supplementary programme that is drawing to a close, the HFR activities were essentially conducted through a co-operation between three partners: the Netherlands, Germany and France, which guaranteed its financing. Additional financing, which has steadily increased, came from external contracts and from its participation in Community programmes. The work programme was planned, therefore, to meet the requirements expressed under the terms of this cooperation. In the minutes of the Council meeting of 27 June 1996, the Commission declared that it confirms the expression "participation in Community programmes" means that the HFR can contribute, on the basis of adequate financing, to the execution of Community programmes, whether or not in the context of the Framework programmes. This participation will take place either on a competitive basis or by means of sale of irradiation services to JRC Institutes during the implementation of their respective activities. In view or the new HFR programme, the Commission has engaged an assessment of the reduction of the operational costs of the reactor on the basis of a study involving all partners and supportedby specialised companies. This has resulted in a series of internal reforms aimed at increasing the HFR's competitiveness without damaging either its safety, or its reliability. In its financial statement, the appended proposal for the new supplementary programme mentions only the contribution to come from the three participating Member States. The establishment of formal contracts, to be drawn up with external partners, cannot take place until a legal basis exists. The Council's decision will constitute this legal basis. This contribution from the three participating Member states for the new programme is of EUR 38.97 million. This amount includes the contribution to the future decommissioning of the reactor. Furthermore, the Commission shall each year be responsible for carrying out the

programme through its Joint Research Centre. The Board of Governers of the Joint Research Centre will be kept informed about the implementation of the programme. The Commission shall each year, before 15 April, submit to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee a report on the implementation of this decision.

Research: supplementary programme, Joint Research Centre JRC for the EAEC 2000-2003, Petten reactor

1999/0232(CNS) - 15/12/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament approved this proposal for a decision (procedure without report). It did however, request that the report on the implementation of this decision that is to be presented by the Commission in April 2000 clarifies the decision-making relating to the supplementary research programmes of the JRC. All new amendments to the programme should respect the criteria laid down in the proposal, 3 months before the expiry date of the current programme in 2003.