


Basic information	
2003/0176(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure completed
Development cooperation: promoting gender equality Repealed by 2004/0220(COD) Subject 4.10.04 Gender equality 6.30 Development cooperation	



Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality		ZRIHEN Olga (PSE)	02/10/2003
	Former committee responsible		Former rapporteur	Appointed
	FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality		ZRIHEN Olga (PSE)	02/10/2003
	Former committee for opinion		Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		JENSEN Anne E. (ELDR)	11/09/2003
DEVE Development (Associated committee)		SANDERS-TEN HOLTE Maria Johanna (Marieke) (ELDR)	09/07/2003	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration		Meetings	Date
	General Affairs		2558	2004-01-26
	Justice and Home Affairs (JHA)		2561	2004-02-19
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner	
	Development			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary

30/07/2003	Legislative proposal published	COM(2003)0465 	Summary
01/09/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
26/11/2003	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
26/11/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0447/2003	
17/12/2003	Debate in Parliament	CRE link	
18/12/2003	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0596/2003	Summary
19/02/2004	Council position published	05402/1/2004	Summary
26/02/2004	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
16/03/2004	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
16/03/2004	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0160/2004	
29/03/2004	Debate in Parliament	CRE link	
30/03/2004	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0215/2004	Summary
21/04/2004	Final act signed		
21/04/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
30/04/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/0176(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Repealed by 2004/0220(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 179-p1 Rules of Procedure EP 57_o
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	FEMM/5/20687

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0447/2003	26/11/2003	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0596/2003 OJ C 091 15.04.2004, p. 0525-0661 E	18/12/2003	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading		A5-0160/2004	16/03/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading		T5-0215/2004 OJ C 103 29.04.2004, p. 0034-0241 E	30/03/2004	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	

Council statement on its position	05593/2004	13/02/2004	
Council position	05402/1/2004 OJ C 095 20.04.2004, p. 0008-0015 E	19/02/2004	Summary
European Commission			
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2003)0465 	30/07/2003	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	COM(2004)0131 	23/02/2004	Summary

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Regulation 2004/0806 OJ L 143 30.04.2004, p. 0040-0045	Summary

Development cooperation: promoting gender equality

2003/0176(COD) - 18/12/2003 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based drafted by Olga ZRIHEN ZAARI (PES, B), making some amendments to the Commission's proposals. (Please see the summary of 26/11/03.) Parliament also added: - contracts with beneficiaries may cover the financing of their operating expenditure, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulation; - the Commission should actively raise the question of gender as a standing item on the agenda during meetings between representatives of the Commission, Member States and partner countries in order to increase awareness of gender issues in emerging areas of development cooperation; - the Commission should draw on the experiences of Members States, other donors and partner countries in the field of gender mainstreaming and women's empowerment.

Development cooperation: promoting gender equality

2003/0176(COD) - 23/02/2004 - Commission communication on Council's position

The European Commission accepts in its entirety the Council's common position on promoting gender equality in development co-operation.

Development cooperation: promoting gender equality

2003/0176(COD) - 19/02/2004 - Council position

At first reading the three institutions met in order to find common ground on the Commission's proposals to promote gender equality in development co-operation. All agreed that a rapid agreement on this Regulation would ensure the smooth continuation of existing projects given that Regulation 2836/98 on the integration of gender issues in development co-operation had expired on 31/12/03. With the agreement of the Parliament and the Council, the Commission re-drafted its initial proposal by tabling twenty compromise amendments. The European Parliament had proposed increasing the budget from EUR 9 million to EUR 11 million. The Council, however, unanimously rejected this amendment sticking instead to the EUR 9 million budget proposed by the Commission. The reasons for maintaining the lower budget were: - The original figure was proposed by the Commission on the basis of a realistic forecast of what can reasonably be spent in the period 2004-2006. - The proposed increase of EUR 2 million is not justified because it would not allow gender mainstreaming - something for which a much larger figure would be required. - It is not possible to draw the extra EUR 2 million from budget line B7-6220 given that the Commission is already facing serious difficulties in meeting its actual financial commitments. The Council states that the common position agreed by the three institutions improves, enhances and clarifies the Commission's proposal by: - Enhancing the poverty-reduction focus and the gender mainstreaming dimension - Streamlining gender equality as a cross-cutting issue - Emphasising the importance of co-ordination between the different stakeholders and the role of non-state actors - Underlining the importance of women empowerment - Introducing clearer criteria for financial eligibility with special attention to women education and training.

Development cooperation: promoting gender equality

2003/0176(COD) - 21/04/2004 - Final act

PURPOSE : to implement measures to promote gender equality in Community development cooperation policies, strategies and interventions. **LEGISLATIVE ACT** : Regulation 806/2004/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on promoting gender equality in development cooperation. **CONTENT** : This Regulation states that the Community will provide financial assistance and appropriate expertise aimed at promoting gender equality into all its development cooperation policies and interventions in developing countries. The objectives to be pursued by this Regulation are the following: - to support gender mainstreaming in all areas of development cooperation, combined with specific measures in favour of women of all ages, with the goal of promoting gender equality as an important contribution to poverty reduction; - to support endogenous public and private capacities in developing countries which can take the responsibility and initiative for promoting gender equality. Activities in the field of promoting gender equality eligible for financing include, in particular: - supporting specific measures related to resources and services for women in the areas of education and training, health, economic and social activities, employment and infrastructure, and to participation in political decision-making processes; - promoting the collection of statistics disaggregated by sex and age, development and dissemination of methodologies, guidelines, ex-ante and ex-post gender impact assessments, thematic studies, qualitative and quantitative indicators, and other operational instruments; - supporting awareness-raising and advocacy work and the establishment of stakeholders' networks in the field of gender equality; - supporting activities aiming at strengthening institutional and operational capacities of key stakeholders in partner countries in the development process, such as the provision of gender specialists, training and technical assistance. Community financing may cover both investment projects, with the exception of the purchase of real estate, and operating expenditure of a beneficiary body including recurring administrative and maintenance costs. Operating grants shall be awarded on a gradually decreasing basis. The Regulation gives a list of factors to which particular attention will be paid in the selection of activities. These include the potential of programmes to act as a catalyst and a multiplier in order to support the strategy of gender mainstreaming on a large scale in Community interventions. The partners eligible for financial assistance under this Regulation include local communities, and NGOs, particularly those operating in the field of gender equality, women's organisations, community-based organisations, trade unions, and other not-for-profit natural and legal persons. The financial framework for the implementation of this Regulation for the period 2004 to 2006 is EUR 9 million. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial perspectives. The Commission will submit in its annual report on EC development policy to the European Parliament and to the Council, information on the operations financed. The summary will in particular provide information about the strengths, weaknesses and outcomes of operations, those with whom contracts have been concluded as well as the results of any independent evaluations of specific operations. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : The Regulation will enter into force on 20/05/04. It shall apply until 31 December 2006.

Development cooperation: promoting gender equality

2003/0176(COD) - 30/07/2003 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to promote gender equality in development co-operation. **CONTENT** : the co-operation and development policy, referred to in Article 179 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, highlights the need for the Council, acting in accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 251, to adopt the measures necessary to further the objectives referred to in Article 177 of the Treaty. Community policy in this area shall focus on the fight against poverty, foster the sustainable development of developing countries, and the integration of developing countries into the world economy. The purpose of this Regulation is to implement measures to promote gender equality in Community development co-operation policies, strategies and interventions. To this end, the Community shall provide financial assistance and appropriate expertise aimed at promoting gender equality into all its development co-operation policies and interventions in developing countries. The Community support shall be aimed at complementing and reinforcing the policies and capacities of developing countries as well as the assistance provided through other instruments of development co-operation. The objectives to be pursued by this Regulation, in accordance with the goal of promoting gender equality and empower women as specified by the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, are the following: - to support the mainstreaming of gender in all areas of development co-operation, combined with specific measures in favour of women, with the goal to promote gender equality as an important contribution to poverty reduction; - to support endogenous public and private capacities in developing countries which can take the responsibility and initiative for promoting gender equality. Activities in the field of promoting gender equality eligible for financing include, in particular: - supporting specific measures related to access to and control of resources and services for women, e.g. in areas of education, employment opportunities, and political decision making; - supporting the analysis and improvement of statistics disaggregated by sex and age, development and dissemination of methodologies, guidelines, gender impact assessments, thematic studies, indicators, and other operational instruments; - supporting awareness raising and advocacy work; - supporting activities aiming at strengthening institutional and operational capacities of key players in the development process, such as the provision of gender specialist, training and technical assistance. The instruments to be financed in the course of the activities may take the form of: - methodological and organisational studies on gender mainstreaming relevant to all age-groups; - technical assistance including gender impact assessment, training or other services; - supplies, audits, evaluation and monitoring missions. Community financing may cover: a) investment projects, with the exception of the purchase of real estate, and; b) operating expenditure of a beneficiary body including recurring administrative and maintenance costs. Operating grants shall be awarded on a gradually decreasing basis. The sustained improvement of gender equality and the empowerment of women in developing countries are important outcomes of development and significantly contributions to poverty reduction. Since the Declaration and the Beijing Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995 global improvement has been made in terms of promoting gender equality in developing countries. In 1998, the Council adopted Regulation 2836/98/EC on integrating of gender issues in development co-operation, due to expire on 31 December 2003. The Regulation aims at mainstreaming gender perspectives into all of the Communities development co-operation policies and interventions and supporting the implementation of national plans designed to implement major elements of the Beijing Platform for Action. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** : - budgetary line : B7-622 (on promoting gender equality in development cooperation); - total allocation for action : EUR 9 million - period of validity : from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2006.

Development cooperation: promoting gender equality

2003/0176(COD) - 30/03/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Olga ZRIHEN ZAARI (PES, B) approving the common position. Parliament is of the opinion that aid should be given primarily to non-governmental organisations, local communities and women's' organisations working on the spot who best know the situation and needs of local people. For the period 2004-2006 an amount of EUR 9 million has been allocated (as proposed by the Commission therefore the increase of EUR 2 million was rejected). In order to support sustainable progress in the developing countries, MEPs say it is not enough simply to set up an anti-poverty programme: women's emancipation must also be encouraged.