

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM (83) 260 final
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Framework Programme for Research 1984-87

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Framework programme for research

1984-87

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On 20 May the Commission, further to its December 1982 Communication¹ and in response to the Council's reactions of February,² transmitted a proposal³ for a Decision on the first framework programme for Community scientific and technical activities (1984-87).

In the field of science and technology, the Commission is essentially proposing the following:

(i) five criteria by which to define the specific scientific and technical objectives to be adopted; these criteria relate to both the Community dimension (level of human and financial resources required, size of the potential market, ('transnationality'), and to Community interests (collective needs, support for the Community's major objectives);

(ii) the definition and implementation at Community level of an overall research, development and demonstration strategy;

(iii) the preparation of a general framework programme of Community scientific and technical activities, to serve as an instrument for the implementation of the strategy, which defines the options and objectives to be adopted;

(iv) the priority options to be taken into account:

- (a) agricultural competitiveness;
- (b) industrial competitiveness (with special attention to the new technologies);
- (c) scientific competitiveness;
- (d) stepping-up of aid to the developing countries;
- (e) adaptation of R & D activities already undertaken, by means of their incorporation into the overall strategy: energy, raw materials, environment, health and safety;
- (f) development of analysis and forecasting capacity;
- (g) reorganization of structures and procedures on the basis of the proposed strategy;
- (h) systematic evaluation;

(v) a gradual increase in the Community's financial resources.

After considering the Commission's proposals the Council meeting (Research) of 28 June 1983 approved a resolution⁴ (formally adopted on 25 July) on framework programmes for Community research, development and demonstration activities and a first framework programme 1984 to 1987.

Council resolution of 25 July 1983 on framework programmes for Community research, development and demonstration activities and a first framework programme 1984 to 1987

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 235 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 7 thereof,

Having regard to the Council resolution of 14 January 1974 on the coordination of national policies and the definition of projects of interest to the Community in the field of science and technology,⁵

Having regard to proposals from the Commission in its communications to the Council dated 22 December 1982 and 20 May 1983⁶ on the framework programme 1984 to 1987,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,⁷

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,⁸

Having regard to the opinion of the Scientific and Technical Research Committee (Crest),

Whereas Article 2 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community assigns to the Community the task, among others, of promoting throughout the Community a harmonious development of economic activities, a continuous and balanced expansion and an accelerated raising of the standard of living;

Whereas it is important to promote balanced scientific and technical development within the Community;

¹ Bull. EC 12-1982, point 2.1.173.

² Bull. EC 2-1983, point 2.1.134.

³ OJ C 169, 29.6.1983; Bull. EC 5-1983, points 1.3.1 to 1.3.6.

⁴ OJ C 208, 4.8.1983.

⁵ OJ C 7, 29.1.1974.

⁶ OJ C 169, 29.6.1983.

⁷ OJ C 184, 11.7.1983.

⁸ OJ C 211, 8.8.1983.

Whereas research, development and demonstration activities (R, D and D) must be accompanied by adequate dissemination of the knowledge acquired by means of these activities and by effective use of the results obtained;

Whereas, at its meetings on 9 November 1981 and 8 March and 30 June 1982, the Council affirmed the need to systemize and optimize Community action in the field of research, development and demonstration, having recognized that the strategic coherence of the Community's activities would be enhanced and the preparation and adoption of decisions in the aforementioned field would be greatly facilitated by the adoption and regular review by the Community institutions of a framework programme containing broad indications for the medium-term development of scientific and technical objectives;

Whereas, as its meeting on 8 February 1983, the Council expressed a large measure of agreement on the need to increase Community expenditure on research and development and on the proportionally larger share which should be allotted to it in the Community's overall budget, subject to further clarification of the budgetary implications;

Whereas, on 18 June 1983, the European Council adopted the Declaration concerning the development of policies and new Community action, budgetary discipline, own resources and particular problems of certain Member States;

Whereas the Commission's proposal concerning a first framework programme 1984 to 1987 seems likely to promote such a development of Community research, development and demonstration policy;

Whereas the Treaty establishing the European Community does not provide the specific powers of action required for the adoption of this resolution,

HEREBY ADOPTS THIS RESOLUTION:

Article 1

The development of a common strategy in the field of science and technology shall take place on the terms laid down in this resolution and in accordance with the Communities' other strategies and policies.

Article 2

The common strategy in the field of science and technology shall be defined in framework programmes setting out the scientific and technical objectives to be pursued at Community level together with selection criteria for Community action, relative priorities and financial indications.

These framework programmes shall be drawn up by the Commission in consultation with the Member States.

On the basis of the framework programmes, the Commission shall prepare proposals for specific research, development and demonstration activities which meet the objectives referred to in the first paragraph.

Article 3

The Council hereby approves the principle of framework programmes for periods of four years which will be reviewed at least every two years and revised if necessary.

On the basis of proposals submitted to this end by the Commission and after receiving the opinion of the European Parliament, the Council shall:

- approve the framework programmes,
- adopt, in accordance with the framework programmes approved and with the procedures instituted by the Treaties, specific decisions on the R, D and D activities of the Communities.

Article 4

The Council hereby approves the scientific and technical objectives for the period 1984 to 1987 and the selection criteria set out in Annexes I and II respectively.

The Council hereby confirms its agreement on the need to increase Community spending on R, D and D. While bearing in mind the need to frame Community policies, but awaiting the outcome of the general discussion on the Communities' resources and policies, for the time being the Council takes note of the financial indications relating to the objectives to be attained in the period 1984 to 1987 (Annex III). These indications are to serve as a guide for Commission

planning and the adoption by the Council of specific R, D and D activities during that period.

These objectives and criteria, on the one hand, and these financial indications, which still have to be defined, on the other, shall constitute the elements on which implementation of the 1984 to 1987 framework programme will be based.

The planning and adoption of programmes will of course take account of financial constraints.

Article 5

In 1985 at the latest, the 1984 to 1987 framework programme will be reviewed on the basis of a Commission proposal and conclusions drawn from the experience gained from this first framework programme, with a view to evaluating its effectiveness and improving its underlying approach.

This review may result in revision of the first framework programme.

Annex I

Scientific and technical objectives (1984 to 1987)

1. Promoting agricultural competitiveness:

- developing agricultural productivity and improving products:
- agriculture,
- fisheries.

2. Promoting industrial competitiveness:

- removing and reducing barriers,
- new techniques and products for the traditional industries,
- new technologies.

3. Improving the management of raw materials.

4. Improving the management of energy resources:

- developing nuclear fission energy,
- controlled thermonuclear fusion,
- developing renewable energy sources,
- rational use of energy.

5. Stepping up development aid.

6. Improving living and working conditions:

- improving safety and protecting health,
- protecting the environment.

7. Improving the effectiveness of the Community's scientific and technical potential:

- horizontal action.

Annex II

Selection criteria

In general, when selecting Community activities on the basis of the scientific and technical objectives adopted, special attention should be given after assessment of their scientific and technical values to activities which contribute to the definition or implementation of Community policies.

In these fields, Community action can be justified where it presents advantages (added value) in the short, medium or long term from the point of view of efficiency and financing or from the scientific and technical point of view as compared with national activities (public or private).

More specifically, Community action can be justified in the following cases:

- research on a very large scale for which the individual Member States could not, or could only with difficulty, provide the necessary finance and personnel,
- research, the joint execution of which would offer obvious financial benefits, even after taking account of the extra costs inherent in all international cooperation,
- research which, because of the complementary nature of work being done nationally in part of a given field, enables significant results to be obtained in the Community as a whole for the case of problems whose solution requires research on a large scale, particularly geographical,
- research which helps to strengthen the cohesion of the common market and to unify the European scientific and technical area and research leading, where the need is felt, to the establishment of uniform standards.

Annex III

Financial indications by objectives (1984 to 1987)

	(million ECU) ¹	(%)
1. Promoting agricultural competitiveness:	130	3.5
• developing agricultural productivity and improving products:		
– agriculture	115	
– fisheries	15	
2. Promoting industrial competitiveness:	1 060	28.2
• removing and reducing barriers	30	
• new techniques and products for the traditional industries	350	
• new technologies	680	
3. Improving the management of raw materials	80	2.1
4. Improving the management of energy resources:	1 770	47.2
• developing nuclear fission energy	460	
• controlled thermonuclear fusion	480	
• developing renewable energy sources	310	
• rational use of energy	520	
5. Stepping up development aid	150	4.0
6. Improving living and working conditions:	385	10.3
• improving safety and protecting health	190	
• protecting the environment	195	
7. Improving the effectiveness of the Community's scientific and technical potential:	85	2.3 ²
• horizontal action	90	2.4
	<u>3 750</u>	<u>100.0</u>

¹ At 1982 constant values.

² Corresponds to 5% by the end of the period.