



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on Regional Development

2010/0257(COD)

24.3.2011

OPINION

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Transport and Tourism

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Programme to support the further development of an Integrated Maritime Policy
(COM(2010)0494 – C7-0292/2010 – 2010/0257(COD))

Rapporteur: Rosa Estaràs Ferragut

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SHORT JUSTIFICATION

Coastal regions are fundamental for economic growth in the European Union and its Member States. Many of them are key fishing centres and import/export nodes, as well as being attractive tourist destinations.

The Commission, Council and Parliament have delivered a number of opinions on the new concept for an Integrated Maritime Policy and on what its objectives should be. It is an approach which is both complex and necessary. The overarching aim is to harness the whole potential of maritime resources in a sustainable way so as to benefit the whole of the European Union.

The development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy need to be consolidated, at this stage, by allocating sufficient financial resources and ensuring the continuity of preparatory actions and pilot projects. The rapporteur therefore unreservedly supports the proposal for a regulation submitted by the Commission. In the light of the various contacts she has made, she also takes the view that the sum of money allocated is sufficient for the objectives being pursued in the last three years of the current multiannual financial framework. All the signs are that an allocation of EUR 50 million for the period 2011-2013 is likely to receive the necessary consensus.

The rapporteur would also like to stress the need to guarantee sufficient and continued funding for the next multiannual financial framework from 2014 onwards. The process of defining the next financial perspective has already begun, and given that the Integrated Maritime Policy figures among the EU's priorities, consistency demands that this policy be awarded adequate funds sufficiently in advance. This multiannual awarding of funds should not work to the detriment of other EU policies that have already been consolidated.

From the point of view of financing the various actions under this programme, a degree of regional balance should be observed when allocating the funds available. The rapporteur highlights this issue in an amendment to Article 2 of the regulation.

The remaining amendments - to Articles 2, 3, 4, 10 and 11 - are designed to fine-tune some of the regulation's objectives in order to bring them into line with those of the Integrated Maritime Policy, clarify the content of some of the actions eligible for funding and shore up the Commission's responsibility in relation to the supervision and control of the programme's implementation.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Transport and Tourism, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) A continued Union **financial underpinning** is needed to enable the Union to implement and further develop its Integrated Maritime Policy in line with the European Parliament Resolution of 20 May 2008 on the Integrated Maritime Policy and to pursue its overarching objectives as set out in the Commission's Blue Paper of October 2007, confirmed in the Progress Report of October 2009 and endorsed by the General Affairs Council conclusions of 16 November 2009.

Amendment

(5) Continued Union **funding** is needed to enable the Union to implement and further develop its Integrated Maritime Policy in line with the European Parliament Resolution of 20 May 2008 on the Integrated Maritime Policy and to pursue its overarching objectives as set out in the Commission's Blue Paper of October 2007, confirmed in the Progress Report of October 2009 and endorsed by the General Affairs Council conclusions of 16 November 2009.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5a) Sufficient resources will need to be available from 2014 onwards to ensure that the objectives of the Integrated Maritime Policy can be developed and achieved, without undermining the resources earmarked for other policies, whilst at the same time boosting the sustainable development of the Union's maritime regions, including islands and the outermost regions.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5b) The development of maritime affairs through financial support for Integrated Maritime Policy measures will have a significant impact in terms of economic, social, and territorial cohesion.

Justification

Consolidating the IMP by means of a support programme will help to promote the overall harmonious development of the EU and to attain the objectives of economic, social and territorial cohesion set out in Article 174 of the TFEU.

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(6) Union funding should be designed to support exploratory work on actions which aim to promote the strategic objectives of the Integrated Maritime Policy, ***including*** the integrated maritime governance at all levels, the further development and implementation of integrated sea-basin strategies tailored to the specific needs of Europe's different sea basins, the definition of the boundaries of sustainability of human activities in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, which ***constitutes*** the environmental pillar of the Integrated Maritime Policy, paying due attention to their cumulative impacts, on the basis of the ecosystem approach, the further involvement of stakeholders in integrated maritime governance schemes, the further development of cross-cutting tools for integrated policy-making, the promotion of the international dimension of the Integrated Maritime Policy, and sustainable economic growth, employment, innovation and competitiveness.

(6) Union funding should be designed to support exploratory work on actions which aim to promote the strategic objectives of the Integrated Maritime Policy ***and territorial cohesion in this specific context. These objectives include*** the integrated maritime governance at all levels, the further development and implementation of integrated sea-basin strategies tailored to the specific needs of Europe's different sea basins ***and coastal, insular and in particular outermost regions***, the definition of the boundaries of sustainability of human activities in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive ***and the EU Water Framework Directive***, which ***constitute*** the environmental pillar of the Integrated Maritime Policy, paying due attention to their cumulative impacts, on the basis of the ecosystem approach, the further involvement of ***regional and local*** stakeholders in integrated ***multi-level*** maritime governance schemes, the further development of cross-cutting tools ***and a***

cross-sectoral approach for integrated policy-making *aiming at improving synergies and coordination between existing policies and instruments through maritime-related data and knowledge sharing*, the promotion of the international dimension of the Integrated Maritime Policy, and sustainable economic growth, employment, innovation and competitiveness.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) Not all Integrated Maritime Policy priorities and goals are covered by other Union instruments, such as the Cohesion Fund, the European Regional Development Fund, the European Fisheries Fund, the Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) and the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument and it is therefore necessary to establish a Programme to support the further development of the Integrated Maritime Policy (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Programme’).

Amendment

(7) Not all Integrated Maritime Policy priorities and goals are covered by other Union instruments, such as the Cohesion Fund, the European Regional Development Fund, the European Fisheries Fund, the Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities, the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) and the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument and it is therefore necessary to establish a Programme to support the further development of the Integrated Maritime Policy (hereinafter referred to as ‘the Programme’), *instruments which should in any case be better coordinated in the framework of maritime policy in view of achieving greater efficiency and effectiveness in this context.*

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) It is important for the Programme to tie in with other EU policies that may encompass a maritime dimension, in particular the structural funds, the trans-European transport network, the Common Fisheries Policy, tourism, action in relation to the environment and climate change, the Framework Programme for Research and Development and energy policy.

Justification

The integrated approach adopted by the IMP should also be used to identify synergies with other EU policies that may encompass a maritime dimension.

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 8 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8a) According to the Commission communication of 26 May 2004 entitled ‘A stronger partnership for the outermost regions’ (COM(2004)0343), the outermost regions should serve as a link between the Union and the rest of the world, and adopt regional maritime strategies that can facilitate their integration into the surrounding region by closely involving neighbouring countries.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 8 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(8b) The macro-regional strategy for the Baltic Sea and the maritime strategy for the Atlantic region provide a good framework for further development of maritime regions; these strategies can be followed by others, such as the North Sea basin.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(9) The Programme should complement existing and future financial instruments made available by the Member States, at national and sub-national level, for promoting the protection and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and coasts.

(9) The Programme should complement existing and future financial instruments made available by ***the Union and*** the Member States, at national and sub-national level, for promoting the protection and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and coasts ***and for helping to foster more effective cooperation between the Member States and coastal regions.***

Justification

Over and above the matter of funding, the goal of promoting and improving cooperation and dialogue between Member States and their coastal regions is central to the success of the IMP.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(15) To ensure the effectiveness of Union financing, actions funded under this Regulation should be regularly evaluated.

(15) To ensure the effectiveness of Union financing, actions funded under this Regulation should be regularly evaluated,

focusing in particular on their territorial impact.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) to foster the development and implementation of integrated governance of maritime and coastal affairs and integrated *sea basin* strategies;

Amendment

(a) to foster the development and implementation of integrated ***multi-level*** governance of maritime and coastal affairs and integrated strategies ***for all the Union's sea basins, ensuring active and effective involvement of partners such as the regional and local authorities, economic and social partners and civil society actors;***

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) to contribute to the development of tools ***that cut across sea or coast-related sectoral*** policies;

Amendment

(b) to contribute to the development of tools ***relating to the sea, coasts and land-sea, and to create synergies through better coordination of these policies and their instruments;***

Justification

A reference to land-sea links should be inserted so that the IMP can be tied in with territorial development policies. Coastal areas should not be separated from their hinterlands.

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) to support joined up policy-making and to ***promote*** the sustainable use of the marine and coastal resources ***and*** sustainable economic growth, innovation and employment in maritime sectors and coastal regions, in coherence with ***sectoral policy priorities*** and ***actions***;

Amendment

(c) to support joined up policy-making, ***involving regional and local authorities***, and to ***implement*** the sustainable use of the marine and coastal resources ***along with*** sustainable economic growth, innovation and employment in maritime sectors and coastal ***and insular*** regions, ***and in particular outermost regions***, in coherence with ***Union law*** and ***with international commitments***;

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) to further define the boundaries of sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment, in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive;

Amendment

(d) to further define the boundaries of sustainability of human activities that have an impact on the marine environment ***and pollution, as well as on coastal, insular and outermost regions***, in the framework of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive ***and the EU Water Framework Directive***;

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation Article 2 –point d a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(da) to promote both the regional integration of outermost regions through an integrated approach to maritime policy in the surrounding geographical areas and the active involvement of peripheral maritime regions and foster the linkages between these regions, outermost regions

and insular regions with mainland economic centres;

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The general objectives of the Programme shall be pursued in such a way as to maintain adequate regional balance in relation to the funding of actions in the various sea basins.

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) *encourage* Member States or regions to develop or introduce integrated maritime governance;

(a) *assist* Member States or regions to develop or introduce integrated *multi-level* maritime governance;

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) stimulate and reinforce dialogue and cooperation with and among stakeholders on *cross-cutting* issues related to Integrated Maritime Policy;

(b) stimulate and reinforce dialogue and cooperation with and among stakeholders *and partners at all levels of governance as well as with civil society and representatives of professions related to the sea*, on issues related to Integrated Maritime Policy;

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) facilitate the exploitation of synergies, sharing of information and exchange of best practices on maritime policy, including its governance and sectoral policies that have an impact on regional seas and coastal regions or

Amendment

(c) facilitate the exploitation of synergies, sharing of information and exchange of best practices on maritime policy, including its governance and **on** sectoral policies that have an impact on regional seas and coastal, ***insular and outermost*** regions or

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) encourage coordination and efforts to identify synergies between maritime policy and other Union policies, in particular the structural funds, the trans-European transport network, the Common Fisheries Policy, action in relation to the environment and climate change, the Framework Programme for Research and Development and energy policy;

Justification

The integrated approach adopted by the IMP should also be used to identify synergies with other EU policies that may encompass a maritime dimension.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) promote the establishing cross-sectoral cooperation platforms and networks, including interests from industry, research stakeholders, **regions**, public authorities **and** NGOs;

Amendment

(d) promote the establishing **of** cross-sectoral cooperation platforms and networks, including interests from industry, research stakeholders, **regional and local authorities and other** public authorities **as well as** NGOs;

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) maritime spatial planning **and** integrated coastal zone management, **both of which** provide a fundamental tool for eco-system based management and sustainable development of marine areas and coastal regions;

Amendment

(b) maritime spatial planning, integrated coastal zone management **and the development of land-sea links, which promote territorial cooperation or build upon existing structures of territorial cooperation, and** provide a fundamental tool for eco-system based management and sustainable development of marine areas and coastal regions;

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(aa) consultation with relevant stakeholders at regional and local level on issues relating to the specific needs as well as on the territorial impact of any measures envisaged;

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) pooling, monitoring, visualisation of and ensuring public access to a significant amount of data, best practices and of database on Union funded regional projects, *including where appropriate through a secretariat established for one or a number of these purposes*;

Amendment

(d) pooling, monitoring, visualisation of and ensuring public access to a significant amount of data, best practices and of database on Union funded regional projects;

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) actions relating to cross-cutting tools, including test projects.

Amendment

(e) actions relating to cross-cutting tools, including test projects *and macro-regional strategies*.

Justification

Macro-regional strategies should be mentioned, in particular those relating to the Baltic, the Danube and the Atlantic, which encompass a significant maritime dimension.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation Article 10 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. The Commission shall *take all other steps necessary to* verify that actions financed are carried out properly and in compliance with the provisions of this Regulation and the Financial Regulation.

Amendment

6. The Commission shall *assess the territorial impact of the Programme and* verify that actions financed are carried out properly *and are consistent with measures under other sectoral policies and instruments* and in compliance with the

provisions of this Regulation and the
Financial Regulation.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Commission shall ensure that, when actions financed under this Programme are implemented, the financial interests of the Union are protected by:

Amendment

(Does not affect the English version)

PROCEDURE

Title	Programme to support the further development of an integrated maritime policy
References	COM(2010)0494 – C7-0292/2010 – 2010/0257(COD)
Committee responsible	TRAN
Opinion by Date announced in plenary	REGI 7.10.2010
Rapporteur Date appointed	Rosa Estaràs Ferragut 28.10.2010
Discussed in committee	28.2.2011
Date adopted	22.3.2011
Result of final vote	+: 43 -: 1 0: 1
Members present for the final vote	Luís Paulo Alves, Charalampos Angourakis, Sophie Auconie, Victor Boştinaru, Zuzana Brzobohatá, Francesco De Angelis, Tamás Deutsch, Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Danuta Maria Hübner, Juozas Imbrasas, María Irigoyen Pérez, Seán Kelly, Evgeni Kirilov, Constanze Angela Krehl, Petru Constantin Luhan, Elżbieta Katarzyna Łukacijewska, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, Riikka Manner, Iosif Matula, Erminia Mazzoni, Miroslav Mikolášik, Lambert van Nistelrooij, Franz Obermayr, Jan Olbrycht, Markus Pieper, Tomasz Piotr Poręba, Monika Smolková, Georgios Stavrakakis, Csanád Szegedi, Nuno Teixeira, Michail Tremopoulos, Oldřich Vlasák, Joachim Zeller
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Andrea Cozzolino, Karima Delli, Jens Geier, Ivars Godmanis, Karin Kadenbach, Marie-Thérèse Sanchez-Schmid, Vilja Savisaar-Toomast, Elisabeth Schroedter, László Surján
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Vladko Todorov Panayotov, Britta Reimers, Ivo Strejček