


Procedure file

Basic information		
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)		Procedure completed
1995/2232(COS)		
Coordination of activities in favour of SMEs and the craft sector		
Subject		
3.45.02 Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME), craft industries		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		18/12/1995
		UPE GAROSCI Riccardo	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		
Council of the European Union	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	CONT Budgetary Control	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Key events			
08/09/1995	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1995)0362	Summary
16/02/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/03/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
20/03/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0100/1997	
23/04/1997	Debate in Parliament		
24/04/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0210/1997	Summary
24/04/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/05/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1995/2232(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper

Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ECON/4/07037

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(1995)0362	08/09/1995	EC	Summary
Motion for a resolution		B4-0030/1996	03/02/1996	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0100/1997 OJ C 132 28.04.1997, p. 0006	20/03/1997	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0210/1997 OJ C 150 19.05.1997, p. 0016-0050	24/04/1997	EP	Summary

Coordination of activities in favour of SMEs and the craft sector

OBJECTIVE: to present, in accordance with Article 5 of Council Decision 93/379/EEC, the coordination between action taken under enterprise policy and action taken under other Union policies. CONTENT: the Commission concludes its report by stating that it will continue efforts to achieve internal coordination so that its policies help to support the development of SMEs. It states that SMEs are now properly targeted in almost all Community programmes. The report shows that significant progress has been made in the area of the Structural Funds, especially through the SME Community initiative, RDT and vocational training (Objective 4 of the Structural Funds, ADAPT initiative, LEONARDO programme). The Commission must ensure that it monitors the implementation of programmes so that the objectives set out are translated into concrete results for SMEs. The enterprise policy services are cooperating with all the other services in both the design and implementation of programmes and policies. The efforts made so far need to be continued in order to make these programmes more visible and efficient. The Commission will step up efforts to coordinate with all its partners, the Member States, the European institutions and professional associations so that action to help SMEs translates into growth, competitiveness and jobs.?

Coordination of activities in favour of SMEs and the craft sector

The Committee adopted the report on the future SME and craft industry policy drafted by Mr Riccardo GAROSCI (UfE, I), largely supports the efforts of the Commission to improve coordination between different Community initiatives in favour of SMEs. The report call for a broad range o f range of measures to improve the situation for SMEs, in particular by putting the political will to support SMEs into action by stepping up financial support to this sector, such as the Elise scheme for loan guarantees which is currently blocked in the Council. The main theme of the report is the need to lighten the heavy administrative burdens that the SMEs have to carry and to involve SMEs in the EU decision-making mechanisms to a greater extent. ?

Coordination of activities in favour of SMEs and the craft sector

Adopting the report by Mr Riccardo GAROSCI (UPE, I), the European Parliament broadly approved the efforts made by the Commission to increase coordination amongst the various Community initiatives launched for the benefit of SMEs. Parliament stressed the need for current and future legislation to be simplified and the need for tax benefits to be granted to labour-intensive SMEs, particularly in the services sector. It hoped that the banking and credit sectors would grant facilities to all SMEs, particularly by means of a code of banking practice in respect of SMEs. Parliament called on the Commission to boost the projects aimed at facilitating participation by SMEs in the EC environmental audit scheme and urged that SMEs should be directly involved in decisions, in particular through involvement on the part of the associations which represent them.