



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 25 November 2013

16307/13

**Interinstitutional File:
2013/0271 (COD)**

**CODEC 2600
FSTR 151
SOC 951
REGIO 269
CADREFIN 316
PE 533**

INFORMATION NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 as regards the financial allocation for certain Member States from the European Social Fund
– Outcome of the European Parliament's first reading
(Strasbourg, 18 to 21 November 2013)

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapporteur, Mr Jan OLBRYCHT (EPP, PL) presented a report on behalf of the Committee on Regional Development, aiming at taking over the Commission proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 as regards the financial allocation for certain Member States from the European Social Fund.

II. VOTE

The Parliament adopted its first-reading position on 20 November 2013 by taking over the Commission proposal. This position is contained in its legislative resolution as set out in the Annex hereto¹.

On 25 September 2013, the Permanent Representatives Committee had approved the Commission's proposal without amendments. The Council should therefore be in a position to approve the European Parliament's position. The legislative act would then be adopted in the wording which corresponds to the European Parliament's position.

¹ The version of the Parliament's position in the legislative resolution has been marked up to indicate the changes made by the amendments to the Commission's proposal. Additions to the Commission's text are highlighted in *bold and italics*. The symbol "■" indicates deleted text.

Financial allocation for certain Member States from the European Social Fund *I**

European Parliament legislative resolution of 20 November 2013 on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 as regards the financial allocation for certain Member States from the European Social Fund (COM(2013)0560 – C7-0244/2013 – 2013/0271(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2013)0560),
 - having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 177 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C7-0244/2013),
 - having regard to Article 294(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 17 October 2013¹,
 - after consulting the Committee of the Regions,
 - having regard to the undertakings given by the Council representative by letter of 14 November 2013 to approve Parliament's position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to Rule 55 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Regional Development and the opinions of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs and the Committee on Budgets (A7-0381/2013),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

¹ Not yet published in the Official Journal.

P7_TC1-COD(2013)0271

Position of the European Parliament adopted at first reading on 20 November 2013 with a view to the adoption of Regulation (EU) No .../2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 as regards the financial allocation for certain Member States from the European Social Fund

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 177 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee¹,

After consulting the Committee of the Regions,

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure²,

Whereas:

- (1) In the context of the negotiations of the Multiannual Financial Framework for the years 2014-2020, certain issues stemming from the final outcome of the negotiations should be addressed.
- (2) At its meeting of 27 and 28 June 2013, the European Council considered that a budgetary solution should be found to address those issues for the Member States most affected, namely France, Italy and Spain.

¹ OJ C , , p. .

² Position of the European Parliament of 20 November 2013.

- (3) Having regard to the current economic crisis, in order to strengthen the economic, social and territorial cohesion of the Union, and as a contribution to the special effort needed to address the specific problems of unemployment, in particular youth unemployment, and of poverty and social exclusion in France, Italy and Spain, the European Social Fund (ESF) allocations to those Member States for the year 2013 should be increased.
- (4) In order to establish the amounts to be allocated to the Member States concerned pursuant to Annex I to Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006¹, the provisions that set the overall resources of the Funds for the three objectives to which they contribute, and Annex II to that Regulation establishing the criteria and methodology that are used for the indicative annual breakdowns of commitment appropriations by Member States, should be adjusted.

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 of 11 July 2006 laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and repealing Regulation (EC) No 1260/1999 (OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 25).

- (5) To ensure the effectiveness of the increase of commitment appropriations for the year 2013 and to facilitate the implementation of operational programmes, the absorption capacity of the Member States concerned in respect of the Convergence and the Regional competitiveness and employment objectives of the Funds should be taken into account.
- (6) In order to provide for sufficient time for the operational programmes to benefit from additional ESF allocations, it is also necessary to extend the deadline for the budget commitments in respect of the operational programmes that are to benefit from the new amounts provided for in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006.
- (7) Given that those commitment appropriations relate to the year 2013, this Regulation should enter into force as a matter of urgency.

(8) Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 is amended as follows:

(1) Article 18 is amended as follows:

(a) in paragraph 1, the first subparagraph is replaced by the following:

‘The resources available for commitment from the Funds for the period 2007 to 2013 shall be EUR 308 542 551 107 at 2004 prices in accordance with the annual breakdown shown in Annex I.’;

(b) paragraph 3 is replaced by the following:

‘3. The amounts referred to in paragraphs 12 to 30 and 32 of Annex II shall be included in the amounts referred to in Articles 19, 20 and 21 and shall be clearly identified in the programming documents.’;

(2) Articles 19 and 20 are replaced by the following:

‘Article 19

Resources for the Convergence objective

Overall resources for the Convergence objective shall amount to 81,53 % of the resources referred to in Article 18(1) (i.e. a total of EUR 251 543 760 146) and shall be distributed between the different components as follows:

(a) 70,50 % (i.e. a total of EUR 177 338 880 991) for the financing referred to in Article 5(1), using eligible population, regional prosperity, national prosperity and unemployment rate as the criteria for calculating the indicative breakdowns by Member State;

- (b) 4,98 % (i.e. a total of EUR 12 521 289 405) for the transitional and specific support referred to in Article 8(1), using eligible population, regional prosperity, national prosperity and unemployment rate as the criteria for calculating the indicative breakdowns by Member State;
- (c) 23,23 % (i.e. a total of EUR 58 433 589 750) for the financing referred to in Article 5(2), using population, national prosperity, and surface area as the criteria for calculating the indicative breakdowns by Member State;
- (d) 1,29 % (i.e. a total of EUR 3 250 000 000) for the transitional and specific support referred to in Article 8(3).

Article 20

Resources for the Regional competitiveness and employment objective

Overall resources for the Regional competitiveness and employment objective shall amount to 15,96 % of the resources referred to in Article 18(1) (i.e. a total of EUR 49 239 337 841) and shall be distributed between the different components as follows:

- (a) 78,91 % (i.e. a total of EUR 38 854 031 211) for the financing referred to in Article 6, using eligible population, regional prosperity, unemployment rate, employment rate and population density as the criteria for calculating the indicative breakdowns by Member State; and

(b) 21,09 % (i.e. a total of EUR 10 385 306 630) for the transitional and specific support referred to in Article 8(2), using eligible population, regional prosperity, national prosperity and unemployment rate as the criteria for calculating the indicative breakdowns by Member State.';

(3) In Article 21(1), the introductory sentence is replaced by the following:

'Overall resources for the European territorial cooperation objective shall amount to 2,51 % of the resources referred to in Article 18(1) (i.e. a total of EUR 7 759 453 120) and, excluding the amount referred to in paragraph 22 of Annex II, shall be distributed between the different components as follows:';

(4) In Article 75, the following paragraph is inserted:

'1b. By way of derogation from paragraph 1, budget commitments for the amounts referred to in paragraph 32 of Annex II shall be made by 30 June 2014.';

(5) Annex I is replaced by the following:

'ANNEX I

Annual breakdown of commitment appropriations for 2007 to 2013

(referred to in Article 18)

(EUR, 2004 prices)

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
	42 863 000 000	43 318 000 000	43 862 000 000	43 860 000 000	44 073 000 000	44 723 000 000	45 843 551 107

;

(6) In Annex II, the following paragraph is added:

'32. For the year 2013, an additional envelope of EUR 125 513 290 under the ESF will be allocated as follows: EUR 83 675 527 will be allocated to France, EUR 25 102 658 will be allocated to Italy and EUR 16 735 105 will be allocated to Spain.'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at ...,

For the European Parliament

The President

For the Council

The President