

Procedure file

Basic information		
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)		Procedure completed
2001/2249(COS)		
Air pollution: Clean air for Europe CAFE programme, air quality		
Subject		
3.70.02 Atmospheric pollution, motor vehicle pollution		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy		11/07/2001
		UEN FITZSIMONS James (Jim)	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
Council of the European Union	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		
	RETT Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		11/09/2001
		EDD VAN DAM Rijk	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
European Commission	Environment	2378	29/10/2001
	Environment	2355	07/06/2001
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Environment		

Key events			
04/05/2001	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2001)0245	Summary
07/06/2001	Debate in Council	2355	
29/10/2001	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
28/11/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/02/2002	Vote in committee		
20/02/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0055/2002	
13/03/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0099/2002	Summary
13/03/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/02/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2001/2249(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/5/15472

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2001)0245	04/05/2001	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure		SEC(2001)0688	04/05/2001	EC	
Committee of the Regions: opinion		CDR0203/2001 OJ C 107 03.05.2002, p. 0078	15/11/2001	CofR	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0055/2002	20/02/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0099/2002 OJ C 047 27.02.2003, p. 0087-0214 E	13/03/2002	EP	Summary

Air pollution: Clean air for Europe CAFE programme, air quality

PURPOSE : to present a communication on the "Clean Air for Europe" (CAFE) Programme which will provide the framework within which new air quality standards and national emission ceilings will be set. **CONTENT :** this Clean Air for Europe (CAFE) programme will lead to an integrated strategy to effectively combat air pollution by 2004. This is also the first of the thematic strategies announced in the Commission's proposals for the 6th Environmental Action Programme. Recent studies, such as the ones carried out under the Auto-Oil II Programme finalised last year, have revealed the considerable success that air quality policy has already had in reducing emissions to the benefit of human health and the environment, but more needs to be done. The new programme aims to integrate the work being done at several levels in an over-arching strategy. Many of the existing air quality directives come up for revision by 2004, and the Commission considers that an integrated programme is the best way to prepare for this, and it is in this context that it is launching the CAFE Programme in order to tackle these challenges in the most efficient way. To be more specific, the CAFE programme will focus especially on particular matter (emitted directly into the atmosphere from a variety of stationary and mobile sources, but particles also form in the atmosphere from gaseous pollutants such as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides (NOx), sulphur oxides (SOx) and (NH3) and ground-level ozone (formed in the atmosphere by the reaction of pollutants such as NOx and VOCs in the presence of sunlight). In addition, CAFE will need to address remaining problems relating to acidification, eutrophication and damage to buildings. Its specific objectives will be: - to develop, collect and validate scientific information relating to the effects of ambient, i.e. outdoor air pollution, emission inventories, air quality assessment, emission and air quality projections, cost-effectiveness studies and integrated assessment modelling, leading to the development and updating of air quality and deposition objectives and indicators and identification of the measures required to reduce emissions; - to support the implementation and review the effectiveness of existing legislation, in particular the air quality daughter directives, the decision on exchange of information, and national emission ceilings as set out in recent legislation, to contribute to the review of international protocols, and to develop new proposals as and when necessary; - to ensure that the measures that will be needed to achieve air quality and deposition objectives cost-effectively are taken at the relevant level through the development of effective structural links with the relevant policy areas; - to determine an overall, integrated strategy at regular intervals which defines appropriate air quality objectives for the future and cost-effective measures for meeting those objectives; - to disseminate widely the technical and policy information arising from implementation of the programme. Finally, CAFE will co-operate closely with other international programmes involved in the fight against air pollution, notably the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Convention on Long-Range Transboundary Air Pollution (UN/ECE CLRTAP).?

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The European Parliament adopted the report by Mr Jim FITZSIMONS (UEN, Ire) on the Clean Air for Europe (CAFE) Programme. Overall, the Parliament welcomes the Commission's proposal to combine the majority of its measures against air pollution within one thematic strategy which will provide a useful tool for the Community to use in attaining its long-term objective of critical loads and levels for the four air pollutants covered by the directive on national emission ceilings and the secondary air pollutants arising from these four pollutants. In addition, it notes that several Community legislative texts concerning the combating of air pollution are due to be revised in 2004. It expects the Commission to present its review of the legislation in force followed by proposals for revision so that the revised legislation may be applied as swiftly as possible. Moreover, resolution notes that the Commission's proposals concerning the European programme on climate change and the emission rights exchange system and calls on the Parliament and the Council, in light of the current levels of air pollution and the role played

by the European Union in order to reach an agreement at the last Conference of parties to the Kyoto Protocol held in Bonn, to adopt ambitious, balanced legislation on the basis of these two proposals to enable the European Union to play the leading role which it has assumed in combating climate change. It is suggested that enhanced co-operation with the Convention on Long Range Transboundary Air Pollution (CLRTAP) is essential if CAFE is to add real value to policy-making and avoid wastage of resources. It is also considered necessary to set up a monitoring system to ensure that the programme operates effectively. Parliament commends the Commission for fully involving the candidate countries in the CAFE programme. It notes that there was no funding for combating air pollution in the budget of the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-Accession (ISPA) for the year 2000, therefore it calls on the Commission and the candidate countries to promote projects concerning the combating of air pollution so that the candidate countries can play their part in combating air pollution and in the "Clean Air for Europe" programme. Lastly, the Parliament expresses some concern regarding the financing of the CAFE programme, especially concerning funding needed to ensure the participation and active involvement of candidate countries and NGOs in the programme and its working groups.?