


Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2001/2028(INI)	Procedure completed
Recommendations to the Commission on negotiations within the WTO framework on the built-in agenda		
Subject 6.20.01 Agreements and relations in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO)		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		25/01/2001
		PPE-DE SCHWAIGER Konrad K.	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	JURI Legal Affairs and Internal Market	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		24/01/2001
		PPE-DE CUNHA Arlindo	

Key events			
15/02/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
27/02/2001	Vote in committee		Summary
27/02/2001	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0076/2001	
12/03/2001	Debate in Parliament		
13/03/2001	Decision by Parliament	T5-0129/2001	Summary
13/03/2001	End of procedure in Parliament		
05/12/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2028(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure

Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 050; Rules of Procedure EP 114
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/14416

Documentation gateway

Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0076/2001	27/02/2001	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0129/2001 OJ C 343 05.12.2001, p. 0024-0096	13/03/2001	EP	Summary

Recommendations to the Commission on negotiations within the WTO framework on the built-in agenda

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Konrad SCHWAIGER (EPP-ED, D) containing its recommendations to the Commission on trade questions relating to agriculture, services, protection of intellectual property and institutional aspects. It stressed the need for greater transparency in the forthcoming WTO negotiations and said that particular attention should be given to greater transparency in the preparation and conduct of ministerial meetings and to improved parliamentary scrutiny of the WTO, for example, through the creation of a parliamentary dimension to the WTO itself. With regard to the agricultural negotiations, the committee stressed the need for a comprehensive negotiating round with a view to safeguarding the "European agricultural model", based on multifunctionality. It also insisted that the public's demands regarding food safety, environmental protection, food quality and animal welfare must be taken into account. The committee gave the Commission a clear, precise mandate on the use of the precautionary principle in the WTO. It also mentioned the need for "fair competition" to help safeguard food quality, which involved opening up markets by eliminating distortions of competition while nevertheless encouraging the preservation of traditional expertise. With reference to the liberalisation of trade in services the committee gave the Commission the green light to push for further gradual liberalisation. It added that progress in this direction should not neglect the principle of sustainable development.?

Recommendations to the Commission on negotiations within the WTO framework on the built-in agenda

The European Parliament adopted the own-initiative report by Mr Konrad SCHWAIGER (EPP/ED, D) containing its recommendations to the Commission on trade questions relating to agriculture, services, protection of intellectual property and institutional aspects. (Please refer to the previous text). Moreover, the Parliament noted that the scope of the negotiations on the protection of intellectual property under the 'Built-in Agenda', which consists of several WTO agreements that were concluded as part of the Uruguay Round required fresh negotiations to be started by 2000 at the latest, is limited and apart from questions concerning protection of geographical indications for wines and spirits and extending protection to other agricultural products, only covers safeguards for plant varieties. It fully supports the move to extend such protection of geographical indications to other agricultural products.?