



2015/2353(INI)

27.4.2016

OPINION

of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety

for the Committee on Budgets

on the preparation of the post-electoral revision of the MFF 2014-2020:
Parliament's input ahead of the Commission's proposal
(2015/2353(INI))

Rapporteur: Francesc Gambús

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SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety calls on the Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Calls for the revision of the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) in order to ensure that the European Union achieves its 2020 climate and energy policy targets and is on track to achieve in the most efficient way the goals set at COP21 in Paris and the EU 2030 and 2050 climate goals; underlines that transforming the European economy into a low-carbon economy will be one of the main challenges the European Union will have to face in the coming years; notices further that under the Paris Agreement, EU funding needs to be allocated to supporting climate action in developing countries; asks the Commission to address this in the MFF review/revision;
2. Notes that as at least 20 % of the MFF for 2014-2020 should be spent on climate-change-related action, and notes that the Commission's mainstreaming methodology has calculated that 12.7 % of the 2014 budget was spent on climate change and 12.5 % allocated in the 2015 draft budget; urges the Commission to provide definitive figures for the 2015 budget as implemented, and also for the prospective spending on climate action required in the remaining years of the current MFF in order to meet the 20 % target needed to guarantee that the targets under the Paris Agreement are met; calls on the Commission to guarantee that the mechanism of climate action mainstreaming is fully operationalised; stresses that an increase in the current 20 % rate could be considered a budget-neutral tool to help transform Europe into a sustainable low-carbon economy;
3. Calls on the Commission to ensure that Union financial resources contain neither subsidies that are harmful to the climate or lock in fossil fuel infrastructure or support activities which damage ecosystems and biodiversity nor fossil fuel subsidies; also calls on the Commission to introduce an effective method of tracking biodiversity spending in the Union budget;
4. Stresses that the review of the MFF should not be used by the Member States to unload onto the EU budget their responsibilities deriving from the Paris joint goal of USD 100 billion per year to support developing countries;
5. Notes that the implementing regulation for Horizon 2020 has set a higher climate action target than that of the overall EU budget; believes that, for climate-related expenditure to exceed 35 % of the overall Horizon 2020 budget, more accurate and complete tracking of climate action within Horizon 2020 is required, as well as an increased focus on the parts of Horizon 2020 that are potentially climate-relevant, but have so far not delivered significant climate action;
6. Considers, given that the added value of the ecosystems and biodiversity of the European environment must be ensured, that the MFF should recognise this value by allocating sufficient resources in the upcoming budgets to preserve this biodiversity, mainly, but not only, in rural areas;
7. Stresses that, in the light of the EU's current commitments to halting the loss of

biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in Europe by 2020, we must make sure that the overall EU spending has no negative impacts on biodiversity and supports the achievement of our biodiversity targets;

8. Considers that the MFF should provide an adequate budget and financing for the Natura 2000 network, in particular through the LIFE programme, which aims to promote the implementation of environment, energy and climate objectives and their integration into other policies and Member State practice; notes with concern the decrease in payment appropriations in the 2015 budget for the LIFE programme, resulting mainly from the postponement of some projects owing to the economic situation and delays in disbursements for the Natural Capital Financing Facility financial instrument;
9. Calls on the Commission to start a Fitness Check of the CAP as soon as possible on the basis of the five fitness check questions: EU value added, relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and policy coherence;
10. Considers that CAP financing must be aligned so as to contribute to Union environmental policy objectives, inter alia air quality, water, biodiversity and climate policy goals;
11. Considers the Health for Growth programme for 2014-2020 to be a key instrument and, this being the case, underlines the need to ensure that its budget is maintained;
12. Calls on the Commission to assess whether the objectives of the Horizon 2020 programme are being met after the redeployment of funds to the European Fund for Strategic Investment, and to at least restore the programme's budgetary envelope;
13. Notes that the transition to a more circular economy will stimulate energy and resource efficiency and will contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and hence calls for adequate financial support for the implementation of the Circular Economy Package;
14. Considers that the revision of the MFF should make provision for the fact that food safety and security will be challenges in the coming years, given the increased pressure on resources and the increasing prevalence of plant disease in the EU; this provision could be used to tackle malnutrition trends in Member States and also to enhance food quality and food safety by improving the effectiveness, efficiency and reliability of official controls as a vital tool for maintaining a high level of safety for humans, animals and plants along the food chain, while ensuring a high level of protection for the environment.
15. Considers that the revision of the MFF should take into account the increase in the number and seriousness of natural and man-made disasters by allocating more resources to the civil protection instrument and allowing them to be used more flexibly.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE ASKED FOR OPINION

Date adopted	26.4.2016
Result of final vote	+: 56 -: 10 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Marco Affronte, Margrete Auken, Pilar Ayuso, Zoltán Balczó, Ivo Belet, Simona Bonafè, Biljana Borzan, Lynn Boylan, Soledad Cabezón Ruiz, Nessa Childers, Alberto Cirio, Birgit Collin-Langen, Mireille D'Ornano, Seb Dance, Angélique Delahaye, Jørn Dohrmann, Ian Duncan, Stefan Eck, Bas Eickhout, Eleonora Evi, José Inácio Faria, Francesc Gambús, Elisabetta Gardini, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Jens Gieseke, Julie Girling, Matthias Groote, Françoise Grossetête, Andrzej Grzyb, György Hölvényi, Anneli Jäätteenmäki, Jean-François Jalkh, Benedek Jávor, Karin Kadenbach, Kateřina Konečná, Giovanni La Via, Peter Liese, Norbert Lins, Susanne Melior, Miroslav Mikolášik, Massimo Paolucci, Gilles Pargneaux, Piernicola Pedicini, Bolesław G. Piecha, Pavel Poc, Renate Sommer, Daciana Octavia Sârbu, Davor Škrlec, Estefanía Torres Martínez, Nils Torvalds, Jadwiga Wiśniewska, Damiano Zoffoli
Substitutes present for the final vote	Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, Nicola Caputo, Fredrick Federley, Giorgos Grammatikakis, Merja Kyllönen, Gesine Meissner, Marijana Petir, Gabriele Preuß, Jasenko Selimovic, Kay Swinburne, Keith Taylor, Mihai Țurcanu, Tom Vandenkendelaere
Substitutes under Rule 200(2) present for the final vote	Marie-Christine Boutonnet