ORAL QUESTION H-0238/06 for Question Time at the part-session in April 2006 pursuant to Rule 109 of the Rules of Procedure by Stanisław Jałowiecki to the Commission

Subject: Implementation of TEN-T projects

Attaining the goals of the Lisbon Strategy will not be possible without efficient European transport networks. The 1994 Essen Summit and subsequently Commission decisions 1692/96/EC¹ and 884/2004/EC², together with the report of the high-level group chaired by Karel Van Miert laid down Community guidelines for the TEN-T and identified 30 priority projects.

The Commission's substantially reduced budget proposal, amounting to 20.3 billion euro for the trans-European transport networks under the Financial Perspective for the period 2007-2013, together with the appointment of coordinators for six of the 30 TEN-T projects, is raising concerns as to the future implementation of the remaining 24 projects.

How does the Commission intend to finance the remaining 24 projects, including the project, Railway axis 23 - Gdansk-Warsaw-Brno/Bratislava-Venice, which is of strategic importance for the social and economic development of central Europe? How will the Galileo project be funded, given the lack of resources for this purpose in the TEN-T budget and the shrinking funds available in the proposed budget for the seventh EU framework programme?

Tabled: 16.03.2006

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¹ OJ L 228, 9.9.1996, p. 1

² OJ L 167, 30.4.2004, p. 1