



European Economic and Social Committee

RG
**Financial regulation/
Community bodies**

Brussels, 11 December 2002

OPINION

of the European Economic and Social Committee

on the

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 1210/90 as regards the budgetary and financial rules applicable to the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network and access to the Agency's documents

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 as regards the budgetary and financial rules applicable to the European Food Safety Agency and access to the Agency's documents

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 1592/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning common rules in the field of civil aviation and creation of a European Aviation Safety Agency

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 1406/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council setting up a European Maritime Safety Agency

COM(2002) 406 final - 2002/0169 (COD) - 2002/0179 (COD) - 2002/0181 (COD) - 2002/0182 (COD)

ADMINISTRATOR : **Mr Lobo**

RG CESE 1364/2002 - 2002/0169 (COD) - 2002/0179 (COD) - 2002/0181 (COD) - 2002/0182 (COD) PT/PM/nm

On 23 September 2002 the Council decided to consult the Economic and Social Committee, under Article 157 of the Treaty establishing the European Community, on the

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 1210/90 as regards the budgetary and financial rules applicable to the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network and access to the Agency's documents

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 as regards the budgetary and financial rules applicable to the European Food Safety Agency and access to the Agency's documents

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 1592/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning common rules in the field of civil aviation and creating a European Aviation Safety Agency

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EC) No. 1406/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council setting up a European Maritime Safety Agency

(COM(2002) 406 final – 2002/0169 (COD) – 2002/0179 (COD) – 2002/0181 (COD) – 2002/0182 (COD).

At its 395th plenary session of 11 and 12 December 2002 (meeting of 11 December), the European Economic and Social Committee appointed **Mr Chagas** as rapporteur-general and adopted the following opinion by 54 votes for with one abstention.

1. The new Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the EC¹ will enter into force on 1 January 2003. It presents a new approach concerning the budgetary and financial status of the decentralised Community agencies.
2. The entry into force of this regulation requires amendments to the legal acts establishing the agencies, which include:

¹ Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No. 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities (OJ L 248 of 16.9.2002, p.1) – EESC opinion: OJ C 260 of 17.9.2001, p. 42).

- the European Environment Agency (Copenhagen)²;
- the European Food Safety Authority³;
- the European Aviation Safety Agency⁴;
- the European Maritime Safety Agency⁵.

3. Amending the legal acts establishing these agencies involves consulting the European Economic and Social Committee.

4. The European Economic and Social Committee welcomes the Commission's proposals.

Brussels, 11 December 2002.

The President
of the
European Economic and Social Committee

The Secretary-General
of the
European Economic and Social Committee

Roger Briesch

Patrick Venturini

² Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1210/90 of 7 May 1990 on the establishment of the European Environment Agency and the European Environment Information and Observation Network (OJ L 120 of 11.5.1990, p. 1) – EESC opinion: OJ C 56 of 7.3.1990, p. 20.

³ Regulation (EC) No. 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 June 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (OJ L 31 of 1.2.2002, p. 1) – EESC opinion: OJ C 155 of 29.5.2001, p. 32.

⁴ Regulation (EC) No 1592/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council on establishing common rules in the field of civil aviation and creating a European Aviation Safety Agency (OJ L 240 of 7.9.2002, p. 1) – EESC opinion: OJ C 221 of 7.8.2001, p. 38.

⁵ Regulation (EC) No 1406/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a European Maritime Safety Agency (OJ L 208 of 5.8.2002, p. 1) – EESC opinion: OJ C 221 of 7.8.2002, p. 54.