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REPORT

on the proposal for a Council decision concerning the conclusion of an Agreement between the Community and the Swiss Confederation in the audiovisual field, establishing the terms and conditions for the participation of the Swiss Confederation in the Community programme MEDIA 2007, and a Final Act
(COM(2007)0477 – C6-0328/2007 – 2007/0171(CNS))

Committee on Culture and Education

Rapporteur: Ruth Hieronymi

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
majority of the votes cast
- **I Cooperation procedure (first reading)
majority of the votes cast
- **II Cooperation procedure (second reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position
majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend the common position
- *** Assent procedure
majority of Parliament's component Members except in cases covered by Articles 105, 107, 161 and 300 of the EC Treaty and Article 7 of the EU Treaty
- ***I Codecision procedure (first reading)
majority of the votes cast
- ***II Codecision procedure (second reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position
majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend the common position
- ***III Codecision procedure (third reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the joint text

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the Commission.)

Amendments to a legislative text

In amendments by Parliament, amended text is highlighted in ***bold italics***. Highlighting in *normal italics* is an indication for the relevant departments showing parts of the legislative text for which a correction is proposed, to assist preparation of the final text (for instance, obvious errors or omissions in a given language version). These suggested corrections are subject to the agreement of the departments concerned.

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DRAFT EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

on the proposal for a Council decision concerning the conclusion of an Agreement between the Community and the Swiss Confederation in the audiovisual field, establishing the terms and conditions for the participation of the Swiss Confederation in the Community programme MEDIA 2007, and a Final Act (COM(2007)0477 – C6-0328/2007 – 2007/0171(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal for a Council decision (COM(2007)0477),
 - having regard to Article 150(4) and Article 157(3), in conjunction with Article 300(2), first sentence, of the EC Treaty,
 - having regard to Article 300(3), first subparagraph, of the EC Treaty, pursuant to which the Council consulted Parliament (C6-0328/2007),
 - having regard to Rules 51 and 83(7) of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Culture and Education (A6-0512/2007),
1. Approves the conclusion of the agreement;
 2. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission, and the governments and parliaments of the Member States and the Swiss Confederation.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

According to Article 8 of the Decision establishing the terms and the conditions for participation in the Community programme MEDIA 2007, the programme is open to EFTA countries which are members of the EEA, as well as European third countries party to the Convention of the Council of Europe on Transfrontier Television. The opening-up of the Programmes to such European third countries is subject to prior examination as to the compatibility of their national legislation with the Community acquis, in both its internal and external dimensions.

As a party to the Council of Europe Convention, Switzerland showed continued interest in strengthening cooperation with the EU in the audiovisual sector, and in particular participating in the EU's MEDIA programmes.

The Council authorised on 12 February 2007 the opening of negotiations with Switzerland for its participation in the MEDIA 2007 programme. On the basis of the negotiating directives attached to the Council decision authorising the opening of negotiations, and in consultation with the relevant committee appointed by the Council, the Commission has conducted negotiations with Switzerland for a new Agreement permitting its participation in MEDIA 2007.

Parliament is now being consulted on the proposal for a Council decision on the agreement negotiated by the Commission. Within Parliament, the Committee on Culture and Education decided to deliver its opinion pursuant to Rule 83 of the Rules of Procedure of the European Parliament.

Switzerland's contribution to the EU Budget for participating in the MEDIA 2007 is EUR 40 million for the period 2007-2013.

PROCEDURE

Title	Agreement between the EC and Switzerland on the Community programme MEDIA 2007
References	COM(2007)0477 - C6-0328/2007 - 2007/0171(CNS)
Date of consulting Parliament	3.10.2007
Committee responsible Date announced in plenary	CULT 11.10.2007
Committee(s) asked for opinion(s) Date announced in plenary	AFET 11.10.2007
Not delivering opinions Date of decision	AFET 12.9.2007
Rapporteur(s) Date appointed	Ruth Hieronymi 27.8.2007
Date adopted	18.12.2007
Result of final vote	+: 21 -: 1 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Maria Badia i Cutchet, Guy Bono, Marie-Hélène Descamps, Věra Flasarová, Milan Gaľa, Vasco Graça Moura, Ruth Hieronymi, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, Manolis Mavrommatis, Ljudmila Novak, Doris Pack, Zdzisław Zbigniew Podkański, Mihaela Popa, Christa Prets, Pál Schmitt, Hannu Takkula, Helga Trüpel, Thomas Wise
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Erna Hennicot-Schoepges, Christel Schaldemose, Cornelis Visser