MINUTES

Extraordinary Remote Meeting of 8 June 2020, 12.00-14.00

BRUSSELS

The meeting, held with the remote participation of most of those attending, opened at 12.08 on Monday, 8 June 2020, with Younous Omarjee (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda
   Decision: The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Chair’s announcements
   There were no announcements.

3. Amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards the resources for the specific allocation for the Youth Employment Initiative
   REGI/9/03077
   ***I 2020/0086(COD) COM(2020)0206 – C9-0145/2020
   Rapporteur: Younous Omarjee (GUE/NGL)
   Responsible: REGI
   Opinions: BUDG, EMPL, CULT
   • Decision on application of the simplified procedure without amendment (Rule 52(1))
Decision: Approved with simplified procedure without amendments (Rule 52(1)).

Younous Omarjee, Chair and rapporteur for this dossier, reminded MEPs about the content of the dossier and the provisions of Rule 52, checked that there were no objections to the application of the simplified procedure, and declared the proposal approved at committee stage.

Speakers: Laurence Farrenge

4. Structured dialogue with Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms, on the recovery plan, the new MFF proposal and the future of cohesion policy

- Exchange of views with Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms

The Commissioner presented the Commission amended proposals on the Common Provisions Regulation, the ERDF/Cohesion Fund and Just Transition Fund, as well as the new ReactEU proposal. A large number of Members took part in the exchange of views which followed.

Speakers: Younous Omarjee, Elisa Ferreira (Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms), Constanze Krehl, Ondřej Knotek, Francesca Donato, Niklas Nienaß, Martina Michels, Krzysztof Hetman, Andrey Novakov, Susana Solís Pérez Isabel, Herbert Dorfmann, Mathilde Androuët, Monika Vana, Rovana Plumb, Pascal Arimont, Pedro Marques, Irène Tolleret, Álvaro Amaro, Alessandro Panza, Vlad-Marius Botoș, Erik Bergkvist, Stelios Kympouropoulos, Caroline Roose, André Rougé, Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos, Rosa D'Amato

5. Approval of coordinators' decisions

The Committee approved the decisions taken by the REGI coordinators in the course of their meeting by videoconference of 5 June 2020, namely that:

Points’ table

The coordinators took note of the current situation of the points table.

General exchange of view on REGI work, on the recovery plan, the new MFF proposals and their impact on cohesion, on the German Presidency

The coordinators held a full exchange of views on various issues of current interest. The discussion covered the following points in particular:
- the relationship between the traditional funds and the new proposals;
- timing issues;
- the position of the Member States and the Council on the proposals;
- the need to defend the cohesion funds;
- the additional external funding should not lead to a reduction in the basic budget of the funds (particularly ERDF and ESF);
- the additional budget should be subject to conditions and controls along the same lines
as the original funds, and should be programmed on a regional, not national basis;
- red tape should be reduced;
- technical meetings should resume from September in order to prepare trilogues.

**Referrals**

### Amended proposals for the CPR, ERDF-CF and JTF

The coordinators decided that the amended proposals for the CPR, the ERDF-CF and the JTF files should be dealt with in the same way as the modified CPR proposal from January 2020:

- the rapporteur for the amended proposals is the same as for the initial proposal;
- the Commission is invited to present the amended proposals in a committee meeting (time permitting);
- the amended proposals are taken into account in the interinstitutional negotiations (or, in the case of the JTF, already in the ongoing negotiations on the compromise amendments);
- if necessary, the rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs can set out their negotiating position in a consensus-based working document, which could be approved by a vote in committee, and would be published.

**Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 as regards exceptional additional resources and implementing arrangements under the Investment for growth and jobs goal to provide assistance for fostering crisis repair in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and preparing a green, digital and resilient recovery of the economy (REACT-EU)**

COM(2020)0451 - 2020/0101 (COD)

Responsible: REGI
Opinion: EMPL, BUDG, ENVI, ITRE, CULT, CONT

The EPP, S&D and Renew Groups expressed interest in the proposal. The coordinators postponed their final decision on this proposal, pending the debate with the Commissioner and further consultations between the coordinators and groups.

**Opinions**

The coordinators took the following decisions on new legislative opinions:

- Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism (2020/0097(COD), responsible committee: ENVI)
  - No opinion
The coordinators took the following decisions on MFF opinions:

  o No opinion
- (Amended) proposal for a Council regulation laying down the Multiannual Financial Framework for the years 2021 to 2027 (responsible committee: BUDG, not codecision)
  o S&D (2 points)

For this file, REGI will draw up an opinion once the Council has transmitted its draft (consent procedure).

The coordinators took note of the modified proposals for legislative opinions, and noted that the REGI committee would not deal with these unless the main committee requested a renewed referral:


The coordinators took note of the new non-legislative documents for opinion, and noted that the REGI committee would not deal with these unless the main committee requested authorisation to draw up an INI report on these documents:

- COM(2020)0440 Communication on the amended Annual Work Programme for 2020 (responsible committee: AFCO)
- COM(2020)0442 Communication on the Recovery Plan (responsible committee: BUDG)
- COM(2020)0456 Communication on the New Generation (responsible committee: ECON)

**Follow up of the oral question**

The coordinators took note of the fact that the Conference of Presidents did not add to the agenda of the last plenary any oral questions from the committees. It was agreed that the request would be maintained for future plenary sessions.

**Structured dialogue on revised Commission work programme (27 May)**

The coordinators agreed that, after the exchange of views with Commissioner Ferreira on 8 June, the REGI committee should prepare its contribution to the structured dialogue in the form of a letter from the committee chair.

**Research for REGI committee - Proposals for the second half of 2020**

The coordinators approved the following modified research programme for the second half of 2020, to be forwarded to Policy Department B with the following clarifications:

1. Cohesion Policy and the challenges of Climate Change - study

   This study should also consider the special impact on rural areas, the role of fossil fuels such as coal and gas, and the effect of the move towards climate neutrality on cohesion policy.

2. Cohesion Policy measures in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic - study

   This study should also focus on the impact on rural areas.
3. Impact of the crisis caused by the COVID-19 Pandemic on EU Cohesion - study

This study should focus on the impact on different regions.

Gender mainstreaming action plan

The coordinators reapproved the previous term’s gender mainstreaming action plan without modification.

Other business

None.

* * *

6. Any other business

None.

7. Next meetings

6 July 2020, 15.00 - 17.00 (Brussels)

The meeting closed at 14.10.
Younous Omarjee (P) (in the room), Krzysztof Hetman (1st VP), Cristian Ghinea (2nd VP)

François Alfonsi, Mathilde Androuët, Pascal Arimont, Erik Bergkvist, Stéphane Bijoux (in the room), Franc Bogovič, Rosa D’Amato, Francesca Donato (in the room), Raffaele Fitto, Chiara Gemma, Mircea-Gheorghe Hava (in the room), Manolis Kefalogiannis (in the room), Ondřej Knotek (in the room), Constanze Krehl, Pedro Marques, Nora Mebarek, Martina Michels, Andželika Anna Mozdzanowska (in the room), Niklas Nienäß, Andrey Novakov, Alessandro Panza, Tsvetelina Penkova, Caroline Roose, André Rougé (in the room), Susana Solís Pérez (in the room), Irène Tolleret, Monika Vana

Álvaro Amaro, Vlad-Marius Botoș (in the room), Rosanna Conte (in the room), Anna Deparnay-Grunenberg, Herbert Dorfmann, Herbert Dorfmann (in the room), Laurence Farreng, Sandro Gozi (in the room), Hannes Heide (in the room), Krzysztof Jurgiel, Stelios Kyprouopoulos, Lefteris Nikolaou-Alavanos, Mauri Pekkarinen, Rovana Plumb, Bronis Ropė, Simone Schmiedbauer, Tomislav Sokol

209 (7)

216 (3)

56 (8) (Точка от дняния ред/Пункт del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Пункт порядку дня/Punto all’ordine del giorno/Darbo kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkės punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt/Agenda/Agendapunkt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)
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Посетиха: O âm vinh: Elisa Ferreira (M), Dominika Chroszcz-Koczerga (F), Simeona Manova (F), Urszula Romanska (F), Andriana Sukova (F)

Други учástnici: Otros participantes/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi altri partecipanti/Drugi sudionici/Outros participantes/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi altri partecipanti/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi altri partecipanti/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi altri partecipanti/

CoR: Tadhg Browne (F), Chantal Fontaine (F)

EESC: Georgios Meleas (F)
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