


Procedure file

Basic information	
COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	2003/0086(COD) Procedure completed
Trans-European networks: eTen telecommunications programme, Community funding ceiling	
Amending Regulation (EC) No 2236/95	1994/0065(SYN)
Subject	3.30.20 Trans-European communications networks

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		19/06/2003
		PSE READ Imelda Mary	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		22/05/2003
		UEN TURCHI Franz	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	2665	06/06/2005
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Communications Networks, Content and Technology		

Key events			
29/04/2003	Legislative proposal published	COM(2003)0220	Summary
15/05/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
04/11/2003	Vote in committee, 1st reading		Summary
04/11/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0374/2003	
17/11/2003	Debate in Parliament		
18/11/2003	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0493/2003	Summary
06/06/2005	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
06/07/2005	Final act signed		

06/07/2005	End of procedure in Parliament		
22/07/2005	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/0086(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation (EC) No 2236/95 1994/0065(SYN)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 156
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ITRE/5/19503

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2003)0220	29/04/2003	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0924/2003	16/07/2003	ESC	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0948/2003 OJ C 234 30.09.2003, p. 0023-0024	16/07/2003	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0374/2003	04/11/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0493/2003 OJ C 087 07.04.2004, p. 0022-0045 E	18/11/2003	EP	Summary
Draft final act		03615/1/2005	06/07/2005	CSL	
Follow-up document		COM(2008)0334	03/06/2008	EC	Summary

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 2005/1159 OJ L 191 22.07.2005, p. 0016-0017 Summary

Trans-European networks: eTen telecommunications programme, Community funding ceiling

PURPOSE : to revise the TENs financial regulation to increase the maximum level of Community aid to projects in the telecommunications sector. **CONTENT** : to recall, eTEN is one of the Trans-European Networks, enshrined in the EC Treaty with an objective to enable the citizens of the Union, economic operators and regional and local communities to derive the full benefit of the internal market. All TEN programmes are subject to full respect of competition rules in order to avoid all market distortions susceptible of being caused by the contributions. eTEN has been re-oriented to become a key implementing tool for eEurope 2005: its main focus will therefore be the practical realisation of eEurope general interest services objectives. This global reorientation towards eEurope 2005 and the specific need to ensure that funds contribute to meeting objectives find practical expression in this proposal by the Commission to raise the funding ceiling for projects from 10% to 30%. Given the key role that eTEN must play if eEurope 2005 objectives are to be achieved, it is imperative that the lead that has been given in other policy areas towards more focused and results oriented programs be followed in re-orienting the eTEN program. Closely intertwined with focus and results is the need to achieve "critical mass" both in terms of attracting the proper profile of project participants (and particular the "service deployers") but also the correct size of project to ensure genuine market impact potential. The re-orientation that has taken place in

terms of actual program content must now be complimented with an impact oriented overhaul of the financing structure. This overhaul will result in: - no change to the overall eTEN financial envelope; - The financing of fewer, more highly visible, better focused, higher impact projects that are selected for their real market potential.?

Trans-European networks: eTen telecommunications programme, Community funding ceiling

The committee adopted the report by Imelda READ (PES, UK) approving the proposal unamended under the 1st reading of the codecision procedure.?

Trans-European networks: eTen telecommunications programme, Community funding ceiling

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Mel READ (PES, United Kingdom) and approved the Commission's proposal.?

Trans-European networks: eTen telecommunications programme, Community funding ceiling

PURPOSE : to lay down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Regulation 1159/2005/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation 2236/95/EC laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks.

CONTENT : the Council adopted this Regulation amending Council Regulation 2236/95/EC laying down general rules for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European networks.

The present Regulation raises the ceiling for Community financing of projects in the trans-European telecommunications sector to 30% of the total investment cost. Regulation 2236/95 limits the maximum contribution to projects in the area of telecommunications to 10% of the total investment cost. Since the cost of a preparatory study for a service in the telecommunications sector represents a high proportion of the total investment required to roll out the service, that percentage is not enough to stimulate the deployment of services which make the greatest contribution to the development of the information society.

Moreover, Community aid should be granted in preference to projects which aim to stimulate the deployment of services and thus make the greatest contribution to the development of the information society. It is necessary therefore to increase the maximum contribution in proportion to the actual costs arising from the trans-European nature of a service. An increase in the Community contribution should, however, be applied only to services of public interest which must overcome the barriers of language, culture, legislation and administration.

ENTRY INTO FORCE : 11/08/2005.

Trans-European networks: eTen telecommunications programme, Community funding ceiling

This Communication provides a final evaluation of the eTEN Programme covering the period from re-orientation in 2002 until programme end in December 2006 in response to the requirement expressed in Article 19 of the Financial Regulation covering the programme.

eTEN evolved from the TENs initiative whose objectives were to provide Trans-European networks in the areas of transport, telecommunications and energy. The programme was implemented through cost-shared projects selected on the basis of public calls for proposals. A total of 149 cost shared projects were established following public calls for proposals with a total funding of just over EUR 160 million. Projects from the 2003 and 2004 programmes have been completed but those from 2005 and 2006 are still ongoing. All projects are expected to complete by the end of 2009.

This evaluation was carried out in 2007 by a team of professional evaluators from a company, which was contracted for that purpose. The evaluation assessed the following issues: relevance of the programme's objectives, priorities and means of implementation, the effectiveness and impact of the programme, its efficiency and cost effectiveness, its utility and sustainability, and causal links from resources used through to activities and presumed impacts (the intervention logic).

The Commission welcomes the evaluation report and its findings confirming both the effectiveness of the programme management and the utility of the programme. Contrary to what the conclusions state, the Commission agrees that the potential for synergy between the eTEN programme and the European Cohesion Fund might have been better exploited.

It considers that this is a very positive report confirming both the effectiveness of the programme management and the utility of the programme.

Immediate impacts are the involvement of stakeholders from New Member States, SMEs and public bodies favouring the further deployment and uptake of project outputs at a pan-European level and the competitive health of markets for these and related services. Based on the results so far the programme may thus reasonably be expected to produce strong overall impacts by stimulating new areas of activity and demonstrating the ways in which ICTs may contribute to effective policy relating to innovation and the Lisbon Agenda and i2010 objectives. The results provide evidence that the follow on programme, the Policy Support Programme of the CIP, can be expected to build effectively on the results of eTEN. Work will continue into 2009 by both the evaluators and the Commission to determine the impact of projects from later years of the eTEN Programme. The Commission will report on this work in the midterm evaluation of the Policy Support Programme of the CIP.

The Commission also recognises some weaknesses identified by the professional evaluators, notably on the time from closure of call to contract award and long project time-scales. It notes that these weaknesses have however had a minor effect on the overall programme implementation: The Commission has already initiated new services which will reduce such delays in the future.

The Commission welcomes the positive assessment of the programme design; the efficiency of the programme management; and the programme's potential to deliver sustainable results, generate positive impacts and add real value by mobilising all of the functions necessary to successful ICT deployment and catalysing structural changes. The results provide also evidence that the Policy Support Programme of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP) can be expected to build on the results of eTEN.