



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

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Committee on Transport and Tourism

2011/0177(APP)

30.5.2012

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Transport and Tourism

for the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal for a Council regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020
(COM(2011)0398 – C7-xxxx/xxxx – 2011/0177(APP))

Rapporteur: Brian Simpson

PA_NonLeg_Interim

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Transport and Tourism calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its report:

1. Highlights the paramount role of the EU transport sector as the backbone of the internal market, the basis for free movement of people and goods as well as for economic, social and territorial cohesion;
2. Recalls the enormous financial and technological challenges for the transport sector with regards to improving its environmental performance, its competitiveness and its network;
3. Stresses that the overall envelope available for transport investments in the next Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) will be critical for the implementation of the TEN-T, as well as for transport research in order for the Union to remain the industrial leader in sustainable and innovative transport technology;
4. Insists that the Union should significantly increase targeted investments in TEN-T infrastructure and transport research rather than reducing them, as they can significantly and directly contribute to overcoming difficult economic situations through boosting Union's competitiveness, economic growth and employment;
5. Welcomes the Commission's proposal on the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) and its proposed increase of the centrally managed financial amounts provided for the TEN-T, considering these amounts to be realistic figures and the bare minimum;
6. Underlines that the additional €10bn from the Cohesion fund are to be centrally managed under the CEF in order to deliver clear EU-added value in Cohesion countries;
7. Underlines that there must remain a realistic link between the number of pre-identified projects in the Annex of the proposed CEF Regulation and the financial amounts for the CEF in the next MFF;
8. Points out the success of the Marco Polo programme, which in line with the transition to a low carbon economy aims to transfer freight off road and onto other modes of transport and believes that this funding should be carried on in the next financial period;
9. Recalls that tourism is a new Union competence under the Lisbon Treaty, which should, therefore, also be reflected in the next MFF; stresses the important contribution of tourism to the Union economy and believes that the European strategy for tourism should be supported with adequate funding for the next period.