


Procedure file

Basic information		
BUD - Budgetary procedure	1999/2072(BUD)	Procedure completed
2000 ECSC operating budget		
Subject 8.70.60 Previous annual budgets		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	PSE PITTELLA Gianni	28/07/1999
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
09/06/1999	Council draft budget published	SEC(1999)0803	Summary
23/07/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/10/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
19/10/1999	Budgetary report tabled for plenary	A5-0032/1999	
26/10/1999	Debate in Parliament		
28/10/1999	Decision by Parliament	T5-0078/1999	Summary
28/10/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/06/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1999/2072(BUD)
Procedure type	BUD - Budgetary procedure
Procedure subtype	Budget
Legal basis	ECSC Treaty C 095
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	BUDG/4/11121

Documentation gateway

Council draft budget		SEC(1999)0803	09/06/1999	EC	Summary
Budgetary report tabled for plenary, 1st reading		A5-0032/1999 OJ C 154 05.06.2000, p. 0006	19/10/1999	EP	
Budgetary text adopted by Parliament		T5-0078/1999 OJ C 154 05.06.2000, p. 0069-0121	28/10/1999	EP	Summary

2000 ECSC operating budget

PURPOSE: to draw up an operational budget for the ECSC for the year 2000. **CONTENT:** The budgetary approach defined in this draft budget should be seen in the overall context of the expiry of the ECSC Treaty. In this way, the imposition having been put back to 0 from 01.01.1998, the budgetary approach from 1999 consists in responding in priority to the needs identified in terms of social assistance and to adapt the level of aids to research in such a way as to obtain the best possible continuity in the funding. In this regard, the evolution of the ECSC's operational budget's resources will be largely dictated by the level of internal revenues (net balance valued at 54 million euros) and by the rate of the use of the provision for funding of the ECSC's operational budget (83 million euros), and, to a lesser degree, by the cancellation of commitments (37 million euros). The drafts reveal that that provisions drawn up are sufficient to maintain, until the expiry of the Treaty, the budgetary activity at a level in line with the needs in terms of social aids and research grants identified at this stage, while respecting the objective of the level of reserves laid down by the Commission for the 23.07.2002 (expiry of the ECSC Treaty). In this context, the draft budget is broken down as follows: - 5 million euros for administrative expenses, - 92 million euros for social aids, - 81 million for research grants. The total budget for the year 2000 is 178 million euros.?

2000 ECSC operating budget

The committee adopted a report by Mr PITELLA (PES, I) stressing that the ECSC operating budget for 2000 must be considered within the overall context of the expiry of the ECSC Treaty in 2002. Technical adjustments had to be made to the financial perspective for the period 2000-2006 given that ECSC activities would henceforth be incorporated into the general budget (phasing-in). Such phasing-in also had to be viewed with enlargement in mind. The ECSC budget proposed by the Commission showed clear signs of phasing-out, whereas phasing-in was lagging far behind. The report called for the reinstatement in the 2000 budget of the amounts laid down in the 1999 budget, considering that additional expenditure was broadly justified by the continuing job losses in the sectors concerned. The Council had decided that the revenues of outstanding reserves upon expiry of the ECSC Treaty would be used for a research fund for sectors related to the coal and steel industry. This was in line with Parliament's position as expressed in 1996, and the report therefore welcomed the proposal but called for an agency to be set up to manage the fund. Other proposals in the report included an increase in funding for priority measures such as social aid in the coal industry and research in the steel industry and measures to promote social and health protection at work. Lastly, the report stressed the need for a reduction in administrative expenditure.

2000 ECSC operating budget

The EP adopted its resolution on the draft ECSC operating budget for 2000 (Rapporteur: Mr. Giovanni PITTELLA, PES, I). The budget of the ECSC in fact expires in 2002. Parliament took the view that the total amount should be the same as in 1999, i.e. 196 million as against 178 million euros proposed by the Commission. Parliament sees the need to switch priorities with more emphasis placed on providing social aid for miners, backing research in the steel industry and supporting health and safety in mining. Members were also anxious to see the smooth transition when the funds are in fact wound up with pilot projects put in place now that could be financed at a later date from the EU's general budget. The EP welcomed the fact that the Council accepted the structure recommended by the Parliament for the management of the assets of the ECSC when the latter expires. Parliament confirmed its wish to see the management of the fund entrusted to a structure (agency or foundation) so as to maintain, vis-à-vis the coal and steel sectors, a degree of visibility and continuity of the activities specific to the ECSC which will continue after the Treaty expires, and so as to try to ensure the industry's involvement in decision-making via the governing board. The Parliament opposes the Commission's persistent approach of maintaining a high level of reserves, rather than seeking to cover the maximum of requirements, since sufficient resources exist and provisions for the future fund are already assured. With a view to enlargement, the EP wants to see the EU's aid for countries from Eastern Europe through the Phare programme include an element geared towards the coal and steel sectors.?