

COMMON POSITION (EC) No 31/95

adopted by the Council on 30 November 1995

with a view to adopting a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on adapting Decision No 1110/94/EC concerning the fourth framework programme of the European Community activities in the field of research and technological development and demonstration (1994 to 1998) following the accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union

(95/C 353/03)

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European
Community and in particular Article 130i (1) and (2)
thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social
Committee ⁽²⁾,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in
Article 189b of the Treaty ⁽³⁾,

Whereas, by Decision No 1110/94/EC ⁽⁴⁾, the European
Parliament and the Council adopted a fourth framework
programme for 1994 to 1998; whereas Article 1 (3) of
that Decision states that the maximum overall amount
for Community financial participation in the fourth
framework programme shall be ECU 11 046 million, and
that, of this, ECU 5 472 million is for the period 1994 to
1996 and ECU 5 574 million is for the period 1997 to
1998;

Whereas Article 130i (2) of the Treaty states that the
framework programme shall be adapted or supplemented
as the situation changes; whereas the accession of the
Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the

Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union makes
financial adjustment necessary because of the resulting
increase in both Community resources devoted to and
expenditure on research and development;

Whereas, under the agreement on the European
Economic Area, the said three States were already
participating in Community research, technological
development and demonstration activities in return for a
financial contribution to the general budget of the
European Communities, where their contributions were
classified as 'additional appropriations' for expenditure in
respect of research and development activities;

Whereas this Decision is limited to the adjustment of the
financial amounts made necessary by the accession of
Austria, Finland and Sweden and does not modify the
technical and scientific objectives, priorities, activities in
the various areas, selection criteria and other provisions
specified in the fourth framework programme;

Whereas, as a result, the maximum overall amount of the
framework programme should be increased and the
additional funds allocated in a linear fashion between the
four activities; whereas the principle of linearity should
also apply in the implementation, in accordance with
Article 130i (3) of the Treaty, of all the activities of the
framework programme;

Whereas Decision No 1110/94/EC and Council Decision
94/268/Euratom of 26 April 1994 concerning a
framework programme of Community activities in the
field of research and training for the European Atomic
Energy Community (1994 to 1998) ⁽⁵⁾ were adopted
simultaneously and for the same period; whereas the
same should apply to the Decisions adapting the two
framework programmes,

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 142, 8. 6. 1995, p. 16.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 256, 2. 10. 1995, p. 12.

⁽³⁾ Opinion of the European Parliament of 12 July 1995 (not yet published in the Official Journal), common position of the Council of . . . (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the European Parliament of . . . (not yet published in the Official Journal).

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No L 126, 18. 5. 1994, p. 1.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No L 115, 6. 5. 1994, p. 31.

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

‘5 574’ shall be replaced by ‘6 315’ and
‘11 641’ shall be replaced by ‘12 359’;

Sole Article

- (2) Annex I shall be replaced by the text appearing in the Annex to this Decision.

Decision No 1110/94/EC is hereby amended as follows:

Done at . . .

- (1) in Article 1 (3):

‘11 046’ shall be replaced by ‘11 764’,
‘5 472’ shall be replaced by ‘5 449’,

For the European Parliament
The President

For the Council
The President

ANNEX

ANNEX I

FOURTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME (1994 to 1998)

AMOUNTS AND BREAKDOWN

	Millions of ecus (current prices)
First activity (Research, technological development and demonstration programmes)	10 045 ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾
Second activity (Cooperation with third countries and international organizations)	575
Third activity (Dissemination and optimization of results)	352 ⁽³⁾ ⁽⁴⁾
Fourth activity (Stimulation of the training and mobility of researchers)	792
Maximum overall amount	11 764 ⁽⁵⁾ ⁽⁶⁾

⁽¹⁾ Of which ECU 639 million for the operational budget of the JRC.

⁽²⁾ Of which ECU 96 million for programmed scientific and technical support activities suited to a competitive approach.

⁽³⁾ Apart from the funds allocated to the third activity, an average of 1% of the total budget of the fourth framework programme will be allocated to dissemination and optimization of results in the framework of the first activity. Close coordination of dissemination and optimization activities carried out under the specific programmes of the first activity with those carried out under the third activity will be ensured.

⁽⁴⁾ Of which ECU 40 million for *ad hoc* scientific and technical support to other Community policies which will be allocated on a competitive basis.

⁽⁵⁾ The amounts of the framework programme for research and training for the European Atomic Energy Community (1994 to 1998) are adjusted along with this programme and raised to a total of ECU 1 336 million, taking the total for Community RTD activity to ECU 13 100 million.

⁽⁶⁾ With the possibility of an increase to ECU 12 359 million, in accordance with Article 1 (3).

Indicative breakdown of the themes and subjects in the first activity	Millions of ecus (current prices)
A. Information and communication technologies	3 626
1. Telematics	898
2. Communication technologies	671
3. Information technologies	2 057
B. Industrial technologies	2 125
4. Industrial and material technologies	1 818
5. Measurements and testing	307
C. Environment	1 150 ⁽¹⁾
6. Environment and climate	907
7. Marine sciences and technologies	243
D. Life sciences and technologies	1 674
8. Biotechnology	588
9. Biomedicine and health	358
10. Agriculture and fisheries (including agro-industries, food technologies, forestry, aquaculture and rural development)	728
E. 11. Non-nuclear energy	1 067
F. 12. Transport	256
G. 13. Targeted socio-economic research	147
	10 045

⁽¹⁾ Environment-related research projects will also be conducted within several other lines of the first activity, in particular in the fields of industrial technologies, energy and transport.

STATEMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S REASONS

I. INTRODUCTION

On 26 April 1995 the Commission forwarded the proposal for a Decision adapting Decision No 1110/94/EC concerning the fourth RTD framework programme following the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden to the European Union ⁽¹⁾.

The above proposal is based on Article 130i, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the EC Treaty and is therefore subject to co-decision in accordance with the procedures of Article 189b.

The European Parliament delivered its opinion on the proposal on 12 July 1995.

The Economic and Social Committee gave its opinion on 5 July 1995.

II. COMMON POSITION OF THE COUNCIL

The Council adopted its common position on the proposal for a decision adapting Decision No 1110/94/EC on 30 November 1995 ⁽²⁾.

In establishing its common position, the Council has been guided by the following considerations:

- (a) the need to ensure continuity of Community research activities and to maintain the global RTD effort in the Community as a whole. In this respect, full account has been taken of the additional requirements resulting from the enlargement of the European Union as well as of the level of contributions to the Community research programmes already paid by the three new Member States under the EEA agreement;
- (b) the need to remain within the limits set by the current financial perspectives (Category 3, 'Internal Policies') as adapted by the inter-institutional trilogue of 29 November 1994 to take account of the accession of the three new Member States to the European Union;
- (c) the need to respect the priorities set by the European Parliament and the Council when adopting the fourth RTD framework programme, thereby limiting the present adaptation to the purely technical adjustments required by the enlarged Union.

Part A of these reasons clarifies the Council's position with respect to the Commission's proposal; Part B sets out the Council's reactions to the amendments proposed by the European Parliament.

A. MAIN ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSED ADAPTATION OF THE FOURTH FRAMEWORK PROGRAMME

1. *Overall amount*

Taking into account the abovementioned considerations, the Council decided to increase the overall amount of the framework programme by 6,5 %, this figure being

⁽¹⁾ On the same date the Commission also submitted a proposal for a Council Decision adapting Decision No 94/268/Euratom concerning a framework programme of Community activities in the field of research and training for the European Atomic Energy Community (1994 to 1998) following the accession to the European Union of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden, based on Article 7 of the EAEC Treaty. The Council decided to consult the European Parliament also on this proposal, on an optional basis; the European Parliament delivered its opinion on 12 July 1995.

⁽²⁾ At the same time the Council registered agreement on the text of the draft decision adapting the Euratom Framework Programme, on the understanding that the final adoption of this Decision would take place simultaneously with the adoption of the EC decision adapting the fourth RTD framework programme. The text of the draft Euratom decision is transmitted to the European Parliament for information.

the global percentage which derives from applying a percentage increase of 6,87 % to the research activities and an average increase of maximum 4 % to the related staff and administrative costs. This results in a total increase of ECU 718 million ⁽¹⁾.

The Council recalls that the figure of 6,87 % corresponds exactly to the contributions of the three new Member States to the research framework programmes in 1994. The common position guarantees therefore the continuity of the global RTD effort in the enlarged Union whilst respecting the existing overall budgetary situation.

2. *Staff and administrative costs*

The different ratio applied to research activities (6,87 %) and to staff and administrative costs (4 % maximum on average) reflects the commitment made by the Commission at the Research Council on 9 June 1995, in response to concerns expressed by the Council regarding the need to give priority to research activities, in the strict sense of the term, when allocating the increased financial resources. On that occasion, Commissioner Cresson undertook to ensure continued efficient management of Community RTD activities and to keep any increase for staff and administrative costs significantly below 7 %.

3. *Principle of linearity*

In order to ensure the respect of the priorities and scientific objectives set by the fourth framework programme decision and in agreement with the views already expressed both by the Commission and the European Parliament, the Council considered that the adaptation should be carried out on a strictly linear basis. To this end, the fourth and fifth recitals of the decision stipulate that the additional funds should be allocated in a linear fashion between the four activities of the framework programme, and that the principle of linearity should also apply in the implementation of all the activities of the framework programme (i.e. within the specific programmes).

B. AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament adopted on 12 July 1995 two amendments to the proposal submitted by the Commission.

These amendments concern:

- a 7 % increase to be applied also to the reserve of ECU 595 million set aside for a possible financial supplement to the framework programme in 1996 (Article 1 paragraph 3 of Decision No 1110/94/EC) ⁽²⁾,
- a slightly modified breakdown between the two periods of the framework programme (1994–96 and 1997–98) which is more in line with the preliminary draft budget for 1996.

The Council has accepted the latter amendment of the European Parliament and has modified accordingly the breakdown between the two periods of the framework programme ⁽³⁾.

The Council decided not to accept the first European Parliament's amendment concerning the application of a 7 % increase to the possible financial supplement for

⁽¹⁾ The Euratom framework programme is increased by ECU 82 million, thus bringing the total increase to ECU 800 million.

⁽²⁾ The European Parliament, consulted by the Council also on the proposal for the adaptation of the Euratom framework programme, adopted on 12 July 1995 a parallel amendment, asking that a 7 % increase be also applied to the envisaged financial supplement to the Euratom framework programme, in accordance with Article 1 (3) of Decision No 94/268/Euratom.

⁽³⁾ The Council has also accepted a parallel EP amendment concerning the draft decision adapting the Euratom framework programme.

1996. On this aspect, the Council has followed the Commission's reasoning in its initial proposal and considers that the question of a possible financial supplement is a different issue which should be dealt with at a later stage on the basis of a separate proposal from the Commission.

To this end, the Council and the Commission have made the following statement in the Council's minutes:

'The Council and the Commission declare that this adaptation of the fourth RTD programme does not prejudice in any way the review of the overall maximum amount, with the possibility of increasing it, to be undertaken by the European Parliament and the Council by 30 June 1996 at the latest, on the basis of a Commission proposal, in accordance with Article 1 (3) of Decision No 1110/94/EC.'

The Council considers that this statement also reflects the concerns of the European Parliament for a timely discussion of the question of the financial supplement and therefore suggests that the European Parliament might wish to be associated with this statement.
