



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Foreign Affairs

2010/0101(COD)

17.9.2010

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council decision granting an EU guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans and guarantees for projects outside the European Union
(COM(2010)0174 – C7-0110/2010 – 2010/0101(COD))

Rapporteur: Vincent Peillon

PA_Legam

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

The issues

The purpose of this decision is to revise the budgetary guarantee granted by the EU to the European Investment Bank (EIB) for risks of a sovereign and political nature in connection with its operations carried out outside the EU.

The EIB is a powerful external intervention instrument whose task is to promote European interests in the rest of the world. It must also be used to support the EU's development policy. These two objectives are closely linked.

Since 2007 the EIB has made great progress in implementing its mandate. The Bank has strengthened its coordination with the Commission and shifted its focus towards support for the EU's political objectives.

Proposals

Financial aspects

- The EIB's external mandate is still an under-used lever for action. **Increasing weight should gradually be given to this instrument over the 2014-2020 period** in order to adapt its measures to the EU's new political objectives at international level.

The development of the EIB's external action will then have to be reflected in an increase in the **volume** and **quality** of loans – while reserving the use of the EU guarantee for the least secure countries and projects – and a **diversification of recipients** (local authorities).

- **In the short term**, extending the mandate to cover five new countries, in line with the Union's strategic orientations, can only be supported if it is accompanied by a **mechanical readjustment of the ceilings**, unless there is to be a *de facto* reduction in the maximum average amount of loans per country.

Secondly, the mid-term review should allow the **EIB to be authorised to reinvest risk capital and special loan reflows from earlier operations, with the Commission's approval**, in new operations of the same order to assist partner countries.

And the EIB should immediately be given **an additional EUR 500 million mandate for microcredit financing** to increase access for the poorest people to bank finance in eligible countries.

Institutional architecture

- **On the question of internal organisation**, the EIB should gradually be encouraged to divide up all its external activities on a geographic basis so as to better adapt to the specific requirements of each area and promote the participation of partner countries. The EIB should begin this process by establishing a Euro-Mediterranean financial institution for co-development.

- **On the question of cooperation with the other European actors outside the EU**, the EIB should take an active part in the creation of an **'EU platform for cooperation and development'**, which would bring together the EIB and the other IFIs and EBFIs, while maintaining the Commission's decision-making role in view of its responsibilities relating to the implementation of the Community budget. This structure should make it possible to increase the **blending of grants and loans** in order, in particular, to enhance risk capital and technical assistance operations.

- Finally, further consideration should be given to **establishing closer links over time between the EIB and the ERDB, two banks with majority European capital.**

Relations with the Community institutions

- Although progress has been made, the EIB must endeavour to **further improve cooperation with the Commission.** The Bank should inform the Commission about its projects at an earlier stage.

- The Commission should submit a **more detailed annual report to Parliament** and the Council with information about the economic, social and environmental sustainability of its ongoing and completed projects and about human and material resources policy.

- **The EEAS should be integrated into the arrangement and the Commission should involve it in the preparation and drafting of acts on issues for which it has competence.** For operational and cost rationalisation reasons, the **EIB offices situated outside the EU should, where appropriate, be located within EU delegations.**

Development cooperation

- **The EIB should give increasing support to projects with a major impact in terms of poverty reduction** in the Bank's traditional areas of responsibility and, gradually, in non-production sectors too.

- This development should be matched by **changes to the working methods employed and the resources.**

The Bank should strengthen its procedures for *ex ante* evaluation, monitoring and *ex post* evaluation of operations (taking into account the social and environmental aspects and the economic sustainability of projects in consultation with civil society).

Consequently, the EIB will need to increase substantially the material and human resources devoted to these activities.

- Finally, the EIB should be more rigorous and more transparent in choosing its financial partners. In particular, it must ensure that the financial vehicles used cannot **under any circumstances permit or contribute to any form of tax evasion.**

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a decision

Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) In addition to its core mission of financing investment in the European Union, the European Investment Bank (EIB) has since 1963 undertaken financing operations outside the European Union in support of the EU's external policies. This allows the EU budget funds available to the external regions to be complemented by the financial strength of the EIB for the benefit of beneficiary countries.

Amendment

(1) In addition to its core mission of financing investment in the European Union, the European Investment Bank (EIB) has since 1963 undertaken financing operations outside the European Union in support of the EU's external policies. This allows the EU budget funds available to the external regions to be complemented by the financial strength of the EIB for the benefit of beneficiary countries. ***In so doing, the EIB contributes both to the development of third countries and to the EU's prosperity in the changed global economic circumstances.***

Or. fr

Amendment 2

Proposal for a decision

Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) When the new financial perspective is drawn up, the amounts covered by the EU guarantee should be substantially increased in order to boost the effectiveness and visibility of EU action beyond its borders in line with the Lisbon Treaty.

Or. fr

Amendment 3

Proposal for a decision Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) Extending the mandate to new countries without revising the ceilings for EIB financing under the EU guarantee would de facto reduce the maximum average amount of EIB loans available per country under its external mandate. To avoid weakening EIB action in each of the intervention countries, these ceilings should be ‘mechanically’ adjusted immediately.

Or. fr

Amendment 4

Proposal for a decision Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8) In addition to the regional ceilings, the optional mandate of EUR 2 000 000 000 should be activated and allocated as an envelope to support EIB financing operations in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation across the regions covered by the mandate. The EIB could contribute with its expertise and resources, in close cooperation with the Commission, to support public authorities as well as the private sector to address the challenge of climate change and to make the best possible use of available financing. For mitigation and adaptation projects, the resources of the EIB should be complemented *where* possible with concessional funds available under the EU

(8) In addition to the regional ceilings, the optional mandate of EUR 2 000 000 000 should be activated and allocated as an envelope to support EIB financing operations in the field of climate change mitigation and adaptation across the regions covered by the mandate. The EIB could contribute with its expertise and resources, in close cooperation with the Commission, to support public authorities as well as the private sector to address the challenge of climate change and to make the best possible use of available financing. For mitigation and adaptation projects, the resources of the EIB should be complemented ***as far as*** possible with concessional funds available under the EU

budget, through the efficient and consistent blending of grants and loans for climate change financing in the context of EU external assistance.

budget, through the efficient and consistent blending of grants and loans for climate change financing in the context of EU external assistance.

Or. fr

Amendment 5

Proposal for a decision Recital 8 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8a) The EIB should be granted an additional mandate of EUR 500 million for microcredit financing to improve access to bank finance for the poorest with the aim of developing wealth-creating microprojects and reducing poverty. This activity should be developed by the EIB, either directly or via actions already being carried out by other international financial institutions or European bilateral financial institutions, through reliable local financial institutions with appropriate monitoring of the use of the loans granted.

Or. fr

Justification

This first mandate of EUR 500 million should allow the EIB to make a significant contribution to the development of microfinance, worldwide demand for which, according to PlanetFinance, an NGO, is estimated at USD 263 billion. By way of comparison, the various institutions of the World Bank group granted a little over EUR 500 million to microcredit in 2009 alone.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a decision Recital 8 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8b) The EIB should be allowed to reinvest risk capital and special loans reflows from earlier operations, with the Commission's approval, to finance new operations of the same order to assist partner countries, as proposed by the Commission in its proposal amending Regulation (EC) 1638/2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument.

Or. fr

Amendment 7

Proposal for a decision Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(12) Moreover, EIB financing operations should contribute to the general principles guiding the EU's external action, as referred to in Article 21 of the Treaty on the European Union, of promoting and consolidating democracy and the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to the implementation of international environmental agreements to which the EU is a party. In relation to developing countries in particular, EIB financing operations should foster: sustainable economic, social and environmental development of these countries, particularly in the most disadvantaged amongst them; their smooth and gradual integration into the world

(12) Moreover, EIB financing operations should contribute to the general principles guiding the EU's external action, as referred to in Article 21 of the Treaty on the European Union, of promoting and consolidating democracy and the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, and to the implementation of international environmental agreements to which the EU is a party. In relation to developing countries in particular, EIB financing operations should foster: sustainable economic, social and environmental development of these countries, particularly in the most disadvantaged amongst them; their smooth and gradual integration into the world

economy; the campaign against poverty; as well as compliance with objectives approved by the EU in the context of the United Nations and other competent international organisations. The EIB should **gradually** build up **appropriate** means to adequately meet these requirements.

economy; the campaign against poverty; as well as compliance with objectives approved by the EU in the context of the United Nations and other competent international organisations. The EIB should, **within a reasonable time**, **substantially** build up means to adequately meet these requirements.

Or. fr

Amendment 8

Proposal for a decision

Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) Under this decision, the EIB should increase its development orientation in close coordination with the Commission and following the principles of the European Consensus on Development. This should be implemented through a number of concrete measures, in particular by reinforcing its capacity to appraise social and development aspects of projects, including human rights and conflict related risks, and by promoting local consultation. Moreover, it should increase its focus on sectors where it has sound expertise from financing operations within the EU and which will further the development of the country in question, such as environmental infrastructure including water and sanitation, sustainable transportation and climate change mitigation, particularly in renewable energy. The EIB should also progressively strengthen its activity in support of health and education as well as of climate change adaptation, where appropriate working in cooperation with other International Finance Institutions (IFIs) and European bilateral finance

Amendment

(13) Under this decision, the EIB should increase its development orientation in close coordination with the Commission and following the principles of the European Consensus on Development. This should be implemented through a number of concrete measures, in particular by reinforcing its capacity to appraise social and development aspects of projects, including human rights and conflict related risks, and by promoting local consultation **with public authorities and civil society**. Moreover, it should increase its focus on sectors where it has sound expertise from financing operations within the EU and which will further the development of the country in question, such as environmental infrastructure including water and sanitation, sustainable transportation and climate change mitigation, particularly in renewable energy. The EIB should also progressively strengthen its activity in support of health and education, **particularly in the area of vocational training**, as well as of climate change adaptation, where appropriate working in

institutions (EBFIs). This will require access to concessional resources and *a progressive* increase in human resources devoted to EIB external activities. EIB activity should also be complementary to EU objectives and priorities relating to institution building and sector reforms. Finally, the EIB should define performance indicators which are linked to development aspects of the projects and their results.

cooperation with other International Finance Institutions (IFIs) and European bilateral finance institutions (EBFIs). This will require access to concessional resources and *an* increase, *within a reasonable period*, in human resources devoted to EIB external activities. EIB activity should also be complementary to EU objectives and priorities relating to institution building and sector reforms. Finally, the EIB should define performance indicators which are linked to *the economic, social and environmental* development aspects of the projects and their results.

Or. fr

Amendment 9

Proposal for a decision

Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) With the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the function of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, which is at the same time Vice-President of the Commission for External Relations, has been created with the aim of increasing the impact and coherence of the EU's external relations. A new European External Action Service (EEAS) *will be* created under the authority of the High Representative. *There has also been a broadening and strengthening of the EU's external relations policies in recent years. This has notably been the case for the Pre-Accession Strategy, the European Neighbourhood Policy, the EU Strategy for Central Asia, the renewed partnerships with Latin America and South-East Asia and the EU's Strategic*

Amendment

(14) With the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the function of High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, which is at the same time Vice-President of the Commission for External Relations, has been created with the aim of increasing the impact and coherence of the EU's external relations. A new European External Action Service (EEAS) *has been* created under the authority of the High Representative.

Partnerships with Russia, China and India. It is also the case for the EU's development policies, which have now been extended to include all developing countries. From 2007, the EU's external relations have also been supported by new financial instruments, i.e. the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and the Instrument for Stability.

Or. fr

Justification

In accordance with Parliament's legislative resolution of 8 July 2010 on the proposal for a Council decision establishing the organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service, it is necessary to take into account the division of responsibilities between the Commission and the EEAS in the EU's external action. The part of the original text of Recital 14 concerning a broadening and strengthening of the external relations policies has therefore been moved to a position after the proposed new recitals concerning the EEAS.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a decision Recital 14 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(14a) The EEAS and the services of the Commission should consult each other on all matters relating to the EU's external action in the exercise of their respective functions. The EEAS should take part in the preparatory work and procedures relating to acts which the Commission is responsible for preparing in this area. The EEAS should be able to enter into service-level arrangements with the relevant services of the Commission, the General Secretariat of the Council and other interinstitutional offices or bodies of the

Amendment 11

**Proposal for a decision
Recital 14 b (new)**

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(14b) Following the creation of the EEAS and the entry into force of this decision, the Commission and the EIB should amend the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation and coordination in the regions referred to in Council Decision 2006/1016/EC granting a Community guarantee to the European Investment Bank against losses under loans and loan guarantees for projects outside the Community¹, and, as appropriate and with the approval of the High Representative, extend the new Memorandum of Understanding to the EEAS, in particular as regards the regular and systematic dialogue between the EIB and the Commission at the strategic level, which should also include the EEAS, and other aspects coming under the competence of the EEAS.

1. OJ L 414, 30.12.2006, p. 95.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a decision Recital 14 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(14c) There has also been a broadening and strengthening of the EU's external relations policies in recent years. This has notably been the case for the Pre-Accession Strategy, the European Neighbourhood Policy, the EU Strategy for Central Asia, the renewed partnerships with Latin America and South-East Asia and the EU's Strategic Partnerships with Russia, China and India. It is also the case for the EU's development policies, which have now been extended to include all developing countries. From 2007, the EU's external relations have also been supported by new financial instruments, i.e. the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA), the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI), the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR) and the Instrument for Stability.

Or. fr

Amendment 13

Proposal for a decision Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16) EIB activity in Neighbourhood countries should take place in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy, under which the

(16) EIB activity in Neighbourhood countries should take place in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy, under which the

EU aims to develop a special relationship with neighbouring countries with a view to establishing an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness, founded on the values of the EU and characterised by close and peaceful relations based on co-operation. To achieve these objectives the EU and its partners implement jointly agreed bilateral Action Plans defining a set of priorities including on political and security issues, trade and economic matters, environmental concerns and integration of transport and energy networks. The Union for the Mediterranean, the Eastern Partnership, and the Black Sea Synergy are multilateral and regional initiatives **complementary to** the European Neighbourhood Policy aimed at fostering co-operation between the EU and the respective group of neighbouring partner countries facing common challenges and/or sharing a common geographical environment. The Union for the Mediterranean **supports improved socio-economic, solidarity, regional integration, sustainable development and knowledge building**, underlining the need to increase financial co-operation to support regional and trans-national projects. The Eastern Partnership aims to create the necessary conditions to accelerate political association and further economic integration between the EU and Eastern Partner countries. The Russian Federation and the EU have a wide-ranging Strategic Partnership, distinct from the European Neighbourhood Policy and expressed through the Common Spaces and Roadmaps. This is complemented at multilateral level by the Northern Dimension which provides a framework for co-operation between the EU, Russia, Norway and Iceland.

EU aims to develop a special relationship with neighbouring countries with a view to establishing an area of prosperity and good neighbourliness, founded on the values of the EU and characterised by close and peaceful relations based on co-operation. To achieve these objectives the EU and its partners implement jointly agreed bilateral Action Plans defining a set of priorities including on political and security issues, trade and economic matters, environmental concerns and integration of transport and energy networks. The Union for the Mediterranean, the Eastern Partnership, and the Black Sea Synergy are multilateral and regional initiatives **which integrate** the European Neighbourhood Policy aimed at fostering co-operation between the EU and the respective group of neighbouring partner countries facing common challenges and/or sharing a common geographical environment. The Union for the Mediterranean **aims to relaunch the Euro-Mediterranean integration process by supporting mutual economic, social and environmental development on both sides of the Mediterranean**, underlining the need to increase financial co-operation to support regional and trans-national projects. **The Union for the Mediterranean supports, in particular, the creation of maritime and land highways, the de-pollution of the Mediterranean, the Mediterranean solar energy plan, the Mediterranean Business Development Initiative, civil protection initiatives and the Euro-Mediterranean university.** The Eastern Partnership aims to create the necessary conditions to accelerate political association and further economic integration between the EU and Eastern Partner countries. The Russian Federation and the EU have a wide-ranging Strategic Partnership, distinct from the European Neighbourhood Policy and expressed through the Common Spaces and Roadmaps. This is complemented at multilateral level by the Northern

Dimension which provides a framework for co-operation between the EU, Russia, Norway and Iceland.

Or. fr

Amendment 14

Proposal for a decision

Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) With a view to enhancing the coherence of overall EU support in the regions concerned, opportunities should be **sought** to combine EIB financing with EU budgetary resources when and as appropriate, in the form e.g. of guarantees, risk capital and interest rate subsidies, investment co-financing, alongside technical assistance for project preparation and implementation, through the IPA, the ENPI, the Instrument for Stability, the EIDHR and the DCI.

Amendment

(21) With a view to enhancing the coherence of overall EU support in the regions concerned, opportunities should be **found** to combine EIB financing with EU budgetary resources when and as appropriate, in the form e.g. of guarantees, risk capital and interest rate subsidies, investment co-financing, alongside technical assistance for project preparation and implementation, through the IPA, the ENPI, the Instrument for Stability, the EIDHR and the DCI.

Or. fr

Amendment 15

Proposal for a decision

Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) At all levels, from upstream strategic planning to downstream project development, it should be ensured that EIB external financing operations comply with and support EU external policies and the high-level objectives set out in this

Amendment

(22) At all levels, from upstream strategic planning to downstream project development, it should be ensured that EIB external financing operations comply with and support EU external policies and the high-level objectives set out in this

decision. With a view to increasing the coherence of EU external actions, dialogue on policy and strategy should be further strengthened between the Commission, the EEAS and the EIB. To the same end, there should be enhanced cooperation and early mutual exchange of information between the EIB the Commission at operational level. It is of particular importance to have an early exchange of views between the EIB, the Commission and the EEAS, as appropriate, in the process of preparing programming documents in order to maximise synergies between EIB *activities and those implemented by* the Commission.

decision. With a view to increasing the coherence of EU external actions, dialogue on policy and strategy should be further strengthened between the Commission, the EEAS and the EIB. ***In particular, the Commission should have longer to examine the compliance of projects proposed by the EIB with the requirements of the current mandate.*** To the same end, there should be enhanced cooperation and early mutual exchange of information between the EIB *and* the Commission at operational level. ***EIB offices outside the EU should, where appropriate, be located within EU delegations in order to improve this cooperation and share operating costs.*** It is of particular importance to have an early exchange of views between the EIB, the Commission and the EEAS, as appropriate, in the process of preparing programming documents in order to maximise synergies between *the activities of the* EIB, the ***EEAS and the*** Commission.

Or. fr

Amendment 16

Proposal for a decision Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

(23) The practical measures for linking the general mandate objectives and their implementation will be set out in regional operational guidelines developed by the Commission together with the EIB, ***in consultation with*** the EEAS ***on policy issues, appropriate.*** These guidelines should take as a starting point the wider EU policy framework for each region, reflect EU country strategies and aim to

Amendment

(23) The practical measures for linking the general mandate objectives and their implementation will be set out in regional operational guidelines developed by the Commission together with the EIB ***and, on issues falling within its remit,*** the EEAS. These guidelines should take as a starting point the wider EU policy framework for each region, reflect EU country strategies and aim to ensure that EIB financing is

ensure that EIB financing is complementary to corresponding EU assistance policies, programmes and instruments in the different regions. The guidelines should be provided to the European Parliament and Council in the framework of the annual reporting exercise on the EIB external mandate of the Commission.

complementary to corresponding EU assistance policies, programmes and instruments in the different regions. The guidelines should be provided to the European Parliament and Council in the framework of the annual reporting exercise on the EIB external mandate of the Commission.

Or. fr

Amendment 17

Proposal for a decision Recital 25

Text proposed by the Commission

(25) The Commission should study the development of an "EU platform for cooperation and development" with a view to optimising the functioning of mechanisms for the blending of grants and loans in the external regions. In its reflections the Commission should consult the EIB as well as the other European multilateral and bilateral finance institutions. Such a platform *would continue* to promote mutual reliance arrangements, based on the comparative advantage of the different institutions while respecting the role and prerogatives of the EU institutions in the implementation of the EU budget and of EIB loans.

Amendment

(25) The Commission should study the development of an "EU platform for cooperation and development" with a view to optimising *and rationalising* the functioning of mechanisms for *increased* blending of grants and loans in the external regions. In its reflections the Commission should consult the EIB as well as the other European multilateral and bilateral finance institutions. Such a platform *should* promote, *under the direction of the Commission, synergies, concerted programming* and mutual reliance arrangements, based on the comparative advantage of the different institutions while respecting the role and prerogatives of the EU institutions in the implementation of the EU budget and of EIB loans. *The platform should also give consideration to the necessary changes in the European institutional architecture for development financing by 2014.*

Or. fr

Amendment 18

Proposal for a decision Recital 25 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(25a) The EIB should gradually be encouraged to divide up all its external activities on a geographic basis so as to better adapt to the specific requirements of each area and promote the participation of partner countries. The EIB should begin this process by immediately splitting up its Mediterranean activities, which until now have been grouped together in the Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership, and creating a Euro-Mediterranean Co-Development Financial Institution, of which the EIB would remain the main shareholder. In the specific case of the Mediterranean, this institutional change would allow the EIB to improve the effectiveness of its action in the Mediterranean countries and its visibility and provide increased financial support for the EU's priority initiatives for the Mediterranean.

Or. fr

Amendment 19

Proposal for a decision Recital 26

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(26) The EIB should be encouraged to increase its operations outside the EU without recourse to the EU guarantee ***in order to support EU external policy objectives***, particularly in pre-accession countries and neighbourhood countries and in investment grade countries in other

(26) The EIB should be encouraged to increase its operations outside the EU without recourse to the EU guarantee ***so that use of the guarantee can be reserved for countries and projects with the poorest access to the market and where the guarantee therefore provides higher***

regions, but also in sub-investment grade countries when the EIB has the appropriate third party guarantees. In *consultation* with the Commission, the EIB should develop a policy for deciding between the allocation of projects to either the mandate under EU guarantee or to EIB own risk financing. Such a policy would notably take into account the creditworthiness of the countries and projects concerned.

added value. Consequently, and always with the aim of supporting the objectives of the EU's external relations policy, the EIB should increase the amounts loaned at its own risk, particularly in pre-accession countries and neighbourhood countries and in investment grade countries in other regions, but also in sub-investment grade countries when the EIB has the appropriate third party guarantees. In *agreement* with the Commission, the EIB should develop a policy for deciding between the allocation of projects to either the mandate under EU guarantee or to EIB own risk financing. Such a policy would notably take into account the creditworthiness of the countries and projects concerned. *When the external mandate is renewed for the 2014-2020 period, this policy should be reviewed and the list of countries eligible under the guarantee re-examined.*

Or. fr

Amendment 20

Proposal for a decision Recital 26 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(26a) Where it has appropriate guarantees, the EIB should be encouraged to increase its operations for sub-sovereign public entities in the countries in which it operates.

Or. fr

Amendment 21

Proposal for a decision Recital 27 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(27a) The EIB should be more rigorous and more transparent in choosing its financial partners. It should, in particular, guarantee that in the context of its financial operations covered by the EU guarantee, the financial vehicles which it or its partners use cannot under any circumstances contribute to any form of tax evasion. The EIB should also, as far as possible, increase the diversification of its financial partners in the countries in which it operates.

Or. fr

Amendment 22

Proposal for a decision Recital 28

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(28) In order to ensure that the Bank meets the requirements of the mandate across regions and sub-regions, sufficient human and financial resources ***will need to be devoted to the EIB's*** external activities. This would notably include having sufficient capacity to support EU development cooperation objectives, to increase focus on ex ante appraisal of the environmental, social and development aspects of its activities, and to effectively monitor projects during implementation.

(28) In order to ensure that the Bank meets the requirements of the mandate across regions and sub-regions, ***it must devote sufficient human and financial resources, within reasonable time limits, to its external activities, particularly in the intervention countries.*** This would notably include having sufficient capacity to support EU development cooperation objectives, to increase focus on ex ante appraisal of the environmental, social and development aspects of its activities, and to effectively ***and directly*** monitor projects during implementation.

Or. fr

Amendment 23

Proposal for a decision

Recital 29

Text proposed by the Commission

(29) In its financing operations outside the EU that fall within the scope of this decision, the EIB should endeavour to further enhance coordination and cooperation with IFIs and EBFIs ***where relevant***, including, where appropriate, cooperation on sector conditionality and mutual reliance on procedures, use of joint co-financing and participation in global initiatives, such as those promoting aid coordination and effectiveness. The above efforts are to be based on reciprocity between EIB and other institutions and require an equivalent effort by the EIB and other financial institutions to be implemented effectively. ***In particular, the modalities for the implementation of EIB financing in the Eastern Neighbourhood and Partnership countries, Central Asia and Turkey are set out in tripartite Memoranda of Understanding between the Commission, the EIB and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.***

Amendment

(29) In its financing operations outside the EU that fall within the scope of this decision, the EIB should endeavour to further enhance coordination and cooperation with IFIs and EBFIs, including, where appropriate, cooperation on sector conditionality and mutual reliance on procedures, use of joint co-financing and participation in global initiatives, such as those promoting aid coordination and effectiveness. The above efforts are to be based on reciprocity between EIB and other institutions and require an equivalent effort by the EIB and other financial institutions to be implemented effectively.

Or. fr

Amendment 24

Proposal for a decision

Recital 29 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(29a) In their common intervention countries the EIB and the EBRD should improve their cooperation. The modalities

for the implementation of EIB financing in the Eastern Neighbourhood and Partnership countries, Central Asia and Turkey are set out in tripartite Memoranda of Understanding between the Commission, the EIB and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Not only should these memoranda prevent the EIB and the EBRD competing with each other, they should allow them to act in a complementary way by maximising their respective comparative advantages. The memoranda should also provide for convergence of their procedures within a reasonable period. Consideration should be given to establishing closer links over time between these two banks with majority European capital, with a view to optimising the European external action financing instruments.

Or. fr

Amendment 25

Proposal for a decision Recital 30

Text proposed by the Commission

(30) The reporting and transmission of information by the EIB to the Commission should be strengthened in order to allow the Commission to enhance its annual report to the European Parliament and the Council on the EIB financing operations carried out under this decision. The report should in particular assess the compliance of EIB financing operations with this decision, taking into account the operational guidelines, and include sections on added value in line with EU policies and sections on cooperation with the Commission, other IFIs and bilateral donors, including co-financing. Where

Amendment

(30) The reporting and transmission of information by the EIB to the Commission should be strengthened in order to allow the Commission to enhance its annual report to the European Parliament and the Council on the EIB financing operations carried out under this decision. The report should in particular assess the compliance of EIB financing operations with this decision, taking into account the operational guidelines, and include sections on added value in line with EU policies and sections on cooperation with the Commission, other IFIs and bilateral donors, including co-financing. ***The report***

necessary, the report should include references to significant changes in circumstances that would justify further amendments to the mandate before the end of the period.

should also assess the extent to which the EIB has taken into account economic, financial, environmental and social sustainability in the design and monitoring of the projects financed. It should also contain a specific section devoted to a detailed evaluation of the measures taken by the EIB to comply with the provisions of the current mandate, excluding from the scope of the guarantee all operations which would allow, or contribute directly or indirectly to, any form of tax evasion, and paying particular attention to EIB operations using financial vehicles situated in offshore financial centres. Where necessary, the report should include references to significant changes in circumstances that would justify further amendments to the mandate before the end of the period.

Or. fr

Amendment 26

Proposal for a decision Article 1 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Eligible for EU guarantee shall be EIB loans and loan guarantees for investment projects carried out in countries covered by this decision, granted in accordance with the EIB's own rules and procedures in support of the relevant external policy objectives of the EU, where the EIB financing has been granted according to a signed agreement which has neither expired nor been cancelled (EIB financing operations).

Amendment

2. Eligible for EU guarantee shall be EIB loans and loan guarantees for investment projects carried out in countries covered by this decision, granted in accordance with the EIB's own rules and procedures in support of the relevant external policy objectives of the EU, where the EIB financing has been granted according to a signed agreement which has neither expired nor been cancelled (EIB financing operations) ***and on condition that they do not directly or indirectly use any financial vehicle which would allow, or contribute to, any form of tax evasion.***

Or. fr

Amendment 27

Proposal for a decision Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The maximum ceiling of the EIB financing operations under EU guarantee throughout the period 2007-2013, less amounts cancelled, shall not exceed **EUR 27 800 000 000**, broken down into two parts:

(a) a General Mandate of **EUR 25 800 000 000**

(b) a Climate Change Mandate of EUR 2 000 000 000

Amendment

1. The maximum ceiling of the EIB financing operations under EU guarantee throughout the period 2007-2013, less amounts cancelled, shall not exceed **EUR 29 481 000 000**, broken down into two parts:

(a) a General Mandate of **EUR 26 981 000 000**

(b) a Climate Change Mandate of EUR 2 000 000 000

(b a) a Microcredit Financing Mandate of EUR 500 000 000

Or. fr

Justification

Extending the mandate to new countries without revising the ceilings for EIB financing under the EU guarantee would de facto reduce the maximum average amount of EIB loans available per country under its external mandate. To avoid weakening EIB action in each of the intervention countries, the ceilings should now be ‘mechanically’ adjusted. The amounts of the ceilings indicated above have therefore been revised upwards on the basis of the average amount granted to each country within each ceiling and sub-ceiling and the duration corresponding to the time remaining until the end of the period referred to in Article 1(4), i.e. three years.

*Calculation method: updated sub-region ceiling = initial sub-region ceiling + [(initial sub-region ceiling / initial number of countries in sub-region) * (number of countries added to sub-region) * (number of years remaining in mandate / total number of years in mandate)]*

Amendment 28

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The Climate Change Mandate shall cover EIB financing operations in all countries covered by this decision, where such EIB financing operations support the key EU policy objective of tackling climate change by supporting projects in climate change mitigation and adaptation which contribute to the overall objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in particular by avoiding or reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport, or by increasing resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change on vulnerable countries, sectors and communities. The Climate Change Mandate shall be implemented in close cooperation with the Commission, combining *where* possible *and appropriate* EIB financing with EU budget funds.

Amendment

4. The Climate Change Mandate shall cover EIB financing operations in all countries covered by this decision, where such EIB financing operations support the key EU policy objective of tackling climate change by supporting projects in climate change mitigation and adaptation which contribute to the overall objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in particular by avoiding or reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable transport, or by increasing resilience to the adverse impacts of climate change on vulnerable countries, sectors and communities. The Climate Change Mandate shall be implemented in close cooperation with the Commission, combining *as far as* possible EIB financing with EU budget funds.

Or. fr

Amendment 29

Proposal for a decision

Article 2 - paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. The Microcredit Financing Mandate shall cover EIB financing operations in all countries covered by this decision, where such operations support the objective of developing the microcredit activities of reliable local financial institutions whose goal is to finance wealth-creating microprojects and thus

reduce poverty and for which the use of the loans is appropriately monitored. In the implementation of this mandate, the EIB should, if possible, ensure a balanced distribution of financing operations concluded with the regions covered by Annex II to this decision, by the end of the period referred to in Article 1(4). Furthermore, this activity will need to be developed either by the EIB itself or through actions already being carried out by other international financial institutions or European bilateral financial institutions. The Microcredit Financing Mandate shall be implemented in close cooperation with the Commission, combining, where possible and appropriate, EIB financing with EU budget funds.

Or. fr

Amendment 30

Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The EIB shall progressively increase its activity in social sectors, such as health and education.

Amendment

3. The EIB shall progressively increase its activity in social sectors, such as health and education, *particularly as regards vocational training.*

Or. fr

Amendment 31

Proposal for a decision Article 5 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Commission shall develop, together

Amendment

1. The Commission shall develop, together

with the EIB, regional operational guidelines for EIB financing under this decision. In drawing up these guidelines the Commission and the EIB **will consult** with the European External Action Service (EEAS) on **policy** issues, **as appropriate**. The operational guidelines aim to ensure that EIB financing supports EU policies, and shall take as a starting point the wider EU regional policy framework set by the Commission and the EEAS, as appropriate. Notably, the operational guidelines will ensure that EIB financing is complementary to corresponding EU assistance policies, programmes and instruments in the different regions, taking into account European Parliament resolutions and Council decisions and conclusions. The Commission will inform the European Parliament and the Council of the guidelines established. Within the framework set out by the operational guidelines, the EIB shall define corresponding financing strategies and ensure their implementation.

with the EIB, regional operational guidelines for EIB financing under this decision. In drawing up these guidelines, **and at an early stage**, the Commission and the EIB **shall work together** with the European External Action Service (EEAS) on issues **falling within its remit**. The operational guidelines aim to ensure that EIB financing supports EU policies, and shall take as a starting point the wider EU regional policy framework set by the Commission and the EEAS, as appropriate. Notably, the operational guidelines will ensure that EIB financing is complementary to corresponding EU assistance policies, programmes and instruments in the different regions, taking into account European Parliament resolutions and Council decisions and conclusions. The Commission will inform the European Parliament and the Council of the guidelines established. Within the framework set out by the operational guidelines, the EIB shall define corresponding financing strategies and ensure their implementation.

Or. fr

Amendment 32

Proposal for a decision Article 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 5a

The Commission shall study the development, within a reasonable period, of an 'EU platform for cooperation and development' which, under its direction, would bring together the EIB and the other European multilateral and bilateral financial institutions with a view to optimising and rationalising the functioning of mechanisms for increased

blending of grants and loans in the external regions.

Or. fr

Amendment 33

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The EIB shall carry out thorough due diligence on development-related aspects of projects covered by the EU guarantee. The EIB's own rules and procedures shall include the necessary provisions on assessment of environmental and social impact of projects and of aspects related to human rights, to ensure that only projects that are economically, financially, environmentally and socially sustainable are supported under this Decision.

Amendment

1. The EIB shall carry out thorough due diligence on development-related aspects of projects covered by the EU guarantee. The EIB's own rules and procedures shall include the necessary provisions on assessment of environmental and social impact of projects and of aspects related to human rights, to ensure that only projects that are *wholly* economically, financially, environmentally and socially sustainable are supported under this Decision.

Or. fr

Amendment 34

Proposal for a decision Article 8 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. EIB financing operations shall increasingly be carried out, *where appropriate*, in cooperation with other international financial institutions or European bilateral finance institutions, in order to maximize synergies, cooperation and efficiency and to ensure reasonable sharing of risks and coherent project and sector conditionality.

Amendment

1. EIB financing operations shall increasingly be carried out in cooperation with other international financial institutions or European bilateral finance institutions, in order to maximize synergies, cooperation and efficiency and to ensure reasonable sharing of risks and coherent project and sector conditionality.

Or. fr

Amendment 35

Proposal for a decision Article 8 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The cooperation referred to in paragraph 1 shall be facilitated by coordination, carried out notably in the context of Memoranda of Understanding or other EU regional cooperation frameworks, where appropriate, between the Commission, the EIB and the main international financial institutions and European bilateral finance institutions operating in the different regions.

Amendment

2. The cooperation referred to in paragraph 1 shall be facilitated by coordination, carried out notably in the context of Memoranda of Understanding or other EU regional cooperation frameworks, where appropriate, between the Commission, the EIB and the main international financial institutions and European bilateral finance institutions operating in the different regions, ***whilst taking into account the competences of the EEAS.***

Or. fr

Amendment 36

Proposal for a decision Article 9 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. The EIB shall, in ***consultation*** with the Commission, develop a clear and transparent allocation policy for deciding upon the source of financing of operations which are eligible both for coverage by the EU guarantee and for EIB own risk financing.

Amendment

4. The EIB shall, in ***agreement*** with the Commission, develop a clear and transparent allocation policy for deciding upon the source of financing of operations which are eligible both for coverage by the EU guarantee and for EIB own risk financing.

Or. fr

Amendment 37

Proposal for a decision Article 10 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Commission shall report annually to the European Parliament and the Council on EIB financing operations carried out under this decision. The report shall include an assessment of EIB financing operations at project, sector, country and regional level as well as the contribution of the EIB financing operations to the fulfilment of the external policy and strategic objectives of the EU. The report shall in particular assess the compliance of EIB financing operations with this Decision, taking into account the operational guidelines referred to in Article 5, and shall include sections on added value for the achievement of EU policy objectives as well as on cooperation with the Commission and other international financial institutions and bilateral institutions, including co-financing.

Amendment

1. The Commission shall report annually to the European Parliament and the Council on EIB financing operations carried out under this decision. The report shall include an assessment of EIB financing operations at project, sector, country and regional level as well as the contribution of the EIB financing operations to the fulfilment of the external policy and strategic objectives of the EU. The report shall in particular assess the compliance of EIB financing operations with this Decision, taking into account the operational guidelines referred to in Article 5, and shall include sections on added value for the achievement of EU policy objectives ***and the extent to which to which the EIB has taken into account environmental and social sustainability in the design and monitoring of the projects financed***, as well as on cooperation with the Commission and other international financial institutions and bilateral institutions, including co-financing. ***The report shall also contain an assessment of the EIB's human and material resources policy relating to its activities outside the EU. Finally, it shall contain a specific section devoted to a detailed evaluation of the measures taken by the EIB to comply with the provisions of Article 1(2) of the current mandate, excluding from the scope of the guarantee all operations which would allow, or contribute directly or indirectly to, any form of tax evasion, and paying particular attention to EIB operations using financial vehicles situated in offshore financial centres.***

Or. fr

Amendment 38

Proposal for a decision Article 10 - paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. In order to respond adequately to the requirements referred to in Article 6(1) and (2), the EIB shall submit to the Commission, by 1 July 2012 at the latest, a detailed multiannual plan for adapting and strengthening its human and material resources for its activities outside the EU.

Or. fr

Amendment 39

Proposal for a decision Annex 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

A. Pre-accession countries: ***EUR 8 700 000 000;***

A. Pre-accession countries:
EUR 9 166 000 000;

B. Neighbourhood and Partnership Countries: EUR 12 400 000 000;

B. Neighbourhood and Partnership Countries: EUR 12 400 000 000;

broken down into the following indicative sub-ceilings:

broken down into the following indicative sub-ceilings:

(a) Mediterranean countries: ***EUR 8 700 000 000;***

(a) Mediterranean countries:
EUR 9 114 000 000;

(b) Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Russia: ***EUR 3 700 000 000;***

(b) Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Russia: ***EUR 3 964 000 000;***

C. Asia and Latin America: EUR 3 800 000 000;

C. Asia and Latin America: EUR 3 800 000 000;

broken down into the following indicative sub-ceilings:

broken down into the following indicative sub-ceilings:

(a) Latin America: EUR 2 800 000 000;

(a) Latin America: EUR 2 800 000 000;

(b) Asia (including Central Asia): ***EUR 1 000 000 000;***

(b) Asia (including Central Asia):
EUR 1 037 000 000;

D. Republic of South Africa: EUR
900 000 000.

Within the regional ceilings of the General Mandate, the governing bodies of the EIB may decide to reallocate an amount of up to 10 % of the regional ceiling between the indicative sub-regional ceilings.

D. Republic of South Africa:
EUR 900 000 000.

Within the regional ceilings of the General Mandate, the governing bodies of the EIB may decide to reallocate an amount of up to 10 % of the regional ceiling between the indicative sub-regional ceilings.

Or. fr