

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	2001/0124(CNS)	Procedure completed
Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme		
Subject 3.50.02.01 EC, EU framework programme		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		19/02/2002
		V/ALE PIÉTRASANTA Yves	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		11/07/2001
		V/ALE HUDGHTON Ian	
Council of the European Union	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		20/03/2002
		V/ALE GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF Friedrich-Wilhelm	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2451	30/09/2002
European Commission	Research	2417	11/03/2002
	Commission DG Research and Innovation	Commissioner	

Key events			
30/05/2001	Legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0279	Summary
03/09/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
30/01/2002	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(2002)0043	Summary
11/03/2002	Debate in Council	2417	
28/05/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
28/05/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0210/2002	

11/06/2002	Debate in Parliament		
12/06/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0304/2002	Summary
30/09/2002	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
30/09/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
29/10/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/0124(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 166-p4
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/15909

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(2001)0279	30/05/2001	EC	Summary
Modified legislative proposal		COM(2002)0043	30/01/2002	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0210/2002	28/05/2002	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0693/2002 OJ C 221 17.09.2002, p. 0097	29/05/2002	ESC	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0304/2002 OJ C 261 30.10.2003, p. 0151-0343 E	12/06/2002	EP	Summary
Follow-up document		SEC(2008)3105	18/12/2008	EC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Decision 2002/836 OJ L 294 29.10.2002, p. 0060-0073 Summary

Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme

PURPOSE: to adopt a specific programme 2002-2006 for research, technological development and demonstration to be carried out by means of direct actions by the Joint Research Centre. **CONTENT:** the present proposal for a decision is one in a series of five new proposals (CNS/2001/0122, CNS/2001/0123, CNS/2001/0125, CNS/2001/0126) concerning specific programmes which should be implemented under this framework programme. The proposed programme (EUR 715 million) deals with the following themes: food, chemical products and health (food safety and quality, GMOs, chemical products, biomedical applications), environment and sustainability, technology foresight, reference materials and measurements, public security and anti-fraud.?

Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme

The positions expressed by Parliament and Council on the new framework programme demonstrate a high degree of convergence, with broadly similar positions expressed on the overall budget and its breakdown, programme structure, scientific and technological priorities, and means of implementation. For its part, the Commission has worked to encourage the process of convergence, in particular by modifying its framework programme proposals to take up a significant proportion of Parliament's amendments. It notes with satisfaction the substantial consensus on the underlying principles of the new framework programme that has been achieved through the efforts of Council and Parliament, in particular with respect to the priority to be given to the use of powerful new instruments, the strong focus of the thematic priorities, and the introduction of greater flexibility in the implementation of the programme. A sufficiently stable basis now exists for the Commission to come forward with amended proposals for the specific programmes. These take up the changes in the framework programme resulting from the first reading, and set out their detailed implications as regards the research to be conducted and its means of implementation. The objective is to assist the other institutions in their examination of the specific programmes, and their further negotiations, with the aim of reaching early agreement on the framework programme, rules of participation and specific programmes. The most extensive adjustments to the Commission's earlier proposals are to be found in the programme "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area", including the following: - adaptations to the structure and detailed research content of thematic priority 1 (to reflect its organisation in two sections, respectively on advanced genomics and its applications to health, and on combating major diseases) and thematic priority 6 (to reflect its organisation in three parts, respectively on sustainable energy systems, sustainable surface transport, and global change and ecosystems). More limited, but in some cases nevertheless substantial, amendments have been introduced in to the research content of other priority thematic areas. - adjustments to the initial policy-orientated research priorities under the heading "supporting policies and anticipating scientific and technological needs", along with some re-attribution of research activities in relation to the thematic priorities (notably as regards agriculture and marine ecosystem research). These take account of the modifications to content and the significant reduction in budget introduced following the first reading. - the description of the instruments (Annex III) has been refined and clarified, in the light of the debate leading up to the first reading. This reflects the principle of a smooth transition from "traditional" to "new" instruments in the implementation of the thematic priority areas, and the idea of a fourth instrument, in the spirit of the "escalier d'excellence". In implementing this specific programme, the Commission proposes to be assisted by a committee of Member States' representatives. The committee shall meet in different configurations, as appropriate, corresponding to the thematic priority areas of research. The modifications introduced in the programme "Structuring the European research area" relate mainly to the mobility and infrastructure actions, where additional detail and clarity has been introduced in the mechanisms and instruments to be adopted, while also taking account of the more limited budget attributed to these actions. As regards the Euratom programme on "Nuclear energy", the main changes relate to the fission part, with the introduction of a new thematic priority on radiation protection and activities on the safety of nuclear installations. In both these programmes, the descriptions of the instruments (Annex III) have been substantially updated, in line with the programme "Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area". In all cases, the budgetary allocations have been revised in conformity with the common position of the Council.?

Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme

The committee adopted the report by Yves PIÉTRASANTA (Greens/EFA, F) approving the programme under the consultation procedure, subject to a few amendments as follows: - particular attention should be paid to accession applicant countries. The JRC should devote a special effort to the scientific and technical aspects associated with transfer of the 'acquis communautaire' in relation to the different policies of the Union; - the JRC should develop assessment of the public-health impact of atmospheric pollution, in particular in urban areas, by collecting epidemiological data on respiratory diseases, allergies and other possible instances of the effects of pollution; - the JRC should work to integrate improvements in water quality and implementation of the directives on waste-water treatment with the objective of water-recycling and the recycling of the different substances contained in waste water while respecting soil quality and health safeguards in agricultural production installations. ?

Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme

By adopting, by 526 votes for and 5 against, the report by Mr Yves PIETRASANTA (Greens/EFA, F), the European Parliament approved the proposal subject to some amendments. Parliament stresses that the JRC should pay attention to the applicant countries. The JRC should concentrate in particular on the scientific and technical aspects associated with transfer of the *acquis communautaire* in relation to the different policies of the Union. In addition, the JRC should place a particular emphasis on the safety of the citizen, whether in terms of, for example, environmental protection, health care or safeguards against fraud. Lastly, the Parliament requests that the JRC develop an active programmes of knowledge of, and disseminating information on effective practices for implementing sustainable development and to establish a support mechanism for decision-making in risk management.?

Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme

PURPOSE : to adopt a specific programme of research, technological development and demonstration to be carried out by means of direct actions by the Joint Research Centre (2002-2006). COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 2002/836/EC. CONTENT : the Council adopted the decisions establishing the five specific Programmes for Research under the 6th Research Framework 2002-2006 (EC and Euratom). One of the programmes ("Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area (EC)") was adopted by qualified majority with the Italian delegation voting against. Adoption of the Specific Programmes will contribute to the timely implementation of the new Framework Programme, as requested by the European Council, so as to promote the creation of a European Research Area and to strengthen innovation

in the European Union. The five Specific Programmes cover the following themes: - Integrating and strengthening the European Research Area (EC): EUR 12905 million; - Structuring the European Research Area (EC): EUR 2605 million; - Joint Research Centre activities (EC): EUR 760 million; - Nuclear energy (Euratom): EUR 940 million; - Joint Research Centre activities (Euratom): EUR 290 million. The Specific Programmes establish programme management provisions, scientific and technological objectives and budgetary allocations for the different research activities to be financed under the Framework Programme. It is stipulated that no funding will go to research aimed at human reproductive cloning, modification of the genetic heritage of human beings or the creation of human embryos solely for the purpose of research or stem cell procurement. In addition, further elaboration on ethical issues is provided for in a statement for the Council minutes, namely that: - further provisions on the funding of research activities which involve the use of human embryos and human embryonic stem cells will be established before the end of 2003, on the basis of a new proposal from the Commission and in consultation with the European Parliament; - until then, the Commission will not propose to finance such research projects, unless they involve banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture; - proposals for research projects in these areas will be submitted to a regulatory committee.?

Research RTD, 6th framework-programme 2002-2006: Joint research Centre JRC, direct actions, EC programme

The purpose of this document is to communicate the results of an independent assessment of the Joint Research Centre's (JRC) Direct Actions under the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6) for Research Technology Development and Demonstration and to present an initial reaction of the Commission. The evaluation, carried out between February and September 2008 responds to the requirements of the Financial Regulation, its Implementing Rules, the provisions for an independent assessment in the Specific Programmes for Direct Actions by the Joint Research Centre in the Sixth Framework Programmes, and the provisions for evaluation for the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

This dedicated evaluation report on Direct Actions in FP6 is established as an integrated part of an overall evaluation strategy for the full FP as requested in 2007 in the Court of Auditors' report on the evaluation of the Framework Programmes.

The evaluation has been carried out in conformity with the standards and guidelines given in the recent Communication on evaluation to the Commission.

The overall assessment of the JRC's performance and achievements during the Sixth Framework Programmes is positive. The delivered science and policy support is qualified as 'good, very good and sometimes excellent'. The evaluation Panel observed a continued improvement of the customer orientation of the JRC from FP5 through to FP6 ever since the adoption of the new mission of the JRC in 1998.

The Panel acknowledges the JRC's strategic framework: a convincing mission statement, a value statement and regular internal evaluation. It recommends establishing a longer-term vision and an overarching corporate strategy, which would allow the organisation to make a next step and advance to higher level in serving the policy customer. In this context, the JRC should start a continuous process for making a detailed short, medium and long-term assessment of the status of its research facilities and infrastructure with the aim to further enhance its efficiency and effectiveness. The Panel supports the modernisation and rationalisation of the JRC site in Ispra and the renovation of buildings and facilities at the other sites, which started as a follow-up to the previous major external evaluation.

As regards its mode of operation, the Panel is of the opinion that the JRC is very much reactive, whereas it has the knowledge base and the skills to be more proactive. The Panel would like to facilitate such evolution in an environment where the organisation is expected to do what the customers ask (reactive) and suggests that this could for instance be done through a high-profile Chief Scientific Adviser inside the Commission, who could be an intermediary customer for proactive work from the JRC. Aware of the Staff Regulations for Officials of the European Communities and the Conditions of Employment of other Servants of the European Communities, the Panel believes that certain improvements in the field of human resource management are feasible, and necessary for the JRC. It recommends the Commission to grant the JRC more flexibility in adapted recruitment procedures and career management schemes.

Finally, the Panel addresses the process for the evaluation. With such a very wide ranging work programme, an overall evaluation of the JRC would benefit from dedicated, competence or sector-orientated evaluations of the performances in the various areas which would then also allow a more profound analysis of the quality of the work in those areas.

The Commission invites the European Parliament and the Council to take note of the findings and the recommendations of the evaluation Panel. The Commission commends the progress made in the customer orientation of the JRC and asks the European Parliament and the Council to support the recommended step change to advance to a higher level of service to EU policies.

Internally the Commission will support the JRC in seeking a more proactive approach in its scientific advice and support activities and it will consult on the overall orientation of the JRC with the Board of Governors with its representatives of the Member States, the candidate countries and the countries associated to the framework programmes.

The progress made in establishing a corporate strategy for the JRC and in implementing other measures proposed will be a major object of the mid-term evaluation of the direct actions of the JRC in FP7. This evaluation will be available in the course of 2010 as a basis for further developing the JRC as the scientific and technical arm of the Commission to support the conception, development, implementation and monitoring of EU policies.