


# Procedure file

Basic information		
INL - Legislative initiative procedure	1994/2195(INL)	Procedure completed
General Community strategy for the forestry sector		
Subject 3.10.11 Forestry policy		
Geographical area Greece		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development		14/11/1995
		PSE <a href="#">THOMAS David Edward</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		21/02/1995
		ARE <a href="#">DELL'ALBA Gianfranco</a>	
	<b>ECON</b> Economic and Monetary Affairs, Industrial Policy		20/05/1996
Council of the European Union		PSE <a href="#">RÖNNHOLM Mikko</a>	
	<b>JURI</b> Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection		02/12/1994
		FE <a href="#">VICECONTE Guido</a>	
	<b>REGL</b> Rules of Procedure, Verification of Credentials and Immunities		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Environment</a>	<a href="#">2062</a>	16/12/1997

Key events			
03/10/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	<a href="#">B4-0051/1994</a>	
17/02/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/12/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
17/12/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	<a href="#">A4-0414/1996</a>	
16/01/1997	Debate in Parliament		Summary
30/01/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0026/1997	Summary

30/01/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
24/02/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

### Technical information

Procedure reference	1994/2195(INL)
Procedure type	INL - Legislative initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Request for legislative proposal
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 47
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/06206

### Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document		<a href="#">B4-0051/1994</a>	03/10/1994	EP	
Document attached to the procedure		<a href="#">B4-0186/1994</a>	07/10/1994	EP	
Document attached to the procedure		<a href="#">B4-0462/1994</a>	22/12/1994	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		<a href="#">A4-0414/1996</a> <a href="#">OJ C 033 03.02.1997, p. 0022</a>	17/12/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0026/1997 <a href="#">OJ C 055 24.02.1997, p. 0012-0022</a>	30/01/1997	EP	Summary

## General Community strategy for the forestry sector

After long and difficult consultations to reconcile different points of view (mainly between the countries in the north and the countries in the south of the EU), the committee unanimously adopted the revised proposal for a resolution by Mr THOMAS (PSE, UK) on forest strategy. The rapporteur stressed that forests are one of the most important renewable resources in Europe, provided that they are well managed. This was why the EU forest strategy needed to reconcile commercial use with recognition of the diversity and multi-functionality of forests in order to guarantee their ecological, economic and social durability in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity. The committee called on the European Commission to propose instruments and adequate means at Community, national and regional level to develop actions to protect, use, exploit and extend forest resources. The European Commission was called on to ensure that Community directives on the protection of forests were applied. As far as the fight against forest fires was concerned, budgetary allocations needed to be adapted to actual requirements and forest owners needed to be offered suitable technical assistance in order to guarantee economically viable and sustainable management and encourage wood-based industries at European level. Finally, the European Commission was called upon, inter alia, to: - set up a forest information and communication system (EFICS) in order to draw up an inventory of European forests by country and by region; - promote research into forest ecosystems; - adapt the use of forests and wood products to market requirements and, at the same time, highlight the value of forests in the fields of tourism, health and the water supply cycle; - present an efficient action plan to combat ecological and social dumping when wood is imported into the EU.?

## General Community strategy for the forestry sector

The vote on the report on this legislative initiative (Article 138B of the EC Treaty) was adjourned and will take place during the plenary session on 29 and 30 January 1997.

## General Community strategy for the forestry sector

The European Parliament adopted the report by Mr David THOMAS (PSE, UK) on the EU forest strategy by 315 votes to 23 with 20 abstentions and rejected all the proposed amendments. The European Parliament called on the Commission to present a legislative proposal on a European forest strategy on the basis of Articles 43, 130S et 235 of the EC Treaty within two years. Forests are one of the most important renewable resources in Europe, provided that they are well managed. This was why the EU forest strategy needed to reconcile commercial use with recognition of the diversity and multi-functionality of forests in order to guarantee their ecological, economic and social durability in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity. The European Parliament called on the European Commission to propose instruments and adequate means at Community, national and regional level to develop actions to protect, use, exploit and extend forest resources. In

particular, it was called on to: - present proposals to combat erosion and desertification, conserve and protect the biological and economic value of the forest heritage and make full use of its role in maintaining rural balances; - ensure that Community directives on the protection of forests were applied; - present proposals with a view to adapting budgetary allocations to the actual requirements of the Member States' overall protection plans in the fight against forest fires. Suitable technical assistance also needed to be offered to forest owners in order to guarantee economically viable and sustainable management and encourage wood-based industries at European level. Finally, the European Commission was called on, inter alia, to: - set up a forest information and communication system (EFICS) in order to draw up an inventory of European forests by country and by region; - promote research into forest ecosystems; - adapt the use of forests and wood products to market requirements and, at the same time, highlight the value of forests in the fields of tourism, health and the water supply cycle; - present an efficient action plan to combat ecological and social dumping when wood is imported into the EU.?