


Procedure file

Basic information		
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	2002/2074(COS)	Procedure completed
Sustainable development: towards a global partnership		
Subject 5.05 Economic growth		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	DEVE Development and Cooperation		17/04/2002
		V/ALE LANNOYE Paul A.A.J.G.	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		27/03/2002
		V/ALE LUCAS Caroline	
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2416	11/03/2002
European Commission	Commission DG Secretariat-General	Commissioner	

Key events			
13/02/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2002)0082	Summary
11/03/2002	Debate in Council	2416	
11/04/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
18/04/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
18/04/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0142/2002	
16/05/2002	Debate in Parliament		

16/05/2002	Decision by Parliament	T5-0251/2002	Summary
16/05/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/07/2003	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2002/2074(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	DEVE/5/16125

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document	COM(2002)0082	13/02/2002	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A5-0142/2002	18/04/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T5-0251/2002 OJ C 180 31.07.2003, p. 0405-0517 E	16/05/2002	EP	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0692/2002 OJ C 221 17.09.2002, p. 0087	29/05/2002	ESC	
Non-legislative basic document	COM(2005)0037	09/02/2005	EC	Summary

Sustainable development: towards a global partnership

PURPOSE: to present an EU initiative in the field of sustainable development within a global context. **CONTENT:** the Goteborg European Council requested the Commission to consider the Union's contribution to global sustainable development and identify strategic components for a "Global Deal" at the Johannesburg World Summit on Sustainable Development in 2002. Despite a number of initiatives in sustainable development since the 1992 Rio Conference, overall progress in this field remains slow. Whilst many developing countries have improved on their export and production capacity inequality between and within countries is on the increase. For example, in 1960, the income of the richest fifth of the world's population was 30 times larger than that of the poorest fifth: today it is 90 times higher. In addition to these figures, many natural resources, such as water, land and soil, biodiversity, forests and fish stock are being exploited at or beyond their limits, causing serious damage to the environment. In view of the above, the Paper suggests that to make globalisation more sustainable there is a need for a better balance between global market forces on the one hand and global governance on the other. Certainly, enhancing good governance throughout the developing and the developed world and at a global level appears to be an urgent priority. The Communication sets out what the EU contribution could be towards sustainable development, not just internally, but within the external field as well. It does so by considering the following points: 1) The need to address the phenomenon of globalisation. This to be achieved by prioritising the following actions: - Ensure that developing countries are integrated into the world economy; - Provide incentives for environmentally and socially sustainable production and trade; - Strengthen the international financial and monetary architecture through the promotion of better and more transparent forms of financial market regulation. 2) Fighting poverty and promoting social development. Under this heading the Communication proposes prioritising the following objectives: - Enhancing the quantity, quality, impact and sustainability of development co-operation through actions such as raising the level of investment in health in conjunction with other donor organisations. 3) The sustainable development of natural resources. Priority objectives listed here seek: - To arrest the loss of environmental resources by 2015; - To develop sectoral and intermediate objectives in sectors such as water, land and soil, energy and biodiversity. It proposes doing so through actions which include, for example, the launching in Johannesburg of an integrated river basin management initiative. 4) Improving the coherence of EU policies. Within this context the Commission proposes the following priority objectives: - Ensure that sustainable development is taken into account when preparing major policy proposals; - Adoption of policies such as energy and transport to take account of sustainable development within the global context. Action in this field would include, inter alia, a strengthening of internal co-operation and co-ordination. 5) Better governance at all levels. Under this heading the Communication proposes that good governance at all levels should be maintained with external countries. This would be achieved through actions such as increased support for institution building and the fostering of civil society. 6) Financing sustainable development. Priority should be given to: - Reaching the UN target of 0.7% of GNI in Official Development Assistance; - Ensuring that the debt burden on developing countries is reduced in a consistent and effective manner; - Identifying effective means of delivering global public goods; and lastly - Stimulating a further increase in foreign private investment in developing countries. Concretely, this could be done through actions such as urging developed countries to make 0.7% of GNP as ODA.?

Sustainable development: towards a global partnership

The committee adopted the report by Paul LANNOYE (Greens/EFA, B) on the Commission communication ahead of the world summit on sustainable development (WSSD) to be held in Johannesburg in September 2002. With a view to achieving the "Millenium Goal" of reducing poverty by half by 2015, the committee called on Member States to increase their development aid, first of all, to an EU average of 0.39% of GDP and then to 0.7% by 2010. It also urged them to agree on an immediate moratorium on debt servicing for all countries belonging to the group of HIPC's and/or LDC's and to waive all remaining bilateral debts for those countries. MEPs further suggested that the EU should propose the introduction of a currency transaction tax to the Johannesburg Summit. The report deplored the fact that GDP growth was still viewed as the single most important indicator of progress in society and urged the Commission to work for an agreement in Johannesburg to complement present-day national accounting with indicators that reflect social and environmental aspects of development. It welcomed the decision to introduce Sustainability Impact Assessments (SIAs) for all major Community policy initiatives and called for SIAs to be a pre-condition for all EU trade agreements and programmes. It also called for a halt to pressure on developing countries to open their markets to foodstuffs imported from the EU where there would be an adverse effect for small producers or food safety. In order to conserve natural resources the committee called for the Summit to develop specific initiatives based on the work undertaken at Rio in areas such as the oceans and seas, coastal zones, mountains, tropical forests, desertification, waste and air pollution and also demanded a new partnership with third countries on fisheries agreements. Moreover, the EU was urged to take the lead in examining the possibility of setting a target of 25% of all energy supplies to be from renewable sources by 2020. Lastly, the committee called for the establishment by 2004 of a legal framework governing the economic, social and environmental responsibilities of EU private corporations which would require private investors to comply with national and international labour and environmental standards. ?

Sustainable development: towards a global partnership

The European Parliament has adopted the report by Mr Paul Lannoye (Verts/ALE, B) by a majority of 316 votes to 5, with 8 abstentions, in the form in which it was adopted by the lead committee (see previous summary). ?