Basic information

2000/2141(COS) COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	Procedure completed
European Community's development policy **Subject** 6.30 Development cooperation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development and Cooperation	GEMELLI Vitaliano (PPE-DE)	25/05/2000

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	CARRILHO Maria (PSE)	12/07/2000
BUDG Budgets	HAUG Jutta (PSE)	19/07/2000
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	LUCAS Caroline (V/ALE)	22/06/2000
FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	SÖRENSEN Patsy (V/ALE)	11/07/2000

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Development	2352	2001-05-31

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Development	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
26/04/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0212	Summary

16/06/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/02/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
12/02/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0059/2001	
01/03/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0118/2001	Summary
01/03/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/05/2001	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		Summary
01/10/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2141(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	DEVE/5/12732

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0059/2001	12/02/2001	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0118/2001 OJ C 277 01.10.2001, p. 0020-0130	01/03/2001	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2000)0212	26/04/2000	Summary

European Community's development policy

2000/2141(COS) - 31/05/2001

The Swedish Presidency concluded that the Council had noted the following: - Progress had been made, but some things remained to be done. - Improved focus on results-orientation, always bearing in mind the international development targets, is an absolute necessity. The gap between commitments and disbursements has to decrease. Further collaboration and co-ordination within the EU and with other donors is required, based on partnership and national plans such as Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSP) and through sector programmes. The indicators in the Annual Report should assess impact of EC assistance in terms of poverty reduction and targets, and indicate where improvements have been made in quality and effectiveness, including integration of horizontal issues and coherence aspects. The Council agreed conclusions on improving the effectiveness of external action, including holding an orientation debate at the beginning of each year starting in 2001. Improving quality and efficiency is its core priority. It called on the Commission to present: - an Annual Report on Community Development Policy, which should, inter alia, inform on the results and achievements of Community policy; inform on progress in the concentration of assistance into the six priority fields; inform on progress made on

the mainstreaming of horizontal aspects; cover impact measured against horizontal indicators, including a synthesis of project score card and evaluation results. - a Programme of Action which should be forward looking, and cover all actions required to translate the Community's development policy into reality in all developing countries. It should inform on the intended outcome of each action, the target date for completion, and report on progress to date.

European Community's development policy

2000/2141(COS) - 26/04/2000 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present a Communication on reshaping and refocussing the Community's development policy. CONTENT: The Commission acknowledges that there have been a number of justified criticisms of the EU's development policy. Stakeholders have especially commented on the lack of an overall strategy and the fact that the objectives of the policy are too numerous, vague, and not ranked in any way. Instruments rather than policy objectives guide policies. There are also concerns about the effectiveness of EU policy in relation to the national development co-operation programmes of the Member States. The Community has certain specific advantages, the key ones being its critical mass in financial terms and its capacity to ensure coherence and synergies between aid, trade and economic co-operation and political dialogue. These are the pillars on which its overarching objective of poverty eradication will be based. Development policy will be supported by commercial policy, the objective of which is to integrate developing countries into the world economy and encourage sound domestic strategies. The Community's development policy will be reduced to six areas where it can offer comparative advantages and added value. These are: -trade for development -regional integration and co-operation -macroeconomic policies linked to poverty reduction strategies, in particular the strengthening of social sectors like health and education. The Commission sees macroeconomic policy as the key to ensuring sustainable and accessible social services. -reliable and sustainable transport which plays a key role in access to basic social services. -food security and sustainable rural development strategies -institution capacity building, good governance and the rule of law. These areas are mutually reinforcing and inter-related. Cross-cutting issues such as gender aspects, environmental sustainability and human rights will be fully integrated into all activities. There will be increased emphasis on budgetary support and sector programming. In addition, the Commission will seek to ensure better coherence between development policy and other Community policies such as trade, agriculture, fisheries, migration and health. At the strategic level, there will be better co-ordination among Member States' bilateral development programmes. A number of reforms are also discussed in the paper, including administrative reform and improvements in internal control. Improvements in the impact of development assistance are also discussed. resources should be allocated not only on need but also according to countries' performance in terms of policy reforms and outcomes.

European Community's development policy

2000/2141(COS) - 01/03/2001 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted unanimously the report by Mr Vitaliano GEMELLI (EPP/ED, I) which argues that there is a lack of long term vision on development policy issues. As a result of the policies proposed by the Commission paper on the subject are 'partial and contingent'. The House regrets the fact that the Commission is not asking for more rational use of resources and more appropriate investment and that there is no political will in Council to take any decision on this issue. The resolution calls in particular for the EU to ensure coherence between development policy and other EU policies. It supports the Commission's approach to centre development policy on the aim of poverty eradication. There is concern that the initiative to cancel the debt of the HIPC (Heavy Indebted Poor Countries) is being implemented too slowly and concerns only a minority of countries. The resolution urges the Commission to preserve development policy as an independent area and to clarify the roles of all those concerned in managing aid delivery - there is particular concern that the proposed separation between political responsibility and srategic planning could result in the marginalisation of development policy. Among the amendments adopted was one stressing the need to establish reliable indicators for evaluating progress achieved in improving health science and judging the impact of macro-economic policy on the health of the population. Another amendment underlines the need for developing countries to become self sufficient in food. A further anticipates the reduction or cancellation of external debt so long as the funds that are saved are used exclusively to combat poverty, particularly, in the field of health and education.