Basic information

2004/0026(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions **Subject** 4.10.12 Housing policy 4.15.04 Workforce, occupational mobility, job conversion, working conditions 8.40.08 Agencies and bodies of the EU	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
EMPL Employment and Social Affairs	HARKIN Marian (ALDE)	12/10/2004

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
CONT Budgetary Control	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs	2663	2005-06-02
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs	2606	2004-10-04
Environment	2670	2005-06-24

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
23/04/2004	Legislative proposal published	COM(2004)0057	Summary
15/09/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
04/10/2004	Debate in Council		

31/03/2005	Vote in committee		Summary
13/04/2005	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		
15/04/2005	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0091/2005	
28/04/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0146/2005	Summary
28/04/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
24/06/2005	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
24/06/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		
15/07/2005	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2004/0026(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 308
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/6/22049

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0091/2005	15/04/2005	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0146/2005 OJ C 045 23.02.2006, p. 0015-0087 E	28/04/2005	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2004)0057	23/04/2004	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2005)2124	19/05/2005	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Regulation 2005/1111
OJ L 184 15.07.2005, p. 0001-0004 Summary

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

2004/0026(CNS) - 24/06/2005 - Final act

PURPOSE : to reinforce the strategic role of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions (Dublin) and to confer more administrative task on the Bureau.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Regulation 1111/2005/EC amending Regulation 1365/75/EEC on the creation of a European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions.

CONTENT : the tasks of the Foundation are to develop and to pursue ideas on the improvement of living and working conditions in the medium and long term in the light of practical experience and to identify factors leading to change.

The Foundation shall cooperate as closely as possible with specialised institutions, foundations and bodies in the Member States and at international level. In particular, the Foundation shall ensure appropriate cooperation with the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, without prejudice to its own aims.

The governing and management structure of the Foundation shall comprise of a Governing Board; a Bureau and a Director and Deputy Director. The Governing Board shall consist of one member representing the Government from each Member State; one member representing the employers' organisations from each Member State; one member representing the employees' organisations from each Member State; three members representing the Commission. The term of office of members of the Governing Board shall be three years. It shall be renewable.

Upon the expiry of their term of office or in the event of their resignation, members shall remain in office until their appointments are renewed or until they are replaced.

The Governing Board shall elect its chair and three vice-chairs, one from each of the three groups and one from among the Commission representatives, to serve for a period of one year, which may be renewed.

The chair shall convene the Governing Board at least once a year. The chair shall convene additional meetings at the request of at least one-third of the members of the Governing Board.

Within the Governing Board, the representatives of governments, employees' organisations and employers' organisations shall each form a group. Each group shall designate a coordinator who will take part in the meetings of the Governing Board. The coordinators of the employees' and employers' groups shall be representatives of their respective organisations at European level. Coordinators who are not appointed Board members within the meaning of paragraph 1 shall take part in meetings without the right to vote.

The Governing Board shall establish a Bureau of 11 members. The Bureau shall be made up of the chair and the three vice-chairs of the Governing Board, one coordinator per group and one more representative of each group and of the Commission. Each group may designate up to three alternates to attend the meetings of the Bureau, in the absence of the full members.

The Director shall draw up an annual work programme before 1 July each year on the basis of specific guidelines. The annual work programme shall be part of a four-year rolling programme. The projects in the annual work programme shall be accompanied by an estimate of the necessary expenditure.

Lastly, provisions have been included to extend the application of the Staff Regulations of Officials of the European Communities to the staff of the Foundation. Hitherto the Foundation has had its own Staff Regulations.

ENTRY INTO FORCE : 04/08/2005.

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

2004/0026(CNS) - 28/04/2005 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Marian HARKIN (ALDE, IE) making some amendments to the Commission's proposal. (Please see the summary of 31/03/2004.) Parliament specified that the Governing Board will establish a Bureau of 11 members. The Governing Board

will determine the strategic aims of the Foundation, and adopt the budget, the four-year rolling programme and the annual programme. The Director will forward the annual work programme and the 4 year rolling programme to the Governing Board for approval.

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

2004/0026(CNS) - 23/04/2004 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to reinforce the strategic role of the Administrative Board of the European Foundation for the improvement of living and working conditions and to confer more administrative task on the Bureau.

PROPOSED ACT : Council Regulation.

CONTENT : the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions was created in 1975 and is based in Dublin. The task of the foundation is to research ideas on the improvement of living and working conditions in the light of practical experience. Its unique role in implementing these objectives has long been recognised and valued. However, in order to maintain efficiency and excellence the Foundation's core structure is in need of reform. For example, with enlargement, the Foundation's Board has increased from 48 to 78 members. In order to address the issue of flexibility external evaluators were commissioned in 2001 to prepare a report on how the Foundation's structure and procedures could be improved. A number of changes were proposed by the external evaluators, which the Commission has taken on board. Based on the conclusions of the external evaluators, as well as the opinion of the Foundation's Board, the Commission is proposing this Council Regulation as an amendment to the original legislative act setting up the Foundation in 1975. As the Commission points out some changes can and have been made internally, others require formal legislative approval. The changes envisaged are the following:

1) Reforming the role and tasks of the Administrative Board;

2) Reforming the role and task of the Foundation's Committee of Experts.

Specifically speaking, the changes being outlined in this proposal include:

- maintaining the system of national tripartite representation on the Board as a key element to the continuing success of the Foundation;

- formalising the three existing groups within the Board as well as the role of the three co-ordinator for each of the groups. The three groups relate to representatives from government, employers and employees;

- the Board should meet in principle once a year. It will be responsible for all strategic decisions relating to the annual work programme and the budget. In future it will be known as the "Governing Board", as opposed to the "Administrative Board" in a bid to reinforce its strategic, rather than administrative, role;

- as far as the Bureau is concerned it will be formally recognised and given official status under the terms of the proposed revision. Similarly, its role and relationship with the Board will be formalised;

- the Bureau will consist of eight members: the Chairperson, three vice-chairpersons of the Board, three co-ordinators and one Commission representative;

- the Bureau will have the mandate to take certain measures on behalf of the Board, if asked to do so;

- the Bureau will not vote. Decision-making will be based on consensus;

- the Committee of Experts in its current form will no longer exist;

- experts for the Committee will not be appointed on the basis of nationality but rather according to their capacity to contribute usefully to the work of the Foundation;

- provisions will be made to make it possible for the Foundation to ensure a well targeted and timely input from independent experts to its activities;

- precise arrangements will be decided by the Board on a proposal from the Director of the Foundation.

To conclude the Commission notes that the European Parliament has underlined the need to rationalise the procedures and functioning of the Foundation. The proposed changes concern mainly the governance and functioning of the Board. The proposed changes will secure the future role of the Foundation to fulfil its role in improving living and working conditions across Europe.