


# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	<a href="#">1999/0066(CNS)</a>	Procedure completed
European audiovisual Observatory, Strasbourg 1992: Community participation		
Amended by <a href="#">2003/0293(COD)</a>		
Subject 3.30.01 Audiovisual industry and services		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>CULT</b> Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport		27/07/1999
		PPE-DE <a href="#">GARGANI Giuseppe</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		28/07/1999
		PSE <a href="#">DÜHRKOP DÜHRKOP Bárbara</a>	
Council of the European Union	<b>ITRE</b> Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		21/09/1999
		V/ALE <a href="#">ECHERER Raina A. Mercedes</a>	
	Council configuration Fisheries	Meeting <a href="#">2220</a>	Date 22/11/1999

Key events			
11/03/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0111	Summary
23/07/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/10/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
12/10/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0024/1999</a>	
27/10/1999	Debate in Parliament		
28/10/1999	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0083/1999</a>	Summary
22/11/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/11/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/0066(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
	Amended by <a href="#">2003/0293(COD)</a>
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 157-p3
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CULT/4/11091

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(1999)0111</a> <a href="#">OJ C 110 21.04.1999, p. 0014</a>	11/03/1999	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		<a href="#">CES0843/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 329 17.11.1999, p. 0006</a>	22/09/1999	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A5-0024/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 154 05.06.2000, p. 0006</a>	12/10/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0083/1999</a> <a href="#">OJ C 154 05.06.2000, p. 0075-0138</a>	28/10/1999	EP	Summary
Follow-up document		<a href="#">COM(2002)0619</a>	11/11/2002	EC	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

Final act
<a href="#">Decision 1999/784</a> <a href="#">OJ L 307 02.12.1999, p. 0061</a> Summary

## European audiovisual Observatory, Strasbourg 1992: Community participation

**PURPOSE:** provide a legal base for the Community's involvement in and contribution to the European Audiovisual Observatory. **CONTENT:** The European Audiovisual Observatory was established in 1992 upon the initiative of 29 member countries (including the EU 15) with the objective of improving the transfer of information within the audiovisual industry and to promote a clearer view of the market and a greater transparency. The Observatory was to 'focus in the first instance on the main categories of information requested by the professional'. The European Commission has been a member of the Observatory since its foundation and is represented in its constituent bodies (the Executive Council and the Advisory Committee), as well as its various functional organs such as the Financial Committee and the Editorial Board of IRIS (the legal information newsletter). It has contributed to the Observatory's operating budget since its inception according to a financial weighting which puts the Commission on a par with the larger Member States i.e. 12.25% of the overall budget (thus the Commission's contribution in 1999 will be 200,000 euros). Several of the Member States and the European Parliament have called on the Commission to put forward proposal to establish a legal basis for the Community's contribution to and participation in the Observatory. This position is motivated among other things by the European Court of Justice's decision of 12 May 1998 on legal bases. The proposed Decision seeks to provide a harmonised framework for the Member States' efforts in order to make best use of them and reap the full benefits of synergy. This Decision is designed to encourage the necessary adjustments in the different Member States to ensure that optimum use is made of existing statistics and that suitable information is obtained about the various audiovisual markets. By virtue of the principle of subsidiarity, the objectives of the proposed action can be achieved only by a Community legal act, as only the Commission is in a position to coordinate the requisite harmonisation of information at Community level. There is consensus that Eurostat's activities and those of the Observatory are complementary and strengthen each other, and regular contacts between the Observatory and Eurostat have resulted in the conclusions of a 'modus operandi' on 15.09.1998.?

## European audiovisual Observatory, Strasbourg 1992: Community participation

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The committee adopted a report by its chairman Giuseppe GARGANI (EPP/ED, I) aimed at ensuring better control of taxpayers' money, by reducing the period during which a guaranteed subsidy would be granted to the Observatory to three years (instead of five years as proposed by the Commission). The Observatory would therefore have three more years of Community funding in order to enable it to justify its existence.

## European audiovisual Observatory, Strasbourg 1992: Community participation

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In adopting the report drafted by Mr. Giuseppe GARGANI (PPE/DE, I), the European Parliament approved the proposal concerning the Community's participation in the European Audiovisual Observatory, although it called on this organisation to improve the information it prepares for SMEs working in the audiovisual sector. It also asked that the Commission represent the Community in its relations with the Observatory and for it to get involved in the promotion of information on the activities of the Observatory. The Parliament limited the duration of the validity of this decision to three years instead of the five years proposed by the Commission.?

## European audiovisual Observatory, Strasbourg 1992: Community participation

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**PURPOSE :** to provide a legal base for the Community's involvement in and contribution to the European Audiovisual Observatory.

**COMMUNITY MEASURE :** Council Decision 1999/784/EC concerning Community participation in the European Audiovisual Observatory.

**CONTENT :** The European Audiovisual Observatory was established in 1992 upon the initiative of 29 member countries (including the EU 15) with the objective to promoting the transfer of information within the audiovisual industry, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises, and to promote a clear view of the market and a greater transparency. Its main mission is to establish a Community statistical infrastructure relating to the industry and markets of the audiovisual and related sectors. The objective of this Decision is to formally associate the Community with this Observatory by creating an ad hoc legal measure, institutionalising this participation. The appropriations required for the Community's financial contribution to the Observatory's operating budget shall be authorised by the Budgetary Authority in accordance with the financial perspective in force. Furthermore, before the end of the third year following the year of adoption of this Decision, as well as upon expiry of this Decision, the Commission shall present to the European Parliament, the Council and the Economic and Social Committee a report on its implementation. **ENTRY INTO FORCE :** 22.11.1999. The Decision shall apply until 31.12.2004.?

## European audiovisual Observatory, Strasbourg 1992: Community participation

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The European Commission presented its report on the implementation of Council Decision 1999/784/EC concerning Community participation in the European Audiovisual Observatory. It is an intermediate report covering both Commission's activities concerning institutional bilateral relations with the Observatory and the latter's main actions effected in respect of industry and public authorities' professional requirements since the adoption of the Council Decision. Beyond the nature of a formal participation in a multilateral international organisation - at present, 35 countries and the European Community are full members of the Observatory, the Council of Europe and Audiovisual Eureka have observers status - the Commission and the Observatory have developed a sound professional partnership benefiting both the industry, who receive a flow of timely information enhancing transparency, and the public authorities, who can launch profitable discussions with the industry representative built on clearer views of the market. Such results have been achieved thanks to the continuing development of a well-structured and efficient network of sources allowing the Observatory to work in close collaboration with the most competent sources of information in the various branches of the industry. The Observatory represents a model of integration between the activities of public bodies and the private sector from several countries, which is able to provide valuable results for a large spectrum of users at reasonable cost in terms of amount financial contributions - for the participants bodies - and access to information for the industry.?