

# Procedure file

Basic information		
SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)	1995/0123(SYN)	Procedure completed
Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)		
Subject		
2.60.03 State aids and interventions		
3.20 Transport policy in general		
3.20.04 Inland waterway transport		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>TRAN</b> Transport and Tourism		23/05/1995
		EDN <a href="#">VAN DER WAAL Leen</a>	
	Former committee responsible		
	<b>TRAN</b> Transport and Tourism		23/05/1995
		EDN <a href="#">VAN DER WAAL Leen</a>	
	Former committee for opinion		
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		31/10/1995
		PSE <a href="#">WILLOCKX Frederik A.A.</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Budget	<a href="#">1964</a>	19/11/1996
	<a href="#">Transport, Telecommunications and Energy</a>	<a href="#">1941</a>	27/06/1996
	<a href="#">Transport, Telecommunications and Energy</a>	<a href="#">1907</a>	11/03/1996

Key events			
23/05/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0199	Summary
23/10/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/01/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
24/01/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0012/1996</a>	
12/02/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
13/02/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0045/1996	Summary
22/04/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0182	Summary

27/06/1996	Council position published	<a href="#">07732/2/1996</a>	Summary
18/07/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
22/07/1996	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
22/07/1996	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	<a href="#">A4-0252/1996</a>	
16/09/1996	Debate in Parliament		Summary
17/09/1996	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0450/1996	Summary
21/10/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0516	
19/11/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		Summary
19/11/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/11/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0123(SYN)
Procedure type	SYN - Cooperation procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 075
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	TRAN/4/07997

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0199	23/05/1995	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	<a href="#">CES1315/1995</a> <a href="#">OJ C 039 12.02.1996, p. 0096</a>	23/11/1995	ESC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0012/1996</a> <a href="#">OJ C 047 19.02.1996, p. 0005</a>	24/01/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0045/1996 <a href="#">OJ C 065 04.03.1996, p. 0020-0032</a>	13/02/1996	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0182	22/04/1996	EC	Summary
Council position	<a href="#">07732/2/1996</a> <a href="#">OJ C 264 11.09.1996, p. 0005</a>	27/06/1996	CSL	Summary
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(1996)1279	15/07/1996	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	<a href="#">A4-0252/1996</a> <a href="#">OJ C 277 23.09.1996, p. 0005</a>	22/07/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T4-0450/1996 <a href="#">OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0019-0029</a>	17/09/1996	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0516	21/10/1996	EC	

### Additional information

## Final act

[Regulation 1996/2255](#)[OJ L 304 27.11.1996, p. 0003](#) Summary

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

OBJECTIVE: to promote investment in infrastructure and/or equipment for inland waterway terminals which will develop new or additional tonnage on the inland waterways. COMMUNITY MEASURE: proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70 on the granting of aids for transport by rail, road and inland waterway. CONTENT: continuation until 31 December 1999 of the possibility for national aid for investments in infrastructure and/or equipment needed in inland waterway terminals, to be based on the current aid system for combined transport, in order to promote inland waterways. The aid granted must not exceed 50% of the actual cost of the investment. The Council will rule on the scheme to be applied at a later date by 31 July 1999 at the Commission's proposal.?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

The ESC supported the general approach of the Commission's proposals, which were aimed not only at reducing overcapacity, but also at improving the infrastructure of inland waterway transport and ensuring liberalisation of the market. This would make for more open market conditions, improved competitiveness - not only between inland waterway transport operators themselves but also between inland waterways and other modes of transport - and improved intermodal transport. This objective was a key feature of the transport policy financed by the EU and applied to the whole of the Community. As carriers were not in a position to finance this policy fully on their own, the ESC approved cofinancing by the EU, providing it remained within the budget set for the period up to 1999. In order to ensure that any imbalances in inland waterway transport after 2000 could be promptly and effectively tackled, the ESC felt that the following rules should remain in force: - further development of the Commission's intended market observation system; - the formation of a reserve fund for emergency measures, financed by the sector; - the application of the existing scrapping arrangements and old-for-new rules in unforeseen crisis situations; - the possibility of strengthening the position of (small) operators by means of trade groups.

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

The Committee followed its rapporteur Mr Leen VAN DER WAAL (NL, ENA) this morning by adopting his report on Commission proposals on liberalizing, restructuring and promoting inland waterway transport in the EU. At present, the rotation systems in France, Belgium and the Netherlands (also called "toerbeurt-regeling") are the only exceptions to the free market in inland waterway shipping in the Union. The Commission therefore wants to abolish this system by the year 2000. Rapporteur VAN DER WAAL felt that liberalization will improve this sector's competitive position and encourage water transport. But he also stressed the need for a lasting balance, referring to the serious problems in inland waterway shipping. Many owners can hardly survive. The Commission should therefore have special measures at its disposal for use when serious disturbances of the market might occur. Mr VAN DER WAAL also asked for other positive measures. Inland waterway shipping is an environmentally friendly mode of transport and should therefore be promoted. Infrastructure throughout the EU should be improved and new projects deserve high priority, such as the West-East route Delfzijl (NL)-Emden-Bremen-Hamburg (D) and the North-South link between the Seine and the Scheldt. Given the overcapacity in the sector, the Commission has developed a scrapping programme for 1996, 1997 and 1998. Mr VAN DER WAAL asked for a separate scrapping fund by the Member States for the tanker sector, where at least an extra 5 per cent of the fleet should be scrapped. In the dry-cargo sector, there is a 15 per cent overcapacity.

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

Commissioner Kinnock said that he could accept Amendment No 18 insofar as it could help ensure transshipment between road and inland waterway transport; for this reason he could not accept either the content of Amendment No 17, since it sought to estimate the amount of State aid, whereas this fell within the competence of the Member States, or the second part of Amendment No 18, which related to the use of telematics equipment over and above that which was needed to ensure the proper functioning of the terminal.

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

The European Parliament adopted the report by Mr Leen van der WAAL (EDN, NL). The granting of aids for transport by rail, road and inland waterway would make it possible for Member States to subsidize investment in terminals. The EP asked that it also be possible to subsidize

investment not only in fixed and mobile equipment, but also in telematics and other communications equipment. No later than 31 December 1999 the Council should decide, on a proposal from the Commission, on subsequent arrangements. ?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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The Commission's amended proposal incorporates the EP amendments seeking to: - ensure that all or part of the aid may be recovered by the competent authority in the event of the beneficiaries failing to honour the undertaking to provide new or additional transport tonnage on the inland waterway; - ensure that the Council takes a decision on subsequent arrangements no later than 31 December 1999, on a proposal from the Commission. ?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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In its common position the Council thought it better to keep to the date 31 July 1999 rather than opting for 31 December 1999 (as proposed by the EP), the end date for the aid scheme, so as to allow sufficient time for implementation of the decisions to be taken at that time. Furthermore, the common position no longer explicitly requires an undertaking by aid beneficiaries to provide new or additional tonnage on the waterway, failing which aid must be repaid. The Council did, however, decide to make the granting of aid subject to two conditions: that the investment must actually be made and that the detailed arrangements laid down by the Member State must be complied with. ?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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The Commission accepted the common position in that the idea of a responsible investment policy had been maintained.?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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The transport committee has adopted the recommendation by Mr Leen VAN DER WAAL . Three common positions on privatising, restructuring and developing this sector were taken on board, as was the rapporteur's amendment that Member States should adopt accompanying social measures to assist carriers closing down their businesses. Given the surplus capacity of at least 20% in tanker transport, mainly in France, Germany, Austria and the Benelux, the committee is recommending the introduction of an additional scrapping programme in the form of interest free loans provided by the member states concerned. In this way the committee believes a more rapid and a substantial extra reduction in the tanker fleet can be achieved. ?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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The rapporteur, Mr van der Waal (EDN, NL), said that the three common positions on the privatisation, restructuring and development of the sectors in question had been the subject of an amendment requiring Member States to apply accompanying social measures designed to assist carriers to close down their businesses. Recommendations were also put forward for the introduction of a supplementary programme that would take the form of interest-free loans to be granted by the Member States concerned. Commissioner van den Broek called on Parliament to approve the common position as it stood since the Commission did not intend to take over the amendments tabled.

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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In adopting the recommendation for second reading by Mr Leen VAN DER WAAL (EDN, NL) on the granting of aids for transport by rail, road and inland waterway, Parliament approved the common position without amendment. ?

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 1107/70)

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The Council formally adopted the amendment to the Regulation.

## Granting of aids for transport by air, road and inland waterway (amend. Regulation (EEC) No

OBJECTIVE: the promotion of investment in infrastructure and/or equipment for inland waterway terminals which will develop new or additional tonnage on the inland waterways. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation 2255/96/EC amending Regulation 1107/70/EEC on the granting of aids for transport by rail, road and inland waterway. SUBSTANCE: the regulation provides for the continuation until 31 December 1999 of the possibility for national aid for investments in infrastructure and/or equipment needed in inland waterway terminals. The aid granted may not exceed 50% of the total amount of investment. No later than 31 July 1999 the Council will decide, on a proposal from the Commission, on subsequent arrangements. ENTRY INTO FORCE: 27/11/1996 ?