Procedure file

Basic information

CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	2005/0029(CNS)	Procedure completed
Protection of the euro against counterfeiting, PERICLES action programme: extension Amending Decision 2001/923/EC 2001/0105(CNS) Repealed by 2011/0449(COD) Subject 5.20.02 Single currency, euro, euro area 7.30.30.10 Action against counterfeiting		

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	PPE-DE DÍAZ DE MERA GARCÍA CONSUEGRA Agustín	10/05/2005
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ECON Economic and Monetary Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2705	30/01/2006
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)		

Key events

06/04/2005	Legislative proposal published	COM(2005)0127	Summary
10/05/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
26/09/2005	Vote in committee		Summary
28/09/2005	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0274/2005	
13/10/2005	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/10/2005	Decision by Parliament	T6-0372/2005	Summary
30/01/2006	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

30/01/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		
08/02/2006	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2005/0029(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
	Amending Decision 2001/923/EC 2001/0105(CNS) Repealed by 2011/0449(COD)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 123-p4
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	LIBE/6/27760

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(2005)0127	06/04/2005	EC	Summary
European Central Bank: opinion, guideline, report		CON/2005/0022 OJ C 161 01.07.2005, p. 0011-0012	21/06/2005	ECB	Summary
Amendments tabled in committee		PE362.711	19/09/2005	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0274/2005	28/09/2005	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0372/2005 OJ C 233 28.09.2006, p. 0015-0084 E	13/10/2005	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2005)4593	24/11/2005	EC	

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act

Decision 2006/75
OJ L 036 08.02.2006, p. 0040-0041 Summary

Protection of the euro against counterfeiting, PERICLES action programme: extension

PURPOSE : to extend the Pericles programme until 31.12.2011 and to make some amendments to the programme.

PROPOSED ACT : Council Decision.

CONTENT : In line with Article 13 of the Council Decision establishing an exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting (the ?Pericles? programme) and based on the Pericles evaluation report of 30 November 2004, it is proposed that the Council Decision be extended and amended.

The proposed period is for extension is six years and the reference amount unchanged at one million euro per year.

The need for extension is based on the following factors:

-the need to cover new entries in the euro area. Current prospects are that some of the recent entrants to the EU would join the euro area in

the year 2010. The programme should last at least a year after the last wave of euro entry;

- the need to have a stable framework for training/information exchange and technical assistance. Member States normally have a national training programme designed for the ground-level staff, which is completed by a European level training, under Pericles. The need to efficiently manage both levels requires a sufficiently long medium-term European framework.

Adaptations proposed:

-it is proposed to modify Articles 10 and 11 by replacing the reference to 70% with 80%.Practice has shown that Member States encounter organisational difficulties in coping with the national contribution of 30%, particularly the ones with more limited financing possibilities. This has meant that a number of actions that were considered to be useful were not carried out or were carried out as a Commission initiative;

-the introduction of flexibility in the limitation of one country-one seminar-type project (Article 12). The provision that Member States may present no more than one seminar-type project a year has introduced an asymmetry in the implementation of the programme, to the extent that the training and cooperation needs and the equivalent possibilities vary among countries. Typically, larger countries, due to the need to train larger number of staff, devote ampler financial and other means for training and conferences including under Pericles. This has meant, under the current Pericles programme, that countries wishing to carry out more than one project per year have had to artificially group the actions in one project, which complicated the assessment and the implementation of the action. The alleviation of that restriction means that, in the event more than one project is submitted

by one country, then coordination would need to be ensured by the competent national authority in that Member State.

-the option of financing administrative expenditure related to cross-border investigations (Article 3(3)). The current Pericles programme does not explicitly provide for financing of administrative support related to cross-border investigations. This financing refers to practices necessary for police investigations (information rewards etc) or actions such as hiring cars, renting of equipment, travel and subsistence of police or other agents etc. Until now, it has been of modest amounts (below 50 000 euro) and is currently provided by the ECB concerning counterfeit euro banknotes.

It is therefore proposed to add the possibility of co-financing, subject to prior assessment by Europol, administrative support to cross-border investigations, when not covered by financing from other European institutions. Financing under that heading should give priority to actions outside the euro area and not exceed EUR 100 000 annually.

It should be noted that there is a parallel proposal for a decision aiming to extend the benefits of this programme to Member States who are not part of the euro zone (please see CNS20050030.)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS : Please see the parallel proposal mentioned above.

Budget lines : 24 02 02 Pericles

Duration of the action and of the financial impact: From 1 January 2006 until 31 December 2011

Total commitment and payment appropriations: EUR 6 million over the duration of the programme.

Human resources not included in the financial reference amount : total EUR 1,782 million

Other administrative costs not included in the reference amount : EUR 0,540 million

Detail of resources :

-Action 1(subsidies to Member States for seminars, exchanges of personnel and studies) : EUR 4,8 million over 6 years;

-Action 2 (costs borne by the Commission for seminars etc): EUR 1,2 million EUR over 6 ans.

Protection of the euro against counterfeiting, PERICLES action programme: extension

The committee adopted the report by Augustín DÍAZ de MERA GARCÍA CONSUEGRA (EPP-ED, ES) broadly approving the proposal under the consultation procedure, subject to a number of amendments:

- the programme should be extended up until December 2013, rather than December 2011 as proposed by the Commission, so that it can be adapted to take account of the financial perspective for 2007-2013, thereby enabling the future requirements of Member States that adopt the euro as their single currency to be addressed;

- the budget should therefore be increased to take account of this extension of the programme from 6 to 8 years. MEPs also called for a further 10% increase to take account of the expansion of the geographical area of the programme to include those countries which will shortly accede to the Customs Union and the countries bordering the EU. The committee therefore proposed that the budget should be EUR 8.8 million (i.e. EUR 1.1 million per year) for the period from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2013;

- financing decisions must be subject to financial control by the Commission and to audits by the Court of Auditors;

- cofinancing should be 70% rather than 80% as originally proposed, but this could be increased to 90% in exceptional circumstances;

- the suitability of projects should be cross-checked against the relevant policy priorities and work already being carried out or planned;

- to improve scrutiny and transparency, a Pericles advisory committee should be set up and an annual progress report on the programme should be sent to Parliament and Council. Moreover, assessments should be made at mid-term and on completion of the programme.

Protection of the euro against counterfeiting, PERICLES action programme: extension

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Augustín **DÍAZ de MERA GARCÍA CONSUEGRA** (EPP-ED, ES) and made a few amendments to the proposal. (Please see the summary of 26/09/2005.).

Protection of the euro against counterfeiting, PERICLES action programme: extension

PURPOSE : to extend the Pericles programme until 31.12.2006 and to make some amendments to the programme.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Decision 2006/75/EC amending and extending Decision 2001/923/EC establishing an exchange, assistance and training programme for the protection of the euro against counterfeiting (the ?Pericles? programme)

CONTENT : the Council adopted this decision amending and extending the "Pericles" programme until the end of 2006. Pericles has been running since 2002 and was designed to support and supplement the measures undertaken by the member states and in existing programmes to protect the euro against counterfeiting. Such measures include information exchange (seminars, workshops, meetings and conferences), placements and exchanges of staff, as well as technical, scientific and operational back-up.

The decision is aimed at enhancing efficiency of the programme by:

- increasing the maximum proportion of Community financing to 80% (instead of 70%);
- providing flexibility in the number of projects that one member state may present, and
- providing financial support for cooperation in cross-border operations, with the involvement of Europol.

A budget of EUR 1 million is allocated for implementation during 2006.

The Council considers that Pericles has a multi-annual nature and that it should be extended to 2011. To this effect, it invites the Commission to present a proposal for extending the programme for the period starting from 2007 as soon as an agreement on the future financial framework 2007-2013 has been reached.

It should be noted that there is a parallel decision (Council Decision 2006/76/EC) aiming to extend the benefits of this programme to Member States who are not part of the euro zone (please see CNS/2005/0030.)

DATE OF EFFECT: 08/02/2006.

DATE OF APPLICATION : from 01/01/2006.