


Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1997/0126(CNS) Procedure completed
European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC) Repealed by 2007/0163(COD)	
Subject 6.40.05 Relations with the Mediterranean and southern European countries 8.40.08 Agencies and bodies of the EU	
Geographical area Mediterranean Sea area	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	RELA External Economic Relations	PSE ELCHLEPP Dietrich	17/06/1997
	BUDG Budgets	PSE TAPPIN Michael	01/07/1997
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Budget	2114	17/07/1998

Key events			
27/04/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0177	Summary
25/06/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
22/01/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
21/01/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0032/1998	
11/03/1998	Debate in Parliament		
12/03/1998	Decision by Parliament	T4-0146/1998	Summary
26/05/1998	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0337	Summary
17/07/1998	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/07/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
23/07/1998	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/0126(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure

Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Repealed by 2007/0163(COD)
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 235
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	EMPL/4/09025

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1997)0177 OJ C 156 24.05.1997, p. 0027	28/04/1997	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1182/1997	29/10/1997	ESC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0032/1998 OJ C 080 16.03.1998, p. 0003	22/01/1998	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0146/1998 OJ C 104 06.04.1998, p. 0197-0214	12/03/1998	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1998)0337 OJ C 213 09.07.1998, p. 0008	27/05/1998	EC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Regulation 1998/1572 OJ L 206 23.07.1998, p. 0001 Summary
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European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC)

OBJECTIVE: to amend for the second time Regulation 1360/90/EEC with a view to extending the remit of the European Training Foundation to the Mediterranean partners designated in the MEDA Regulation (Regulation 1488/96/EC) and to make a certain number of technical modifications in order to accompany the extension of the geographical scope of the Foundation. SUBSTANCE: The Commission proposes extending the remit of the Foundation to cover training in the Mediterranean non-member countries and territories laid down in the MEDA Regulation. Its activities will concern initial and continuing vocational training as well as retraining for young people and adults, including management training. In view of the extended geographical spread of the Foundation it is proposed that the governing board of the Foundation should be enlarged, with the addition of one Commission representative. There is however no provision to modify the number of votes at the disposal of the Commission representatives. Modifications are also provided with a view to increasing the policy guidance for the Foundation and to enhancing its efficiency. The amendments concern the following points: - authorization for the Commission to set general policy guidelines for the Foundation's work (in order to be able in particular to adapt the Foundation's activities to the orientations adopted for the Community's overall assistance programmes for the partner countries), - ability for the Commission to ensure cooperation between the Foundation and other Community bodies (for example, CEDEFOP) so as to ensure coherence between the work of the Foundation and other Community actions, - strengthening the decision making powers of the Foundation's Governing Board by aligning the Foundation's work programme more efficiently with its budget (the work programme will be adopted at the same time as the budget and will contain allocations of budgetary resources to operating activities. It may be adapted to new developments during the year), -strengthening the role of the Foundation's Advisory Forum by providing for the participation of experts nominated by the Commission, - defining specifically the mandate of the Foundation's Director: the Governing Board may adapt his term of office to specific circumstances. The link between the Director's responsibilities and the decisions of the Governing Board, the Foundation's work programme and other guidelines is clarified. ?

European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC)

The ESC has consistently maintained that cooperation on vocational training with third countries is strategically valuable. In the Member

States, the development of differing, but high-quality, training systems has been, and continues to be, a key factor in economic growth. The Committee therefore welcomes the Commission proposal and feels certain that this Foundation can contribute significantly to joint development in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The task of the Foundation is not specifically to manage programmes, but rather to support their implementation, assessing requirements so as to frame forward-looking and appropriate training schemes and far-sighted and specific intervention strategies. The ESC is particularly interested in the Foundation's activities and the proposal in question given the role that it plays in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, and because it has been calling on all the EU institutions for some time to be more coherent, open and committed to promoting the participation of the Mediterranean partner countries in Community activities and projects relating to training. The ESC is also prepared henceforward to contribute to the subsequent activities of the Foundation, and would ask the Commission not only to forward its annual report, but also to routinely request the ESC's opinion on this report. ?

European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC)

The Committee adopted a report by Johanna BOOGERD-QUAAK (ELDR, NL) with several amendments to the Council regulation on the European Training Foundation (ETF). The Commission proposal will include the countries covered by the MEDA programme. It also reflects the outcomes of an evaluation carried out by a consultant agency. According to the evaluation, the Foundation has fulfilled the objectives laid down in the regulation. However, it has concentrated too much on programme management to the detriment of other activities. According to the Committee, the ETF should assist the Commission in promoting, developing and modernizing the vocational training systems by facilitating the transition of the assisted countries to a market economy as well as strengthening their democratic institutions, social welfare, respect for human rights and equal opportunities. It should provide appropriate information and analyses of the latest developments in vocational training in the eligible countries. In the selection of projects, priority should be given to those with innovatory value and a direct link to the Union's policy priorities. The ETF should particularly assist the countries eligible to join European Union to bring their vocational training systems in the line with the *acquis communautaire*. The Committee suggests that the director of the Foundation should be appointed after an open selection procedure for a term of office of five years which could be extended once for maximum five years. ?

European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC)

In adopting the report by Mrs Johanna BOOGERD-QUAAK (ELDR, NL) amending the Regulation establishing the European Training Foundation, the European Parliament took the view that the Foundation should assist the Commission in promoting, developing and modernizing the vocational training systems in the countries eligible with a view to facilitating their transition to a market economy and thereby strengthening their democratic institutions, the social dimension, respect for human rights and equal opportunities. Stressing the importance of promoting a common approach to vocational training issues and transferring best practices for this purpose, Parliament called for: - the Foundation to provide information about and analyses of the specific needs and latest vocational training developments in the eligible countries, and provide appropriate technical assistance in the field of training, particularly by cooperating with the appropriate bodies in the eligible countries, - the Foundation to implement, at the request of the Commission or of the countries concerned, vocational training programmes using multidisciplinary teams of specialists and drawing on the experience of Community vocational training programmes, - priority to be given, in the Foundation's selection of projects, to innovative projects which relate directly to the Union's policy priorities. In particular, the Foundation should help applicant countries to bring their vocational training systems into line with the requirements of the single market, - representatives of the two sides of industry who were already working with the Commission in the field of vocational training to be involved in the work of the Foundation. At the same time, Parliament suggested that the director of the Foundation be appointed by means of an open selection procedure for a term of office of five years which could be extended once for a maximum of five years. Parliament also called for the establishment of a procedure to monitor the experience gained by the Foundation, particularly to ascertain whether it has attained its objectives and whether measures have been implemented to ensure non-discrimination and equal opportunities. To this end, a report should be forwarded to Parliament and the Council by 31.12.2000 concerning the results of this procedure. Parliament called for the projects and activities in the Foundation's programme of work to be drawn up in such a way as to take account of budgetary constraints in the year concerned. The budget should also state the number, grade and category of the staff employed by the Foundation. Lastly, Parliament called for the establishment of an Advisory Forum, to be divided into three working groups representing, respectively, the countries eligible for TACIS, the PHARE countries and the MEDA countries.?

European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC)

In its amended proposal the Commission accepted 8 of the 17 amendments adopted by the European Parliament at its March 1998 part-session concerning: - the insertion of recitals outlining the principles and guidelines for the European Training Foundation's activity: reform of the partner countries' vocational training systems with a view to facilitating their transition to a market economy and strengthening a number of aspects of their economic and social policies; the promotion of a common approach to vocational training issues and the transfer of best practice; - provision of a 'mission statement' for the foundation, jointly defined by the Commission and the foundation's Governing Board; - implementation by the foundation of vocational training programmes at the request of the Commission or the partner countries. These programmes should be of innovative value and, for the countries preparing for accession, should relate more closely to the Community's vocational training priorities; - duration of the mandate of the foundation's Director (five years + five-year extension); - the foundation's budget to detail by category and grade the number of staff employed in the relevant financial year; - monitoring and evaluation of the Foundation's activities by an external body, the Commission to report to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee by 31 December 2000. The other amendments were not accepted (in particular those seeking to define in greater detail the Foundation's tasks vis-à-vis the candidate countries in training matters, cooperation with the social partners, the link between the work programme and the 'budgetary decision', the selection procedure for the post of director and the setting up of an advisory college).?

European Training Foundation: extension to the Mediterranean countries (2nd amend. Regul. 1360/90/EEC)

PURPOSE : extend the scope of activity of the European Training Foundation **COMMUNITY MEASURE** : Regulation 1572/98/EC amending Regulation 1360/90/EEC establishing a European Training Foundation. **CONTENT** : The Regulation seeks to extend the mandate of the European Training Foundation to Mediterranean territories and third countries designated in the MEDA Regulation 1488/96/EC. The Regulation also specifies the details of the scope of application of the Foundation : it will operate in the field of initial and continuing vocational training, as well as retraining for young people and adults, including, in particular, management training. In addition, at the request of the Commission or of the eligible countries, the Foundation may provide vocational training programmes agreed on by the Commission and one or several countries as part of the Community policy of assistance to these countries, using multidisciplinary teams of specialists. Experience of Community vocational training programmes will be drawn upon actively. Priority will be given to projects of an innovative value and - for the candidate countries for accession - to projects which relate directly to the Community's programmes in the field of vocational training. Given the extension of the geographical scope of the Foundation, its governing board an additional representative is added. This does not, however, change the number of votes at the Commission's disposal. Changes are also provided for with the purpose of strengthening the policy of the Foundation and improving its efficiency. These include : - strengthening the links between the Foundation and other Community actions : the Commission has to ensure that there is coherence and complementarity (e.g. with respect to TEMPUS and MED-CAMPUS); - enabling the Commission to support the foundation in its co-operation with other Community bodies, particularly CEDEFOP; - strengthening the decision-making powers of the Foundation's governing board by more closely aligning its work programme and its budget; - the projects and activities in the annual work programme shall be accompanied by an estimate of the necessary expenditure and by allocations of staff and budgetary resources; - the members of the forum shall be selected from experts among training and other circles concerned with the work of the Foundation, taking into account the need to ensure the presence of representatives of the social partners, of the Commission, of those international organisations active in the provision of training assistance, and of the eligible countries and territories; - the director of the Foundation shall be appointed for 5 years, renewable once for a further period of 5 years; - monitoring and evaluation procedure : this will be carried out with the help of external experts. The Commission is to present the first results of this procedure in a report to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee by 31/12/2000 and thereafter every 3 years. **ENTRY INTO FORCE** : 31/07/1998.?