

ORAL QUESTION WITH DEBATE O-0068/04

pursuant to Rule 108 of the Rules of Procedure

by Josep Borrell Fontelles, on behalf of the Temporary committee on policy challenges and budgetary means of the enlarged Union 2007-2013
to the Commission

Subject: Preparation of the next financial perspective

On 10 February 2004, the Commission initiated the process for the preparation of the new financial perspective by adopting an initial communication which set out the political goals for the enlarged Union with the aim of matching policy challenges to budgetary resources between now and 2013.

On 14 July 2004, the Commission adopted a series of communications which put forward form proposals in connection with the principles set out in the February communication.

In order to ensure continuity, the Commission has also adopted a number of legislative proposals, since most current legislation expires in 2006.

However, Article 26 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 provides that 'before 1 July 2005 the Commission will present proposals for a new medium term financial perspective'.

Given the above, how far can the Commission recently confirmed by the European Parliament endorse:

- the structure of the new financial perspective
- the duration of the new financial programme which will commit the next Commission and the next European Parliament
- all the proposals in what is known as the 'Prodi package',

or does it consider that it should be readjusted and, if so, on which issues?

Is the Commission ready to take account of other institutions' priorities?

Tabled: 21.10.2004

Forwarded: 25.10.2004

Deadline for reply: 01.11.2004