

3 April 2000

B5-0316/2000

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

further to Oral Question B5-0207/2000

pursuant to Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure

by the following Members: Bradbourn, Jarzembowski and Jonathan Evans

on behalf of the PPE-DE Group

on additionality

B5-0316/2000**Resolution on additionality**

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Articles 158-161 of the EC Treaty,
 - having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999 of 21 June 1999 laying down general provisions on the Structural Funds,
 - having regard to the list of eligible areas in Objective 1 adopted by the Commission on 1 July 1999,
- A. whereas the regulation governing the European Structural Funds demands that the national authorities co-finance the interventions of the Funds,
- B. whereas, conforming with the principle of additionality, appropriations from the funds may not replace public or similar structural expenditure by the Member States but must complement such expenditure as a whole,
- C. whereas Article 11 of the abovementioned Regulation stipulates that the Commission and the Member State concerned shall determine the level of public or equivalent structural expenditure that the Member State is to maintain in the sum of its regions covered by Objective 1 during the programming period,
- D. whereas Articles 16 ('Plans') and 17 ('Community support frameworks') of the Regulation specify the information for the ex ante verification of additionality, including a financial table,
- E. whereas the overall objective of the ex ante verification should be to set realistic and sufficiently ambitious targets for public structural expenditure in order to ensure the additionality of the Structural Funds,
1. Considers that additionality is one of the fundamental principles upon which the Funds operate to ensure that the Structural Funds have a real impact on the eligible regions;
 2. Recalls that the regulation governing the European Structural Funds demands that the national authorities co-finance the operations of the Funds;
 3. Recalls that the efficiency of the Funds depends largely on the political and budgetary priorities established by the Member States in relation to the development of the poorer regions;
 4. Considers, in view of this, that public structural expenditures assigned to the areas in Objective 1 must attain the objectives established by the Treaty;

5. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Commission, the Council and the Member States.