


Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	1994/2105(COS)
Development issues and Objective 1 structural measures in Ireland. Report	
Subject 4.70.03 Community initiatives, Community support frameworks	
Geographical area Ireland	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	REGI Regional Policy		26/07/1994
		RDE COLLINS Gerard	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		
Council of the European Union			

Key events			
13/07/1994	Non-legislative basic document published	31994D0626	Summary
31/01/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
24/09/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
24/09/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary	A4-0284/1996	
13/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0705/1996	Summary
13/12/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
20/01/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1994/2105(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	REGI/4/05855

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		31994D0626 OJ L 250 26.09.1994, p. 0012	13/07/1994	EU	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A4-0284/1996 OJ C 347 18.11.1996, p. 0004	24/09/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T4-0705/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0368-0396	13/12/1996	EP	Summary

Development issues and Objective 1 structural measures in Ireland. Report

In application of the Klepsch/Millan code of conduct agreed on 13 July 1993 on the Structural Funds, the European Parliament was notified of the Community Support Framework (CSF) 1994-1999 for Ireland adopted by the European Commission on 13 July 1994. The main development policies of the CSF are as follows: 1) strengthening the manufacturing sector; 2) improving the economic infrastructure; 3) developing human resources; 4) promoting local urban and rural development. The estimated budget puts the total cost of development policies for joint action by the Community and Ireland at ECU 10,383 million for the entire period and contains the financial statements for action under the Structural Funds and the FIFG (ECU 5,620 million). The national funding required as a result, viz. ECU 2,335 million from the public sector and ECU 2,428 million from the private sector, may be partly covered using Community loans from the EIB and other loan instruments. For example, up to ECU 1,800 million could be borrowed from the EIB. It should also be noted that assistance of between ECU 1,012 and 1,045 million is being provided under the cohesion financial instrument for the 1994-1999 period.?

Development issues and Objective 1 structural measures in Ireland. Report

A report backing further Community structural support for Ireland was unanimously adopted. Noting that the first phase of the support framework (1989-1993) had made a significant contribution to Ireland's development, the report by Mr Gerard COLLINS (UFE, IRL) endorsed the increase in resources for the second phase (1994-1999), which is already under way. It also agreed with the main priorities of the support framework, i.e. strengthening the productive sector and developing human resources. The report stressed the need for measures to combat the current high level of unemployment in Ireland, such as investment in training and education and measures to help women to enter the labour market. To boost Ireland's future economic development, the report called for measures to develop its agriculture, to modernize its fisheries industry and to support the creation of a year-round tourist industry. Finally, the report pointed out that Ireland's GNP would be roughly on par with the Community average by 1999, which means that the country as a whole would no longer be eligible for Objective 1 funds, which are intended for regions whose development is lagging. While Ireland is currently treated as a single region, the report makes clear that some parts of the country will still need Objective 1 funds in 1999. To ensure that such areas are still eligible for this help, the rapporteur suggested that one solution could be to create several regions in Ireland. The report also called for a new approach to defining eligibility for Objective 1 assistance by including unemployment as a priority criterion. ?

Development issues and Objective 1 structural measures in Ireland. Report

In adopting the report by Mr Gerard COLLINS (RDE), Parliament notes that the first stage of the Community support framework (1989-1993) made a significant contribution to the development of Ireland. It therefore approves the increase in resources for the second stage (1994-1999), which has already started, and the main priorities of the second CSF, i.e. the strengthening of the manufacturing sector and the development of human resources. Parliament calls for priority to be given to the fight against long-term unemployment, which is high in Ireland, by increasing the funding earmarked for social infrastructure measures so as to open up new education, training and employment opportunities for women. It also calls for improved take-up of the new options for assisting the disabled. In order to foster the future economic development of Ireland, the EP calls for measures to diversify the farming industry, modernize the fisheries and aquaculture sector and support the establishment of a year-round tourist industry. It emphasizes the vital need to move towards the completion of road, rail, port and airport infrastructures giving priority to environmentally-sound transport systems. Finally, it reiterates its commitment to the implementation of the PEACE programme and stresses the importance of cross-border cooperation between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. The EP also calls for a redefinition of eligibility for Objective 1, making unemployment a priority criterion. ?