

(2004/C 108/08)

On 22 September 2003, the Council decided to consult the European Economic and Social Committee, under Article 80(2) of the Treaty establishing the European Community, on the above-mentioned proposal.

The Section for Transport, Energy, Infrastructure and the Information Society, which was responsible for preparing the Committee’s work on the subject, adopted its opinion on 8 January 2004. The rapporteur was Mr Green.

At its 405th plenary session on 28 and 29 January 2004 (meeting of 28 January), the European Economic and Social Committee adopted the following opinion by 46 votes to one.

1. Background

1.1 On 1 April 1987, the European Commission instructed its staff that all legislative acts should be codified after a maximum of ten amendments, or at even shorter intervals, to ensure that the Community rules are clear and readily understandable.

1.2 Given that no changes of substance may be made to the instruments affected by codification, an interinstitutional agreement was concluded on 20 December 1994 between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission under which an accelerated procedure may be used for the fast-track adoption of codified instruments.

2. The Commission proposal

2.1 This proposal seeks to codify Directive 92/14/EEC, which governs the use of aircraft in line with the rules laid down at international level. The new directive will supersede the various instruments incorporated in it. Their content is fully preserved, and only such formal amendments are made as are required by the codification exercise.

2.2 The directive deals with noise-emission standards for civil subsonic jet aeroplanes.

3. General comments

3.1 The European Economic and Social Committee fundamentally endorses the Commission proposal which seeks to make Community law clear and transparent.


The President
of the European Economic and Social Committee
Roger BRIESCH