Basic information

2002/2235(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
MEDA programme, Mediterranean countries (Regulation (EC) No 1488 /96). Annual report 2000 **Subject** 6.40.05 Relations with the Mediterranean and southern European countries **Geographical area** Mediterranean Sea area	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy	PIÉTRASANTA Yves (V/ALE)	19/03/2002

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense	DE KEYSER Véronique (PSE)	22/04/2002
CONT Budgetary Control	AVILÉS PEREA María Antonia (PPE-DE)	09/07/2002
FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	KRATSA-TSAGAROPOULOU Rodi (PPE-DE)	26/11/2002

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
EuropeAid	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
28/12/2001	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2001)0806	Summary
21/11/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/03/2003	Vote in committee		Summary

25/03/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0114/2003	
02/06/2003	Debate in Parliament		
03/06/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0238/2003	Summary
03/06/2003	Results of vote in Parliament		
03/06/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		
18/03/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2002/2235(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/16897

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0114/2003	25/03/2003	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0238/2003 OJ C 068 18.03.2004, p. 0025-0134 E	03/06/2003	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2001)0806	28/12/2001	Summary

MEDA programme, Mediterranean countries (Regulation (EC) No 1488 /96). Annual report 2000

2002/2235(INI) - 03/06/2003 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted its own-initiative report drafted by Yves PIETRASANTA (Greens/EFA, France) on the annual report on the MEDA 2000 programme. (Please see the summary of 25/03/03.) Parliament stated that a free trade area could only function and bring prosperity if the economic, productive and technological capabilities of the countries involved are at similar levels. Inequalities and instabilities in the social fabric, which lead to exclusion and poverty, are the principal factors to be targeted in the MEDA programme. The progress made in the field of budget implementation since the introduction of MEDA II, as shown by various indicators, must be examined within the context of MEDA II's main objective, which is to tackle the five challenges of population, employment and migration, globalisation and dwindling of resources, as well as the environmental challenge. Parliament stated its conviction of the need to tackle the issues behind these five challenges. Such an approach would require a review of

the structural challenges posed by the MEDA countries. These include trade flows, regional disparities, disparities in income between the MEDA countries and between social classes in the partner countries, the legal and institutional framework to encourage the development of non-governmental initiatives, the underdevelopment of the financial intermediary sector, budgetary policy characterised by uncontrolled expenditure. There is a need for the rapid launch of the Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for dialogue between cultures and civilisations and the monitoring centre for migration. Parliament condemned the minuscule share of funding allocated to the Mediterranean countries from the European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR). It called for a more diversified range of target beneficiary countries. It did not approve the Commission's decision not to include among the beneficiaries of these programmes, countries where civil society is active, yet still fragile. The European Parliament should be consulted on the selection of target countries. A dynamic civil society is central to the social and political development of the MEDA countries. Parliament asked the Commission to implement a policy of active support for independent organisations, associations and trade unions. Finally, Parliament repeated its support for the official establishment of an Euro-Mediterranean parliamentary assembly, which should become one of the institutions of the Barcelona Process. The assembly should have the power to make recommendations to the ministerial bodies.

MEDA programme, Mediterranean countries (Regulation (EC) No 1488 /96). Annual report 2000

2002/2235(INI) - 28/12/2001 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the Annual report of the MEDA Programme 2000. CONTENT : five years after its launch, the Barcelona Process and its MEDA Programme saw a substantial review in the year 2000. This happened against the backdrop of the worsening situation in the Middle East which had a considerable impact on the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership. Two Euro-Mediterranean Foreign Ministers conferences were held. Based on a Commission Communication, Ministers in Marseilles in November 2000 agreed on a series of measures to reinvigorate the Barcelona Process. The Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements with Morocco and Israel entered into force. Negotiations for the agreements resumed with Algeria, Lebanon and Syria. Ratification of the agreement with Jordan progressed while the obstacles to the initialling of the agreement with Egypt were removed and led to the Association Agreement's signature on 25 June 2001. In November the Council decided a major amendment to the MEDA regulation (MEDA II). The regulation provides for a strategic programming approach, reinforced dialogue with the partner countries and simplified procedures for faster delivery of aid. In this context, the Commission embarked on a wide-ranging reform of its external aid management which led to the creation of the EuropeAid Cooperation Office. As regards financial cooperation grants and loans committed for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership activities in 2000 totalled EUR 2.2 billion out of which a large share was supplied by the MEDA Programme. Parts of this sum were due to reconstruction aid following the 1999 earthquake in Turkey and recommitted funds from previous years. In 2000 committed MEDA funds amounted to EUR 879 million. Payments made up EUR 330.5 million (up from EUR 243 million in 1999). Commitments for the Maghreb totalled EUR 246 million, for the Mashrek EUR 163 million and for Turkey EUR 310 million; regional cooperation received funding of EUR 159 million in 2000. In addition, EUR 123 million were committed for the Mediterranean region from other EU budget lines. For 2000-2006 the Council decided to endow MEDA with EUR 5,350 million (laid down in the MEDA II regulation). These grants from the Community budget are accompanied by considerable lending from the European Investment Bank. For the same period the EIB's Euromed lending mandate is EUR 6,400 million. The Bank committed itself to contribute a further EUR 1,000 million from its own resources and at its own risk for transnational projects. In total, EUR 12.75 billion will be available for Euro-Mediterranean Partnership activities over the 7-year period starting from 2000. Bilateral cooperation with nine Mediterranean Partners accounted for about 82% of the MEDA 2000 commitments (EUR 719,3 million). Facilities for direct budgetary support made up the biggest share. Structural adjustment facilities received EUR 150 million (Turkey) and sectoral adjustment facilities EUR 142 million (Morocco, Tunisia) while EUR 90 million were earmarked for the Special Cash Facility II for the Palestinian Authority. I should also be noted that regional cooperation advanced significantly in 2000 through the launching of programmes and projects in the field of industrial cooperation, environment, information society, local water management, transport, energy,audio-visual, cultural heritage, Middle East peace projects and economic and social matters. Visibility of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership as well as the role of the EU in this policy area were strengthened through a large tool kit of publications, information visits and the cultural activities of the Delegations in the Mediterranean region. In addition, the European Investment Bank signed 19 loans in eight Mediterranean partner countries in 2000 amounting to commitments of EUR 1193 million (up from EUR 945 million in 1999 due to infrastructure reconstruction in Turkey). The EIB also managed EUR 106 million in MEDA funds for interest rate subsidies for three bilateral environmental project loans and four risk capital operations. Lastly, three evaluation reports on the operations of the EIB, the MEDA Teams and the global allocation of MEDA over the period 1995-2000 were produced.