

External actions: financing instrument for development cooperation

2009/0060A(COD) - 21/10/2010 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 583 votes to 6, with 19 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 establishing a financing instrument for development cooperation and Regulation (EC) No 1889/2006 on establishing a financing instrument for the promotion of democracy and human rights worldwide.

The Parliament adopted its position at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure (formerly known as the codecision procedure) amending the Commission's proposal as follows:

Splitting of the proposal: the European Commission had proposed an amendment that is identical in both Regulation (EC) No 1905/2006 (DCI Regulation) and Regulation (EC) No 1889/2006 (EIDHR Regulation). Parliament called for the Commission's proposal to be split into two distinct legislative proposals (COD/2009/0060A et [COD/2009/0060B](#)), one for each financial instrument. This is why the plenary proposes a series of amendments that delete references to Regulation (EC) No 1889/2006 in relation to the present proposal.

Delegated acts: following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the European Parliament co-decides with the Council on virtually all legislation. This needs to be reflected in the area of the implementation of external cooperation financial instruments. As a result, strategy documents, annual action programmes, as well as their revisions or extensions, have to be adopted by means of delegated acts, giving the European Parliament a de facto right of veto, permitting it to require that the Commission presents amended proposals. A new comitology procedure has been established for this purpose (Article 35(1), (2) and (3)).

Informing Parliament about actions the cost of which exceeds a certain amount: the plenary asks that where the cost of a measure is equal to or exceeds EUR 10 000 000, the Commission shall adopt it taking into account the opinions of the European Parliament and of the Council. However, for Special Measures costing below EUR 10 000 000, the Commission shall send the measures to the European Parliament and to the Council for information within 10 working days of adopting its decision. Changes are also made with a view to informing Parliament of eventual amendments (and of limited scope) to Special Measures funded under the Regulation. For the allocation of large amounts among beneficiaries of the Regulation (in particular beneficiaries of the Sugar Protocol), the Commission shall take its decision by means of a delegated act.

Follow-up: Parliament asks that the Commission should regularly monitor and review its programmes, and evaluate the results of the implementation of geographical and thematic policies and programmes, and of sectoral policies, as well as the effectiveness of programming, where appropriate by means of independent external evaluations. Proposals by the European Parliament, the national parliaments or the Council for independent external evaluations will be taken into due account. Particular attention shall be given to social sectors and to progress made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

Evaluation: the Commission shall send its evaluation reports to the European Parliament and to the Council for information. The results shall feed back into programme design and resource allocation.

Report: the Commission shall examine the progress made in implementing the measures taken under this Regulation and shall submit to the European Parliament and the Council an annual report on the implementation and the results and, as far as possible, on the main outcomes and impacts of the assistance.