


Procedure file

Basic information		
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	1996/2066(COS)	Procedure completed
Energy sector: Euro-Mediterranean partnership		
Subject		
3.60.15 Cooperation and agreements for energy		
6.40.05 Relations with the Mediterranean and southern European countries		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENER Research, Technological Development and Energy		23/04/1996
		UPE SCAPAGNINI Umberto	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy		24/04/1996
		PSE SAKELLARIOU Jannis	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Energy	1975	03/12/1996
	Energy	1921	07/05/1996

Key events			
03/04/1996	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(1996)0149	Summary
18/04/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
07/05/1996	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
01/10/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
01/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0296/1996	
14/11/1996	Debate in Parliament		
14/11/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0617/1996	Summary
14/11/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
02/12/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		
03/12/1996	Debate in Council	1975	Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/2066(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	ENER/4/07776

Documentation gateway

Motion for a resolution	B4-0306/1996	29/03/1996	EP	
Non-legislative basic document	COM(1996)0149	03/04/1996	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A4-0296/1996 OJ C 347 18.11.1996, p. 0005	01/10/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T4-0617/1996 OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0234-0287	14/11/1996	EP	Summary

Energy sector: Euro-Mediterranean partnership

OBJECTIVE: the aim of this communication is to give effect to one aspect of the overall partnership called for in the conclusions of the Barcelona Euro-Mediterranean Conference held on 27 and 28 November 1995. The main objective is to strengthen cooperation, intensify dialogue in the energy policy sphere, and foster a favourable climate for investment and the operations of energy companies. **SUBSTANCE:** on the strength of an analysis of the energy situation in the region, the Commission takes the view that, given the strategic importance of the energy sector, an energy partnership would benefit both the European Union and the Mediterranean countries. Cooperation in the field of energy should be pursued: a) in the field of energy policy, with a view to establishing a framework for discussion so as to formulate coherent energy policies, develop energy planning tools, increase trade in energy products, provide greater security for private investment in energy resources and networks and, finally, to combat the greenhouse effect and climate change; b) with regard to infrastructures and networks, to develop and link up the energy networks in the various regions around the Mediterranean; c) in the field of industrial cooperation and RTD (renewable energy sources and energy efficiency; water treatment and management; oil prospecting, production, refining and distribution, and electricity generation, transmission and distribution). On the basis of these considerations, the Commission puts forward a number of proposals for priority action with special emphasis on: - setting up a Euro-Mediterranean Energy Forum for the joint management of energy cooperation through the establishment of a framework for meeting and information exchange among the members of the partnership; - opening consultations with the Mediterranean partner countries on their possible participation as observers in the work of the European Energy Charter Conference, if they are not already members; - study of mechanisms capable of promoting investment in energy in the Mediterranean regions; - cooperation with the countries concerned, under the partnership agreements, on the implementation of projects of common interest in the field of trans-European networks, taking account of the measures to combat climate change; - facilitation of measures to coordinate and deal with energy projects, in accordance with the objectives and procedures for MEDA. ?

Energy sector: Euro-Mediterranean partnership

The Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy is proposing that a Euro-Mediterranean Training Institute be set up. The Institute, which would be based in an EU Member State, would promote technology transfer and in particular the design and operation of pilot projects with a view to encouraging sustainable development in the Mediterranean countries. In the draft resolution based on a Commission communication, Mr SCAPAGNINI, on behalf of the committee, calls for Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and partnership in the energy sector to be strengthened. The text notes that, given the interdependence of the EU countries and their Mediterranean partners in terms of energy supply, environmental protection, infrastructure, and trading relations, the strategy of furthering cooperation in energy policy could help to promote stability in the Mediterranean area as a whole. The Commission is being called upon to launch demonstration pilot projects and propose that the agency be set up to act as a 'catalyst' in the fields of information, training, and support for institutions and SMEs alike. ?

Energy sector: Euro-Mediterranean partnership

In adopting the report by Mr Umberto SCAPAGNINI (UPE, I), Parliament called for the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation and partnership strategy to be implemented swiftly in the energy policy sphere. It proposed that the Energy Charter Treaty should include non-Union countries which have entered into the Euro-Mediterranean partnership. It called for encouragement to be given to investment in solar energy (particularly photovoltaic panels technology), cooperation between power stations incorporating desalination systems, and projects to develop interconnections of energy systems. It emphasized that in view of the inter-dependence between the EU countries and the Mediterranean partners in the areas of energy supply, environmental protection, infrastructures development, trade relations, etc. the cooperation strategy for energy policy would enable a more secure balance to be struck in population and socio-economic terms, thereby benefiting the stability being

sought for the Mediterranean area as a whole. It proposed that a Euro-Mediterranean Training Institute should be based in a Member State. It would transfer technology, design and operate pilot systems aimed at ensuring sustainable development in the Mediterranean countries. It called on the Commission to embark on a demonstration pilot project and to propose that a Mediterranean agency be set up to galvanize information, training and support efforts aimed both at organizations and at SMUs. ?

Energy sector: Euro-Mediterranean partnership

Commissioner Papoutsis presented an oral report to the Council. This report was a response to the conclusions adopted by the Energy Council on this subject on 7 May 1996, inviting the Commission to take measures in order to enhance cooperation between the partners in this field.