

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	2000/0037(CNS)	Procedure completed
Protection of the Rhine: conclusion of the new Convention, 12 April 1999, Bern		
Subject 3.70.01 Protection of natural resources: fauna, flora, nature, wildlife, countryside; biodiversity 3.70.04 Water control and management, pollution of waterways, water pollution		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		22/03/2000
		PPE-DE JACKSON Caroline	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Environment	2302	07/11/2000
European Commission	Commission DG Environment	Commissioner	

Key events			
07/02/2000	Legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0061	Summary
10/04/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/04/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
19/04/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0120/2000	
17/05/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0216/2000	Summary
07/11/2000	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
07/11/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
16/11/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/0037(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 174; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1; Rules of Procedure EP 52-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/5/12666

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2000)0061 OJ C 177 27.06.2000, p. 0083 E	07/02/2000	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0120/2000 OJ C 059 23.02.2001, p. 0004	19/04/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0216/2000 OJ C 059 23.02.2001, p. 0069-0091	17/05/2000	EP	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Decision 2000/706 OJ L 289 16.11.2000, p. 0030 Summary

Protection of the Rhine: conclusion of the new Convention, 12 April 1999, Bern

PURPOSE : to conclude a new Convention of the Protection of the Rhine. CONTENT : by Decision 77/586/EEC the Community concluded the Convention for the protection of the Rhine against the chemical pollution and the Additional Agreement to the Agreement concerning the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against Pollution (ICPR). The other Contracting Parties are France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland. At the 25th meeting of the Coordinating Group of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine, the representatives of the riparian states drew attention to the importance, both now and in the future, of protecting the waters of the river Rhine and concluded that it was necessary to provide for a new Convention on the Protection of the Rhine which would take account of complementary approaches involving measures to: - preserve, improve and stabilise the ecosystem of the Rhine; - ensure the natural functioning of running water; - promote the economic and effective use of water, particularly with regard to the management of drinking water reserves; - prevent, reduce and avoid the the incidence of transfrontier industrial and urban pollution, particularly where this is attributable to toxic, persistent, carcinogenic, mutagenic and bioaccumulable sustances; - reduce pollution from diverse sources, including groundwater; - prevent and counteract accidental pollution incidents. Since the new Convention covers areas of Community competence relating to the environment, the Community, represented by the Commission, has been taking part in the negotiations in accordance with the negotiating directives issued by the Council. On the 22/01/1998, the Contracting Parties approved the text of the new Convention on the Protection of the Rhine. The Contracting Parties also decided to draw up a new "Programme for the Sustainable Development of the Rhine" which under the new Convention, will seek to continue and strengthen, beyond the year 2000, the work carried out under the existing "Rhine Action Programme". After examining the Commission's proposal, the Council adopted conclusions in which it decided that the Community should sign the new Convention, subject to its eventual conclusion. The new Convention was signed simultaneously with the other Contracting Parties on the 12/04/1999 in Berne. The Commission therefore proposes that the Council should take a decision on the conclusion by the Community of the new Convention on the Protection of the Rhine.?

Protection of the Rhine: conclusion of the new Convention, 12 April 1999, Bern

The committee adopted the report (consultation procedure) by Caroline JACKSON (EPP/ED, UK) approving the Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the Community, of the new Convention for the Protection of the Rhine. The consultation procedure in this case simply involved Parliament delivering a positive or a negative opinion, but the Council was not required to take account of Parliament's position. The committee took the view that the text proposed for the new Rhine Convention would improve cooperation between the Rhine riparian states,

as well as bringing it closer to the future water policy of the Community. As Parliament's input into the decision-making process under the proposed legal base was in any case extremely limited, the committee decided to recommend that Parliament approve the proposal.?

Protection of the Rhine: conclusion of the new Convention, 12 April 1999, Bern

The European Parliament adopted without debate the report drafted by Caroline JACKSON (EPP/ED, United Kingdom) on the protection of the Rhine and approved the Commission's proposal.?

Protection of the Rhine: conclusion of the new Convention, 12 April 1999, Bern

PURPOSE : to conclude a new Convention for the Protection of the Rhine. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 2000/706/EC concerning the conclusion, on behalf of the Community, of the Convention for the Protection of the Rhine. CONTENT : by Decision 77/586/EEC, the Community concluded the Convention for the Protection of the Rhine against chemical pollution and the Additional Agreement concerning the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine against pollution (ICPR). The other Contracting Parties are France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Switzerland. At the 25th meeting of the Coordinating Group of the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine, the representatives of the riparian states drew attention to the importance of, both now and in the future, protecting the waters of the river Rhine and concluded that it was necessary to provide for a new Convention on the Protection of the Rhine which would take account of complementary approaches involving measures to: - preserve, improve and stabilise the ecosystem of the Rhine; - ensure the natural functioning of running water; - promote the economic and effective use of water; particularly with regard to the management of drinking water reserves; - prevent, reduce and avoid the incidence of transfrontier industrial and urban pollution, particularly where this is attributable to toxic, persistent, carcinogenic, mutagenic and bioaccumulable substances; - reduce pollution from diverse sources, including groundwater; - prevent and counteract accidental pollution incidents. The new Convention which covers the areas of Community competence relating to the environment, has been approved by the Council on behalf of the Community. ENTRY INTO FORCE : the Decision shall enter into force on 7 November 2000.?