2011/0400(NLE)

3.7.2012

DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on the proposal for a Council regulation on the Research and Training Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (2014-2018) complementing Horizon 2020 - The Framework Programme for Research and Innovation
(COM(2011)0812 – C7-0009/2012 – 2011/0400(NLE))

Rapporteur: Carl Haglund

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Amendment 1

Draft legislative resolution
Paragraph 1a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1a. Points out that the financial envelope specified in the legislative proposal constitutes only an indication to the legislative authority and that it can not be fixed until agreement is reached on the proposal for a regulation laying down the multiannual financial framework for the years 2014-2020;

Or. en

Amendment 2

Draft legislative resolution
Paragraph 1b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1b. Recalls its resolution of 8 June 2011 on Investing in the future: a new Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for a competitive, sustainable and inclusive Europe[1]; reiterates that regardless of realisable savings and re-allocations, sufficient additional resources are needed in the next MFF in order to enable the Union to fulfil its existing policy priorities and the new tasks provided for in the Treaty of Lisbon, as well as to respond to unforeseen events; challenges the Council, if it does not share this approach, to clearly identify which of its political priorities or projects could be dropped altogether, despite their proven European added value;

[1] ***Texts adopted, P7_TA(2011)0266.***

Or. en

Amendment 3

Draft legislative resolution
Paragraph 1c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1c. Recalls, furthermore, its position that next MFF should see a greater concentration of budgetary resources in areas that stimulate economic growth and competitiveness, such as research and innovation according to the principles of European added value and excellence;

Or. en

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(3) By supporting nuclear research the Research and Training Programme of the Community (hereinafter the 'Euratom Programme') will contribute to achieving objectives of the 'Horizon 2020' Framework Programme for Research and Innovation established by Regulation (EU XX/XXXX of [….] (hereinafter 'Horizon 2020 Framework Programme') and facilitate implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy and the creation and operation of the European Research Area.	(3) By supporting nuclear research ***and innovation excellence*** the Research and Training Programme of the Community (hereinafter the 'Euratom Programme') will contribute to achieving objectives of the 'Horizon 2020' Framework Programme for Research and Innovation established by Regulation (EU XX/XXXX of [….] (hereinafter 'Horizon 2020 Framework Programme') and facilitate implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy and the creation and operation of the European Research Area.

Or. en

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(6) By signing the Agreement on the Establishment of the ITER International Fusion Energy Organisation for the Joint Implementation of the ITER Project, the Community has undertaken to participate in ITER construction and its future exploitation. The Community contribution is managed through the 'European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy' (hereinafter 'Fusion for Energy'), established by Council Decision of 27 March 2007. The activities of Fusion for Energy, including ITER, are to be regulated by a separate legislative act.	(6) By signing the Agreement on the Establishment of the ITER International Fusion Energy Organisation for the Joint Implementation of the ITER Project, the Community has undertaken to participate in ITER construction and its future exploitation. The Community contribution is managed through the 'European Joint Undertaking for ITER and the Development of Fusion Energy' (hereinafter 'Fusion for Energy'), established by Council Decision of 27 March 2007. ***Specific rules are necessary for dealing with this large-scale infrastructure projects whose lifetime extends well beyond the period set for the Euratom programme. It is necessary to establish a maximum amount for the contribution from the Union's budget to ITER. This maximum amount should not have any impact on other projects financed from the Union's budget.*** The activities of Fusion for Energy, including ITER, are to be regulated by a separate legislative act.

Or. en

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(7) For fusion to become a credible option for commercial energy production, it is, firstly, necessary to successfully and timely complete the construction of ITER and start its operation. Secondly it is necessary to establish an ambitious, yet realistic	(7) For fusion to become a credible option for commercial energy production, it is, firstly, necessary to successfully and timely complete the construction of ITER and start its operation. Secondly it is necessary to establish an ambitious, yet realistic

roadmap towards the production of electricity by 2050. Reaching those goals requires the European fusion programme to be redirected. A stronger focus should be placed on the activities in support to ITER. Such rationalisation should be achieved without jeopardising the European leadership of the fusion scientific community.	roadmap towards the production of electricity by 2050. Reaching those goals requires the European fusion programme to be redirected. A stronger focus should be placed on the activities in support to ITER ***while ensuring adeqaute risk control and the avoidance of cost overruns***. Such rationalisation should be achieved without jeopardising the European leadership of the fusion scientific community ***or other successful EU programmes***.

Or. en

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(10) While it is for each Member State to choose whether or not to make use of nuclear power, the role of the Union is to develop, in the interest of all its Member States, a framework to support joint cutting-edge research, knowledge creation and knowledge preservation on nuclear fission technologies, with special emphasis on safety, security, radiation protection and non-proliferation. That requires independent scientific evidence, to which the JRC can make a key contribution. That has been recognised in the Commission Communication 'Europe 2020 Flagship Initiative Innovation Union', in which the Commission stated its intention to strengthen scientific evidence for policy making through the JRC. The JRC proposes to respond to that challenge by focusing its nuclear safety and security research on the Union's policy priorities.	(10) While it is for each Member State to choose whether or not to make use of nuclear power, the role of the Union is to develop, in the interest of all its Member States, a framework to support joint cutting-edge research, knowledge creation and knowledge preservation on nuclear fission technologies, ***in particular new generation fission reactors,*** with special emphasis on safety, security, radiation protection and non-proliferation. That requires independent scientific evidence, to which the JRC can make a key contribution. That has been recognised in the Commission Communication 'Europe 2020 Flagship Initiative Innovation Union', in which the Commission stated its intention to strengthen scientific evidence for policy making through the JRC. The JRC proposes to respond to that challenge by focusing its nuclear safety and security research on the Union's policy priorities.

Or. en

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(16) A greater impact should also be achieved by combining the Euratom Programme and private sector funds within public-private partnerships in key areas where research and innovation could contribute to Union's wider competitiveness goals. Particular attention should be given to the involvement of small and medium-sized enterprises.	(16) A greater impact should also be achieved by combining the Euratom Programme and private sector funds within public-private partnerships in key areas where research and innovation ***excellence*** could contribute to Union's wider competitiveness goals. Particular attention should be given to the involvement of small and medium-sized enterprises.

Or. en

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(19) The need for a new approach to control and risk management in Union research funding was recognised by the European Council of 4 February 2011, asking for a new balance between trust and control and between risk-taking and risk avoidance. The European Parliament, in its Resolution of 11 November 2010 on simplifying the implementation of the Research Framework Programmes[1], called for a pragmatic shift towards administrative and financial simplification and stated that the management of Union research funding should be more trust-based and risk-tolerant towards participants.	(19) The need for a new approach to control and risk management in Union research funding was recognised by the European Council of 4 February 2011, asking for a new balance between trust and control and between risk-taking and risk avoidance. The European Parliament ***has called for a radical simplification of Union research and innovation funding*** in its ***resolutions*** of 11 November 2010[1] ***and 11 June 2011***[2]. ***The former resolution*** called for a pragmatic shift towards administrative and financial simplification and stated that the management of Union research funding should be more trust-based and risk-tolerant towards participants ***while the latter emphasisied that any increase of funds should be coupled with***

a radical simplification of funding procedures.

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[1] ***INI/2010/2079***

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[1] ***P7 TA(2011)0401.***

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[2] ***P7 TA-PROV(2011)0266.***

Or. en

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(20) The financial interests of the Union should be protected through proportionate measures throughout the expenditure cycle, including the prevention, detection and investigation of irregularities, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, penalties. A revised control strategy, shifting focus from minimisation of error rates towards risk-based control and fraud detection, should reduce the control burden for participants.	(20) The financial interests of the Union should be protected through ***necessary,*** proportionate ***and efficient*** measures throughout the expenditure cycle, including the prevention, detection and investigation of irregularities, the recovery of funds lost, wrongly paid or incorrectly used and, where appropriate, penalties. A revised control strategy, shifting focus from minimisation of error rates towards risk-based control and fraud detection, should reduce the control burden for participants.

Or. en

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(25a) The spending of EU and Member States' funds on research and innovation should be better coordinated in order to assure complementarity, better efficiency

and visibility, as well as to achieve better budgetary synergies.

Or. en

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – point ea (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	(ea) "SME" means a legal entity fulfilling the criteria laid down in the Commission Recommendation 2003/361/EC of 6 May 2003[1].

[1] ***OJ L 124, 30.05.2003 p.36***

Or. en

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
1. The general objective of the Euratom Programme is to improve nuclear safety, security and radiation protection, and to contribute to the long-term decarbonisation of the energy system in a safe, efficient and secure way. The general objective shall be implemented through the activities specified in Annex I in the form of direct and indirect actions which pursue the specific objectives set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article.	1. The general objective of the Euratom Programme is ***to promote research and training excellence activities*** to improve nuclear safety, security and radiation protection, and to contribute to the long-term decarbonisation of the energy system in a safe, efficient and secure way. The general objective shall be implemented through the activities specified in Annex I in the form of direct and indirect actions which pursue the specific objectives set out in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article.

Or. en

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point (h)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
(h) ensure availability and use of research infrastructures of pan-European relevance;	(h) ensure availability and use ***and promote the development of new*** research infrastructures of pan-European relevance;

Or. en

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
For the implementation of indirect actions of the Euratom Programme, no more than ***13.5 %*** shall be for the Commission's administrative expenditure	For the implementation of indirect actions of the Euratom Programme, no more than ***7%*** shall be for the Commission's administrative expenditure

Or. en

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
	1a. A maximum amount of EUR […] million in current prices shall be available for ITER for the period from 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2018.

Or. en

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission	*Amendment*
By 31 May ***2017***, and taking into account the ex-post evaluation of the Euratom 7th Framework Programme established by Decision 2006/970/Euratom and of the Euratom Programme (2012-2013) established by Decision 20XX/XX/Euratom to be completed by the end of 2015, the Commission shall carry out, with the assistance of independent experts, an interim evaluation of the Euratom Programme on the achievements, at the level of results and progress towards impacts, of the objectives and continued relevance of all the measures, the efficiency and use of resources, the scope for further simplification, and European added value. The evaluation shall additionally take into account the contribution of the measures to the Union priorities of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and results on the long-term impact of the predecessor measures.	By 31 May ***2016***, and taking into account the ex-post evaluation of the Euratom 7th Framework Programme established by Decision 2006/970/Euratom and of the Euratom Programme (2012-2013) established by Decision 20XX/XX/Euratom to be completed by the end of 2015, the Commission shall carry out, with the assistance of independent experts, an interim evaluation of the Euratom Programme on the achievements, at the level of results and progress towards impacts, of the objectives and continued relevance of all the measures, the efficiency and use of resources, the scope for further simplification, and European added value. ***This evaluation shall also take into consideration aspects relating to access to funding opportunities for extending the excellence of the Union's science and innovation base for SMEs and for promoting gender balance. The*** evaluation shall additionally take into account the contribution of the measures to the Union priorities of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and results on the long-term impact of the predecessor measures.

Or. en