

Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Decision	2001/0281(COD) Procedure completed
Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme Amended by 2003/0304(COD)	
Subject 8.60 European statistical legislation	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs		18/12/2001
		PPE-DE LULLING Astrid	
	Former committee responsible		
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs		18/12/2001
		PPE-DE LULLING Astrid	
Council of the European Union	Former committee for opinion		
	BUDG Budgets		22/01/2002
		PSE FÄRM Göran	
	CULT Culture, Youth, Education, Media and Sport		08/01/2002
		PSE ZORBA Myrsini	
European Commission	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2451	30/09/2002
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union		

Key events			
28/11/2001	Legislative proposal published	COM(2001)0683	Summary
10/12/2001	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
26/03/2002	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
26/03/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0105/2002	
25/04/2002	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0194/2002	Summary

30/09/2002	Council position published	09820/1/2002	Summary
11/10/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 2nd reading		
05/11/2002	Vote in committee, 2nd reading		Summary
05/11/2002	Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0368/2002	
20/11/2002	Decision by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0549/2002	Summary
16/12/2002	Final act signed		
16/12/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/12/2002	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2001/0281(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
	Amended by 2003/0304(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 285
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ECON/5/16214

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(2001)0683 OJ C 075 26.03.2002, p. 0274 E	28/11/2001	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0349/2002 OJ C 125 27.05.2002, p. 0017	20/03/2002	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0105/2002	26/03/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T5-0194/2002 OJ C 131 05.06.2003, p. 0015-0068 E	25/04/2002	EP	Summary
Council position	09820/1/2002 OJ C 275 12.11.2002, p. 0001 E	30/09/2002	CSL	Summary
Council statement on its position	12030/2002	30/09/2002	CSL	
Commission communication on Council's position	SEC(2002)1067	08/10/2002	EC	Summary
Committee recommendation tabled for plenary, 2nd reading	A5-0368/2002	05/11/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 2nd reading	T5-0549/2002 OJ C 025 29.01.2004, p. 0026-0186 E	20/11/2002	EP	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2009)0001	13/01/2009	EC	Summary
Follow-up document	SEC(2009)0014	13/01/2009	EC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission

[EUR-Lex](#)

Final act

[Decision 2002/2367](#)

[OJ L 358 31.12.2002, p. 0001-0027](#) Summary

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

PURPOSE : proposal for the establishment of the Community statistical programme for the period 2003-2007. **CONTENT** : this is the sixth successive medium term programme prepared by Eurostat. In fulfilling its mission to provide the Union with a high quality statistical information service, the European Statistical System (ESS) has to meet three specific challenges: 1) the needs of Community Policies as users of Community statistics. The ESS faces growing difficulties in meeting the statistical information needed to monitor the ever-increasing policy requirements of the Community. The growing emphasis on satisfying the "user need" in terms of policies is of paramount importance and specific strategies have been developed to meet these needs. 2) enhancing the quality of data by improving the partnership between Eurostat and its partners in the ESS particularly in view of the enlargement of the Union. Timeliness and quality problems risk being exacerbated in the face of enlargement. The development of appropriate mechanisms is required in order to obtain the necessary data within the enlarged ESS. Eurostat has created a complementary network known as the Committee on Monetary, financial and Balance of Payment statistics (CMFB) with the essential aim to meet the requirements for monetary union and the ECB. 3) fixing priorities and allocating resources within a framework of constant or diminishing resources. The operational resource requirements for Eurostat deriving from the Community Statistical Programme during the period 2003-2007 are estimated at EUR 192.5 million. In the light of programme priorities Eurostat will redeploy its operational and human resources to respect the priority actions in the Statistical Programme. The main axes for redeployment are: - to improve the statistics required for the Euro-zone as indicated by ECOFIN. - to develop further the structural indicators necessary to implement the European Council provisions initiated in Lisbon. - to provide support for the candidate countries with the support of the Community PHARE budget. - to consolidate the resources for the Social Indicators in response to the needs identified by the European Councils so far as possible within budgetary appropriations. - to ensure across the programme that the resources for work linked to the objectives in the area of sustainable development policy, as agreed by the Gothenburg European Council, are given priority. The document attached to the proposal describes the statistical requirements judged as necessary for all of the policy Titles of the Treaty and presents the main impacts of community policies on each of these Titles. ?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

The committee adopted the report by Astrid LULLING (EPP-ED, L) broadly approving the proposal under the codecision procedure (1st reading), subject to a few amendments. In particular, it wanted to introduce the principle that there should be a breakdown of data by gender in certain areas covered by various Community policies. The committee also felt that the proposed level of funding for the programme (EUR 192.5 million for the period 2003 to 2007) was insufficient and called for it to be increased to EUR 222.377 million for the period running from 2003 to 2006.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

The European Parliament adopted the report by Mrs Astrid LULLING (EPP-ED, L). (Please refer to the summary dated 26/03/02). Parliament also points out that during the programme, improvements in data-gathering and processing in respect of international mobility in higher education and research will play a particularly important role. Therefore, the first task is to harmonise the basic definitions and the most important indicators.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

The Council's common position closely follows the Commission's proposal and the European Parliament's amendments except for the amendment which aims to increase the budget for the programme from EUR 192.5 million over 5 years to EUR 222.377 over the four years 2003-2006. New Recitals have been added, to incorporate the European Parliament's amendments on the comparability and high quality of statistics and the need for a gender breakdown of data in certain areas. The common position states that EUR 41 773 000 shall be for 2007 and the amount of EUR 41 773 000 shall be deemed to be confirmed if it is consistent with the financial perspective in force for the period commencing in 2007. In the introductory section of Annex 1, the Council has introduced a reference to the need for cost-effectiveness in implementation and also a reference to the consultation of Member States through the Statistical Programme Committee. The Council has also revised the wording of the element related to structural indicators, so as better to reflect the scope of the mandates given by the European Council and to place the appropriate emphasis on open coordination. A paragraph has been introduced that describes the need for ongoing review of the necessity of existing statistics as part of the programming of statistical priorities. In addition, in Title II of Annex 1, under Forestry, the Council has introduced a general reference to the need to develop better quality forestry statistics, rather than the narrow focus on the specific criteria and indicators described. In Title VIII of Annex 1, the Council has removed the reference to the specific variables covered by the continuous labour force survey, since these are set out in the relevant Regulation. A reference to care and childcare facilities has nonetheless been introduced in Title XI of the Annex. The Council has also introduced in Title VIII a reference to "studies on" the

implementation of a Community job vacancy survey, while deleting the bullet point relating to implementation of a Regulation on the survey, since the Commission has decided not to introduce a legislative proposal in this area for the time being. In title XI of Annex 1, the Council has introduced the European Parliament's fifth amendment on improving data-gathering and processing, as well as introducing a reference to providing information on care and childcare facilities. In Title XIII of Annex 1, the Council has introduced an amendment requiring a breakdown of data by level of income only where this information is available, so as to avoid a disproportionate cost in those Member States where this data is not available.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

The changes introduced in the common position are mainly in the nature of technical clarifications and thus do not pose any particular problem for the Commission. As regards the operational budget, the Commission rejected the first amendment drafted by the Parliament concerning the extension of the 2003 to 2007 programme beyond the current financial perspectives. The replacement text included in the Common Position of the Council is acceptable to the Commission. The Council did not accept the second part of the amendment concerning an increase in the Operational Budget for the Programme. The Commission agrees with that. The Commission can therefore accept the common position.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

The committee adopted the report by Astrid LULLING (EPP-ED, L) approving the common position without amendment under the second reading of the codecision procedure.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Astrid LULLING (EPP-ED, Luxembourg) and approved the common position.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

PURPOSE : to establish a Community statistical programme for the period 2003-2007. **COMMUNITY MEASURE :** Decision 2367/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council. **CONTENT :** this Decision establishes a Community statistical programme for the period 2003-2007. Taking account of the available resources of the national authorities and the Commission, this programme shall be guided by the principal Community policy priorities of: - economic and monetary union, - European Union enlargement, - competitiveness, sustainable development and the social agenda. The programme shall also ensure the continuation of existing statistical support for decisions in current policy areas and the additional requirements arising from new Community policy initiatives. It shall take account of the need for ongoing review of statistical priorities and of the necessity of the statistics produced, with a view to making best use of available resources and minimising response burdens. Furthermore, the Commission shall ensure comparable and high quality statistics. The financial framework for the implementation of this programme for the period 2003 to 2007 is hereby set at EUR 192 500 000. EUR 150 727 000 shall be for the period 2003 to 2006. EUR 41 773 000 shall be for 2007. The amount of EUR 41773000 shall be deemed to be confirmed if it is consistent with the financial perspective in force for the period commencing in 2007. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial perspectives. It should be noted that during the third year of implementation of the programme, the Commission shall prepare an intermediate report showing its stage of development and present it to the Statistical Programme Committee. At the end of the period covered by the programme, the Commission, after consulting the Statistical Programme Committee, shall present an appropriate evaluation report on the implementation of the programme, taking into account the views of independent experts. That report is to be completed by the end of 2008 and subsequently submitted to the European Parliament and the Council. **ENTRY INTO FORCE :** 01/01/2003.?

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

This Commission staff working document contains the executive summary of the evaluation report on the Community statistical programme (CSP) 2003-2007 which was conducted over a period of 13 months, starting in October 2007. In March 2008, an interim evaluation report was submitted which presented facts and factual trends, but no evaluative conclusions. In the ensuing period, more qualitative information was gathered and processed. This whole process resulted in an evaluation report, of which this document is the executive summary.

The summary provides an overview of the main findings in relation to: (i) the relevance of the programme; (ii) progress of activities; (iii) user satisfaction and user needs; (iv) development of the European Statistical System (ESS) and subsidiarity; (v) staff and internal productivity; (vi) dialogue and interaction between users and partners; (vii) quality of products and services; and (viii) monitoring of implementation.

The evaluation also gives rise to the following main recommendations:

- Link: in order to improve the transparency of Eurostat's activities, and to ensure that the 5-year programme provides the necessary reference framework within which the various Eurostat units have to draw up the annual programmes, these annual programmes should refer explicitly to the 5-year programme. This explicit reference can be achieved by devising a hierarchy of objectives, i.e. by linking the key operational priorities from the annual programmes to the strategic objectives and titles in the 5-year programme. Moreover, the annual programmes should be used as a way to adapt to new developments in society which the 5-year programmes cannot anticipate and to cope with the resulting new statistical demands. The reasons for deviating from the 5-year programme should be clarified in explicit terms.
- Monitoring: overall monitoring of the 5-year programme can be achieved by establishing a closer link between the 5-year programme and the annual programmes, and subsequently by choosing/defining a few key indicators that provide information leading to the

achievement of both the operational and the strategic objectives. A better streamlining of lower level monitoring initiatives can be achieved by defining clearer links and greater uniformity between the different operational parts of the organisation.

- ESS - balancing demand and resources: the report notes an increase in the demand for statistics from the Directorates-General (DGs). Despite all the efforts made to ensure efficiency and effectiveness on the providers' side, there is a limit to the possibilities on the supply side, where the situation is one of growing or increasingly sophisticated and complicated demand. This situation calls for either an increase in resources for the producers or a strategic rethink of demand - and probably aspects of both. There are a number of channels to guide a strategic rethinking of demand, including priority setting, simplification and burden reduction for existing demands and ex ante impact assessments for new demands.
- Trust: the DGs' confidence in Eurostat's ability to defend their needs vis-à-vis the National Statistics Institutes (NSIs), and - equally - the trust that the NSIs place in Eurostat to defend their aspirations vis-à-vis the DGs, must be intensively nurtured in the light of their common interest in quality statistics;
- Enlargement: investment in the integration of the new NSIs should be continued so as to ensure that the statistics from new Member States are complete and available to users in the (website) databases;
- Quality: the approach and methods used to measure quality should be more similar for all parts of Eurostat, and should be used throughout the entire Eurostat organisation. The development of a clear and coherent quality monitoring framework would be an appropriate next step.

Community statistics: 2003-2007 programme

Decision No 2367/2002/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Community statistical programme 2003 to 2007 (CSP) was adopted on 16 December 2002. The programme was to be guided by the principal Community policy priorities of economic and monetary union, European Union enlargement and competitiveness, sustainable development and the social agenda. It was structured around the objectives of Eurostat's mission statement, of high-quality statistics for all EU-policy purposes and of the efficient use of resources and budgetary implementation.

This document constitutes the required evaluation report on the implementation of the programme. It is based on the mid-term evaluation prepared by Eurostat in 2006 and on a report provided by an external evaluation company as required in Article 4 of the CSP.

The report presents the main findings concerning the achievements of the objectives stated in the programme. The Commission points out that almost all the objectives were accomplished. It emphasises the demonstrated ability of the European Statistical System (ESS) to ensure that new and emerging policy needs were underpinned with additional statistical information. Furthermore, a multiannual programme on the modernisation of European Enterprise and Trade statistics was prepared. This progress was possible due to intensive work on issuing new or revising legislation and by developing and implementing new methodologies and tools. A relatively large number of activities concentrated on quality assurance and on the development of the ESS as well as the development and implementation of the Code of Practice, the opening of free access to all Eurostat statistical data on its web-site and actions linked to better priority setting and reducing the response burden.

In this context, the following recommendations were drawn up by the independent experts during the evaluation of this CSP:

Improve the link between the CSP and annual work programmes: the CSP is designed to be a framework programme formulating a strategic vision for five years and ensuring, together with the annual work programmes, the CSP's flexibility and relevance over the entire period. In using the CSP as a reference, the annual work programmes should make explicit mention of and be based on the respective CSP. Key objectives included in the CSP should be reflected in corresponding hierarchical objectives in the annual programmes. This will make it possible to use the full potential of both kinds of programme and ensure better monitoring of the strategic objectives.

Improve the monitoring of CSP implementation: a number of monitoring instruments already exist in Eurostat, such as monitoring of data quality, the website, compliance with legal acts, user satisfaction surveys and staff opinion surveys. However, these instruments are not part of an integrated system yet and, moreover; there is no monitoring of the CSP in terms of objectives. Overall monitoring of the CSP should be implemented by defining a key set of indicators that provide sufficient information on the achievement of operational and strategic objectives over the programme period. Monitoring activities in place should be streamlined and integrated into a system of monitoring.

Balance demand and resources: Eurostat has the task of being the intermediary between the main users at the European level (mainly other Commission services) and NSIs and other providers of national information. Together with those, many instruments were put in place to increase the efficiency of working together. The demand for frequent and detailed data expressed by users will increase in the future because of the launch of new policies and the monitoring needs for implementation and evaluation of ongoing policies. However, there is a limit to using further productivity gains in the ESS to continuously fulfil the increasing demand for sophisticated and complex data. This situation requires strategic reflection regarding demand, combined with modernisation of production systems and further harmonisation of processes and possibly an increase in (human and financial) resources throughout the ESS. Efforts should be deployed to address this ESS-wide challenge by improving priority-setting, simplifying legislation, evaluating the impacts of new demand beforehand and reviewing resource needs.

Further enhance trust and partnership in the ESS: trust and partnership between the different stakeholders is crucial for the well functioning of the ESS. Eurostat as the intermediary between the NSIs and the Commission services is faced with sometimes opposing interests from the different actors in the system. Several bodies and institutionalised instruments exist to stimulate dialogue among all actors and thus create trust and foster partnership. This trust and partnership form the cornerstone of the system and Eurostat should continue to reinforce them in the future.