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AMENDMENTS 001-029

by the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Report

Jan Březina A7-0360/2011

Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for nuclear research and training activities

Proposal for a decision (COM(2011)0072 – C7-0077/2011 – 2011/0046(NLE))

Amendment 1

Proposal for a decision Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) The design and implementation of the Framework Programme (2012 - 2013) should be based on the principles of simplicity, stability, transparency, legal certainty, consistency, excellence and trust following the recommendations of the European Parliament in its resolution of 11 November 2010 on simplifying the implementation of the Research Framework Programmes¹.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a decision Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) The improvement of nuclear safety and, where relevant, security aspects,

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA (2010)0401.

should be prioritised given the possible cross-border impact of nuclear incidents.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a decision Recital 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6a) The European Sustainable Nuclear Industrial Initiative (ESNII) has as its aim the deployment of Gen-IV Fast Neutron Reactors with closed fuel cycle between 2035 and 2040. It follows three lines of technological development and includes four major projects: the ASTRID prototype (sodium cooled), the ALLEGRO experimental model (gas cooled), the ALFRED demonstrator (lead cooled) and, as support infrastructure for the latter technology, the MYRRHA fast neutron irradiation facility (lead-bismuth cooled).

Amendment 4

Proposal for a decision Recital 6 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6b) Three major European cooperative initiatives in nuclear science and technology were launched under the Seventh Euratom Framework Programme (2007 to 2011). They are the Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform (SNETP), the Implementing Geological Disposal Technology Platform (IGDTP) and the Multidisciplinary European Low Dose Initiative (MELODI). Both SNETP and IGDTP correspond with SET-Plan objectives.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a decision Recital 6 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6c) In view of the accident at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in Japan resulting from the earthquake and tsunami of 11 March 2011, additional research work in the field of nuclear fission safety is necessary in order to reassure Union citizens that the safety of nuclear facilities based in the Union continues to meet the highest international standards. Such additional work requires an increase in the budget allocation for nuclear fission.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a decision Recital 9 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9a) An agreement on additional funding of ITER solely through transfers of unused 2011 margins of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and without redeployments from the Seventh EU Framework Programme (2007-2013) to the Framework Programme (2012-2013) would allow for swift adoption of the programme in 2011.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a decision Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) The Council Conclusions on the need for skills in the nuclear field, adopted at its meeting held on 1 and 2 December 2008, recognise that it is essential to maintain within the Community a high level of training in the nuclear field.

Amendment 8

Amendment

(11) The Council Conclusions on the need for skills in the nuclear field, adopted at its meeting held on 1 and 2 December 2008, recognise that it is essential to maintain within the Community a high level of training, *and proper working conditions*, in the nuclear field.

Proposal for a decision Recital 14 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(14a) The Commission, the European Council, the Council and the Member States are to start a process to amend the Euratom Treaty, strengthening its provisions on the information and colegislation rights of the European Parliament on Euratom research and environmental protection issues in order to facilitate, inter alia, future budgetary procedures.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a decision Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) This Decision should establish, for the entire duration of the Framework Programme (2012-2013), a financial envelope that constitutes the prime reference, within the meaning of point 37 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 17 May 2006 on budgetary discipline and sound financial management, for the budgetary authority during the annual budgetary procedure.

Amendment

(16) This Decision should establish, for the entire duration of the Framework Programme (2012-2013), a financial envelope that constitutes the prime reference, within the meaning of point 37 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission of 17 May 2006 on budgetary discipline and sound financial management (IIA), for the budgetary authority during the annual budgetary procedure. To accommodate the Framework Programme (2012-2013) in the MFF for the years 2012 and 2013, it will be necessary to amend the MFF by increasing the ceiling of Heading 1a. If no other 2011 MFF margins are available to be transferred in 2012 and 2013, the Flexibility Instrument, as provided for in point 27 of the IIA, should be mobilised.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a decision Recital 16 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(16a) For the 2014-2020 MFF, the financial resources dedicated to the ITER project should be fixed for the whole programming period so that any over-running of the costs beyond the EU share of EUR 6 600 000 000 for the ITER construction period, currently planned to be finalised in 2020, should be financed outside the MFF ceilings ('ring fencing').

Amendment 11

Proposal for a decision Recital 18

Text proposed by the Commission

(18) The international and global dimension of European research activities is important with a view to obtain mutual benefits. The Framework Programme (2012-2013) should be open to the participation of countries that have concluded the necessary agreements to this effect, and should also be open, at project level and on the basis of mutual benefit, to the participation of entities from third countries and of international organisations for scientific cooperation.

Amendment

(18) The international and global dimension of European research activities is important with a view to obtain mutual benefits. The Framework Programme (2012-2013) should therefore on the one *hand* be open to the participation of countries that have concluded the necessary agreements to this effect, and should also be open, at project level and on the basis of mutual benefit, to the participation of entities from third countries and of international organisations for scientific cooperation. On the other hand, this also means that, particularly with regard to the ITER project, the international partners should fully respect their financial obligations.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a decision Article 2 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Framework Programme (2012-2013) shall pursue the general objectives set out in Article 1 and Article 2(a) of the Treaty, while contributing towards the creation of the Innovation Union and

Amendment

1. The Framework Programme (2012-2013) shall pursue the general objectives set out in Article 1 and Article 2(a) of the Treaty, placing particular emphasis on nuclear safety, security and radiation

building on the European Research Area.

protection, while contributing towards the creation of the Innovation Union and building on the European Research Area.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a decision Article 2 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. The Framework Programme (2012-2013) shall contribute to implementing the SET-plan. Its actions should take into account the Strategic Research Agenda of the three existing European technology platforms on nuclear energy: SNETP, IGDTP and MELODI.

Justification

More emphasis could be put on the need for coherence between the research and training activities to be pursued in 2012-2013 and the strategic research agendas of three major European cooperative initiatives which have been launched under the 7th Euratom framework program: the European Sustainable Nuclear Industrial Initiative under SET-Plan (encompassing the Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform – SNETP - and the Implementing Geological Disposal Technology Platform - IGDTP) and the Multidisciplinary European Low-Dose Initiative (MELODI).

Amendment 14

Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

The maximum amount for the implementation of the Framework Programme (2012-2013) shall be EUR 2 560 270 000. This amount shall be distributed as follows (in EUR):

Amendment

The maximum amount for the implementation of the Framework Programme (2012-2013) shall be EUR 2 *100* 270 000. This amount shall be distributed as follows (in EUR):

Amendment 15

Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

- fusion energy research 2 208 809 000;

- fusion energy research 1 748 809 000;

Amendment 16

Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a – indent 2

Text proposed by the Commission

nuclear fission and radiation protection 118 245 000; Amendment

nuclear fission, especially safety,
improving the management of nuclear waste and radiation protection 118 245 000;

Amendment 17

Proposal for a decision Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b – indent 1

Text proposed by the Commission

– nuclear activities of the JRC 233 216 000.

Amendment

 nuclear activities of the JRC relating to nuclear safety, environmental protection and decommissioning 233 216 000

Amendment 18

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Special attention shall be paid to the development of contractual arrangements that reduce the risk of failure to perform as well as the reallocation of risks and costs over time.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. Special attention shall be paid to initiatives ancillary to core nuclear research, in particular as regards investment in human capital and adequate working conditions and actions aimed at addressing the risk of skills shortages in the coming years.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a decision Article 6 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. The Member States and the Commission shall establish a review of professional qualifications, training and skills in the nuclear field in the Union, which gives an overall picture of the current situation and enable appropriate solutions to be identified and implemented.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a decision Annex I – part I.A – section 3 – point 2

Text proposed by the Commission

A focused physics and technology programme will exploit the Joint European Torus (JET) and other ITER-relevant magnetic confinement devices. It will assess specific key ITER technologies, consolidate ITER project choices, and prepare for ITER operation.

Amendment

A focused physics and technology programme will exploit the Joint European Torus (JET) and other ITER-relevant magnetic confinement devices (including, potentially, via new experiments to be implemented and run in parallel with ITER). It will assess specific key ITER technologies, consolidate ITER project choices, and prepare for ITER operation.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a decision Annex I – part I.B – section 1 – Objective

Text proposed by the Commission

Establishing a sound scientific and technical basis in order to accelerate practical developments for the safer management of long-lived radioactive waste, enhancing in particular the safety, resource efficiency and cost-effectiveness of nuclear energy and ensuring a robust and socially acceptable system of protection of man and the environment against the effects of ionising radiation.

Amendment

Establishing a sound scientific and technical basis in order to accelerate practical developments for the safer management of long-lived radioactive waste, enhancing in particular the safety, resource efficiency and cost-effectiveness of nuclear energy and ensuring a robust and socially acceptable system of protection of man and the environment against the effects of ionising radiation.

Special attention should be given to longlived nuclear waste when decommissioning outdated systems.

Amendment 23

Proposal for a decision Annex I – part I.B – section 3 - point 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Support for the retention and further development of scientific competence and human capacity in order to guarantee the availability of suitably qualified researchers, engineers and employees in the nuclear sector over the longer term.

Amendment

Continued support for the retention and development of qualified personnel required to maintain the nuclear independence of the Union and consistently ensure, and improve the level of, nuclear safety. It is crucial to keep nuclear expertise in the Union, as regards radioprotection and the dismantling of nuclear facilities, as nuclear energy will play a key role in the Union's energy mix, including decommissioning and long-life waste-management activities.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a decision Annex I – part II – section 2 - paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

To fulfil this goal, there is a clear need for developing knowledge, skills and competence to provide the required scientific state of the art independent and reliable expertise in support to the Union's policies in the domains of nuclear reactor and fuel cycles safety, nuclear safeguards and security. The *customer driven support* to the Union's policy underlined in the JRC's mission will be complemented with a proactive role within the European Research Area in undertaking high quality research activities in close contact with industry and other bodies and developing networks with public and private institutions in the Member States

Amendment

To fulfil this goal, there is a clear need for developing knowledge, skills and competence to provide the required scientific state of the art independent and reliable expertise in support to the Union's policies in the domains of nuclear safeguards and security. The JRC's mission will be complemented with a proactive role within the European Research Area in undertaking high quality research activities in close contact with industry and other bodies and developing networks with public and private institutions in the Member States. Its role as the supplier of information to the public will be enhanced.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a decision Annex I – part II – section 3 – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. Nuclear security, will further support the accomplishment of Community commitments, in particular development of methods for the control of the fuel cycle facilities, the implementation of the additional protocol including environmental sampling and integrated safeguards, and the prevention of the diversion of nuclear and radioactive materials associated with illicit trafficking of such materials including the nuclear forensics.

Amendment

3. Nuclear security, will further support the accomplishment of Community commitments, in particular development of methods for the control of the fuel cycle facilities, the implementation of the additional protocol including environmental sampling and integrated safeguards, and the prevention of the diversion of nuclear and radioactive materials associated with illicit trafficking of such materials including the nuclear forensics. It is necessary to make use of optimal monitoring instruments of all civilian nuclear activities, including transportation operations or storage location of any radioactive materials.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a decision Annex II – introduction – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The management of European research funding should be more trust-based and risk-tolerant towards participants at all stages of the projects, while ensuring accountability, with flexible Union rules to improve alignment, where possible, with existing different national regulations and recognised accounting practices.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a decision Annex II – introduction – paragraph 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

It is necessary to strike a balance between trust and control – between risk taking

and the dangers that risk involves – in ensuring the sound financial management of Union research funds.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a decision Annex II – point 2 – point a – point 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Support for research projects carried out by consortia with participants from different countries, aiming to develop new knowledge, new technology, products or common resources for research. The size, scope and internal organisation of projects can vary from field to field and from topic to topic. Projects can range from small or medium-scale focused research actions to larger integrating projects that mobilise a significant volume of resources for achieving a defined objective. Support for the training and career development of researchers will be included in project work plans.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a decision Annex II – point 2– point a – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Support for activities to coordinate coordinating or supporting research (networking, exchanges, trans-national access to research infrastructures, studies, conferences, contributions during construction of new infrastructure, etc.) or to promote the development of human resources (e.g. networking and setting up training schemes). These actions may also be implemented by means other than calls for proposals.

Amendment

Support for research projects carried out by consortia with participants from different countries, aiming to develop new knowledge, new technology, products or common resources for research. The size, scope and internal organisation of projects can vary from field to field and from topic to topic. Projects can range from small or medium-scale focused research actions to larger integrating projects that mobilise a significant volume of resources for achieving a defined objective. Support for the training and career development of researchers will be included in project work plans. Standardisation activities will be included in project work programme.

Amendment

Support for activities to coordinate coordinating or supporting research (networking, exchanges, trans-national access to research infrastructures, studies, conferences, *participation in standardisation bodies*, contributions during construction of new infrastructure, etc.) or to promote the development of human resources (e.g. networking and setting up training schemes). These actions may also be implemented by means other than calls for proposals.