

**Authorization for State aid pursuant to Articles 92 and 93 of the EC Treaty****Cases where the Commission raises no objections**

(97/C 291/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

**Date of adoption:** 4. 12. 1996**Member State:** Finland (Parts of the NUTS III regions of Lappi, Pohjois-Pohjanmaa, Kainuu, Pohjois-Karjala, Etelä-Savo)**Aid No:** N 494/96**Title:** Amendment to the aid scheme for transport in the Nordic regions**Objective:** Regional**Legal basis:** Hallituksen esitys eduskunnalle laiksi kuljetusten alueellisesta tukemisesta annetun lain muuttamisesta**Budget:** Fmk 28 million (ECU 5 million) per year**Aid intensity:** Between 7 % and 29 % of transport costs**Duration:** 1 January 1997 to 31 December 1999**Conditions:** Annual report**Date of adoption:** 5. 2. 1997**Member State:** Sweden (Parts of the counties of Väster-norrland, Jämtland, Västerbotten, Norrbotten, Värmland, Kopparberg and Gävleborg)**Aid No:** NN 82/96**Title:** Aid scheme for transport in the Nordic regions**Objective:** Regional development**Legal basis:** Förordning SFS 1980:803 och SFS 1995:892**Budget:** Skr 287 million (ECU 33 million) per year**Aid intensity:** Intensity of between 5 % and 45 % of transport costs, depending on distance and area**Duration:** 1997 to 2006**Conditions:** Annual report**Date of adoption:** 28. 5. 1997**Member State:** France (Champagne-Ardenne)**Aid No:** N 222/97**Title:** Ford Charleville-Mézières**Objective:** Regional development (Sector: motor vehicle)**Legal basis:** Prime à l'aménagement du territoire: aides *ad hoc***Budget:** Investment (present value): FF 124 million; nge: FF 10,1 million**Aid intensity:** 8,1 % nge**Duration:** Three years**Date of adoption:** 4. 6. 1997**Member State:** Germany (Berlin)**Aid No:** N 901/96**Title:** Liquidity Fund of the *Land* of Berlin to assist firms in difficulty**Objective:** Restructuring aid for firms in difficulty**Legal basis:** Richtlinie für den Liquiditätsfonds Berlin der Senatsverwaltung für Wirtschaft und Betriebe der Stadt Berlin vom 23. 8. 1996**Budget:** DM 100 million (approximately ECU 52,5 million)**Aid intensity:** Maximum loan of DM 5 million (approximately ECU 2,6 million)**Duration:** 31. 12. 2006 (last repayment)**Conditions:** Detailed annual report**Date of adoption:** 26. 6. 1997**Member State:** Italy (Marche)**Aid No:** N 778/96**Title:** Measures pursuant to the programming document 1997 to 1999**Objective:** To promote the development of Objective 2 areas in the region of Marche**Legal basis:** Docup 1997/1999**Budget:** ECU 17,6 million

**Aid intensity:****1. Investment aid:**

- In eligible Article 92 (3) (c) areas, following the decision on scheme N 27/97 (Italian map), the aid may reach the highest intensity authorized

**2. Environmental protection aid:**

- 25 % (point 3.2 (a) of the environmental framework)

**3. Operating aid:**

- *de minimis*

**Duration:** 1997 to 1999**Date of adoption:** 1. 7. 1997**Member State:** Spain (Valencia)**Aid No:** N 16/97**Title:** Modification of investment aid scheme (N 68/95) for SMEs in economic priority areas**Objective:** Regional development by granting incentives to SMEs**Legal basis:** Orden por la que se regula la concesión de incentivos autonómicos en la zona de promoción económica**Budget:** Pta 7 500 million a year (about ECU 45,25 million a year)**Aid intensity:** 30 % gross grant equivalent**Duration:** 1997 to 1999**Date of adoption:** 7. 7. 1997**Member State:** Italy (Campania)**Aid No:** N 571/96**Title:** Measures to assist the craft sector**Objective:** Aid for craft firms**Legal basis:** Disegno di legge regionale recante modifica delle leggi regionali del 4. 5. 1987, n. 28; del 19. 11. 1973, n. 22; del 2. 8. 1982, n. 39; del 25. 8. 1989, n. 12; del 5. 4. 1993, n. 17; del 7. 2. 1995, n. 4**Budget:** ECU 15,7 million over three years**Aid intensity:****1. Investment aid:**

- SMEs: 50 % gge

**2. Recruitment/apprenticeship aid:**

- 60 % of apprenticeship costs in first year
- 50 % of apprenticeship costs in second year
- 40 % of apprenticeship costs in third year
- ECU 2 500 for recruitment of indefinite duration

**3. Product promotion:**

- 50 % of costs of setting up exhibition stand at a fair

**Duration:** Indefinite**Date of adoption:** 7. 7. 1997**Member State:** Spain (Basque Country)**Aid No:** N 141/97**Title:** Aid scheme to promote recruitment**Objective:** Net creation of jobs for certain categories of job-seekers**Legal basis:** Decreto por el que se articulan las medidas de ayudas a la contratación**Budget:** Pta 813 million per year (approximately ECU 4,9 million per year)**Aid intensity:** Between 35 % and 60 % gge**Duration:** 1997 to 1999**Date of adoption:** 7. 7. 1997**Member State:** Spain (Basque Country)**Aid No:** N 142/97**Title:** Aid scheme to promote recruitment of jobless young people**Objective:** Net creation of jobs for young people**Legal basis:** Decreto por el que se articulan las medidas de ayudas a la contratación de jóvenes desempleados**Budget:** Pta 101 million per year (approximately ECU 0,6 million per year)**Aid intensity:** Between 30 % and 50 % gge**Duration:** 1997 to 1999

**Date of adoption:** 15. 7. 1997

**Member State:** Spain (Regions eligible for Objectives 1, 2 and 5 b of the Structural Funds and to which employment in the textile industry represents at least 2 000 jobs and accounts for 10 % of industrial employment in general)

**Aid No:** N 105/97

**Title:** Aid scheme to promote adaptation to international competition and diversification of regions with a strong textile industry

**Objective:** Adaptation to international competition and diversification of regions with a strong textile industry (under the Retex programme)

**Legal basis:** Orden Ministerial

**Budget:** ECU 47,3 million (of which ECU 29,39 million to be financed by the ERDF)

**Aid intensity:** Variable

**Duration:** Until end 1999

**Conditions:** Annual report

**Date of adoption:** 17. 7. 1997

**Member State:** Italy

**Aid No:** N 737/96

**Title:** Refinancing for 1996 of measures to create replacement activities in mining

**Objective:** Creation of replacement activities

**Legal basis:**

- Legge finanziaria 1996 (550/95)
- Legge n. 221 del 30 luglio 1990

**Budget:** ECU 15,64 million

**Aid intensity:**

Investment aid:

- Article 92 (3) (a) areas
  - area A: 50 % nge + bonus for SMEs
  - area B: 40 % nge + bonus for SMEs
- Article 92 (3) (c) areas in accordance with Commission Decision on scheme N 27/97
- Other areas:
  - small enterprises: 15 % gge
  - medium-sized enterprises: 7,5 % gge

**Duration:** One year

**Date of adoption:** 24. 7. 1997

**Member State:** Germany (*Land* of Saxony)

**Aid No:** N 407/97

**Title:** Continued promotion of measures to assist SMEs in the waste recovery and processing sector in Saxony

**Objective:** Environmental protection aid

**Legal basis:** Richtlinie für die Förderung von Maßnahmen der Abfallwirtschaft im Freistaat Sachsen (Verwaltungsvorschrift) in Verbindung mit dem Landeshaushaltsrecht

**Budget:** Approximately DM 1 million (ECU 510 000) per year

**Aid intensity:** Maximum DM 400 000 (ECU 204 700) per year and per firm

**Duration:** 1. 1. 1997 to 31. 12. 2001

**Conditions:** Annual report

**Date of adoption:** 28. 7. 1997

**Member State:** Italy (Piedmont)

**Aid No:** N 821/96

**Title:** Measures pursuant to the programming document 1997 to 1999

**Objective:** To promote the development of Objective 2 areas in Piedmont

**Legal basis:** Docup 1997/1999

**Budget:** ECU 110,811 million in national co-financing

**Aid intensity:**

1. Investment aid:

- small enterprises: 15 % gge
- medium-sized enterprises: 7,5 % gge

In Article 92 (3) (c) eligible areas following the decision of 21. 5. 1997 on aid measure N 27/97 (Italian map), the aid may reach the intensity of 20 % nge in the case of small enterprises and 15 % nge in the case of medium-sized enterprises

2. Consultancy aid:

- 50 % (point 4.2.3 of SME guidelines)

3. Environmental protection aid:

- 30 % (point 3 (2) (b) of environmental guidelines)

## 4. R&amp;D aid:

— up to 35 %

**Duration:** 1997 to 1999**Date of adoption:** 28. 7. 1997**Member State:** Italy (Liguria)**Aid No:** N 161/97**Title:** Measures pursuant to the programming document 1997 to 1999**Objective:** To promote the development of Objective 2 areas in Liguria**Legal basis:** Docup 1997/1999**Budget:** ECU 50,252 million**Aid intensity:**

## 1. Investment aid:

- small enterprises: 15 % gge
- medium-sized enterprises: 7,5 % gge

In Article 92 (3) (c) eligible areas following the decision on aid measure N 27/97 (Italian map), the aid may reach the intensity of 20 % nge in the case of small enterprises and 15 % nge in the case of medium-sized enterprises

## 2. Consultancy aid:

- 50 % (point 4.2.3 of SME guidelines)

## 3. Environmental protection aid:

- 30 %

## 4. Operating aid:

- *de minimis*

**Duration:** 1997 to 1999**Date of adoption:** 30. 7. 1997**Member State:** Germany (Saxony-Anhalt)**Aid No:** N 337/96**Title:** Modification to the guideline on the promotion of consolidation participations for SMEs in the *Land* of Saxony-Anhalt**Objective:** Restructuring SMEs in difficulties**Legal basis:**

- Richtlinie zur Förderung von Konsolidierungsbeteiligungen im Mittelstand
- Mittelstandsförderungsgesetz (MFG) in Verbindung mit Verwaltungsvorschriften der Landeshaushaltsordnung

**Aid intensity:** No additional budget (financed from budgetary resources approved for the consolidation scheme of the *Land* of Saxony-Anhalt (see N 74/95). Form of aid: equity loans (stille Beteiligungen)

**Duration:** Up to 2000**Conditions:** Annual report**Date of adoption:** 30. 7. 1997**Member State:** Italy**Aid No:** NN 84/96**Title:** Aid for cessation of fishing to allow stocks to recover 1996**Objective:** To offset part of the loss income sustained as a result of the temporary cessation of fishing imposed by the Italian authorities to enable fish stocks to recover**Legal basis:** Decreto-legge 23 ottobre 1996, n. 552 coordinato con la legge di conversione 20 dicembre 1996, n. 642 recante: 'Interventi urgenti nel settore agricolo e fermo biologico della pesca per il 1996'**Budget:** Lit 82 585 million (± ECU 39,6 million)**Aid intensity:**

- Aid for fishery undertakings: on the basis of the scales set by Council Regulation (EC) No 1624/95 of 29 June 1995
- Aid for fishermen: Lit 30 000/day (± ECU 14,5/day)

**Duration:** From 31 July to 13 September 1996 for all fishing vessels registered in the maritime areas of the Adriatic Sea. From 31 August 1996 to 14 October 1996 for vessels registered in the maritime areas of the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Ionian Sea**Date of adoption:** 30. 7. 1997 <sup>(1)</sup>**Member State:** Sweden**Aid No:** E 8/96 (ex ESA 93-032)**Title:** Reduction in social security contributions for firms in certain northern regions of Sweden**Objective:** Regional**Legal basis:**

- SFS 1990:912: Lag om nedsättning av socialavgifter
- SFS 1990:983: Förordning om nedsättning av socialavgifter
- Budgetpropositionen för år 1997

<sup>(1)</sup> Appropriate measures pursuant to Article 93 (1) of the EC Treaty.

**Budget:** Skr 420 million (ECU 50 million) for 1997

**Aid intensity:** Reduction of 8 percentage points in the full rate for social security contributions

**Duration:** Until 31. 12. 1999

**Date of adoption:** 30. 7. 1997

**Member State:** The Netherlands

**Aid No:** N 115/97

**Title:** Temporary aid scheme for railway sidings (prolonging and amending the existing scheme for 1995 to 1999 of the same title)

**Objective:** To promote the use of railways in goods transport

**Legal basis:** Wet Infrastructuurfonds van 27 mei 1993 en het Besluit Infrastructuurfonds van 22 november als gewijzigd

**Budget:** Fl 35 million (ECU 15,9 million) Fl 10 million (ECU 4,5 million) in addition to the budget already accepted for the period 1997 to 1999 under the existing scheme

**Aid intensity:** 50 % of the eligible costs with up to 70 % for innovative transport services

**Duration:** 1997 until 31 December 2000

**Date of adoption:** 30. 7. 1997

**Member State:** Spain (Basque Country)

**Aid No:** N 230/97

**Title:** Regional aid scheme to promote R&D

**Objective:** Industrial research and pre-competitive development

**Legal basis:** Decreto por el que se establecen medidas de apoyo a las actividades de investigación y desarrollo tecnológicos

**Budget:** Pta 1 850 million per year (approximately ECU 11,16 million per year)

**Aid intensity:**

- Industrial research: 60 % gge (75 % for SMEs)
- Pre-competitive development: 30 % gge; 40 % gge (50 % for SMEs)

**Duration:** 1997 to 2000

**Date of adoption:** 30. 7. 1997

**Member State:** Italy (Sicily)

**Aid No:** N 250/97

**Title:** Aid to the fishing industry

**Objective:** To modernize the fishing industry in order to increase its efficiency and competitiveness and enable it to tackle a major problem in the Sicilian region: unemployment

**Legal basis:** Disegno di legge: 'Disposizioni organiche in materia di pesca ed attività marinare. Norme in materia di acque interne'

**Budget:** About ECU 70 million for 1997, 1998 and 1999

**Aid intensity:**

- Investment aid: in accordance with the scales and participation rates specified in Annex IV to Council Regulation (EC) No 3699/93
- Exceptional temporary cessation premiums: in accordance with the scales and participation rates specified in Annex IV to Council Regulation (EC) No 3699/93
- Aid to producer groups and producers' organizations: 60 % (year one), 40 % (year two) and 20 % (year three) of the overheads of groups and organizations recognized under Community legislation
- Permanent cessation premiums: in accordance with the scales and participation rates specified in Annex IV to Council Regulation (EC) No 3699/93
- Aid for technical training: 100 % (50 % from the region and 50 % from FIFG)
- Aid for finding employment for the first time: 50 % and 70 % of the costs, per working day, in respect of one apprentice (aid limited to six years per firm)

**Duration:** Unspecified

**Date of adoption:** 4. 8. 1997

**Member State:** Germany (Saxony-Anhalt)

**Aid No:** N 311/97

**Title:** Amendment to the Saxony-Anhalt aid scheme for providing practical and technical equipment for additional traineeships

**Objective:** Aid for SMEs

**Legal basis:** Gewährung von Zuwendungen zur materiell-technischen Ausstattung von zusätzlichen Ausbildungsplätzen des Landes Sachsen-Anhalt

**Budget:** Unchanged from last amendments to the programme

**Aid intensity:** Unchanged from last amendments to the programme

**Duration:** 1997 to 1999 (unchanged)

**Conditions:** Annual report (unchanged)

**Date of adoption:** 22. 8. 1997

**Member State:** Italy (Objective 1 regions)

**Aid No:** N 249/A/97

**Title:** Draft CIPE decision amending the Guarantee Fund for consolidating the debts of SMEs in Objective 1 regions

**Objective:** Debt consolidation

**Legal basis:** Progetto di delibera del CIPE recante modifiche al fondo di garanzia per il consolidamento dei debiti delle PMI dell'obiettivo 1

**Budget:** Unchanged

**Aid intensity:** Operating aid

**Duration:** 31. 12. 1999

### COMMISSION OPINION

of 10 September 1997

concerning the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste from the Centraco nuclear treatment and conditioning plant (France) in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty

(97/C 291/04)

On 20 March 1997, the European Commission received from the French Government, in accordance with Article 37 of the Euratom Treaty, general data relating to the plan for the disposal of radioactive waste resulting from the operation of the Centraco nuclear treatment and conditioning plant.

On the basis of these data and after consulting the group of experts, the Commission has drawn up the following opinion:

1. The nearest point on the territory of another Member State, in this case Italy, is at a distance of 180 km, while the nearest point in Spain is 230 km from the plant.
2. The solid wastes arising from the operation of the Centraco plant are either to be recycled on site or treated *in situ* or *ex situ*. There will be no final storage of any waste on site.
3. Under normal operating conditions, the planned releases of liquid and gaseous effluents will give rise to an exposure of the population of other Member States which is not significant from the health point of view.
4. In the event of unplanned discharges of radioactive waste which may follow an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the general data, the doses liable to be received by the population of other Member States would not be significant from the health point of view.

In conclusion, the Commission is of the opinion that the implementation of the plan for the disposal of radioactive effluents arising from the operation of the Centraco plant, both in normal operation and in the event of an accident of the type and magnitude considered in the general data, is not liable to result in radioactive contamination, significant from the point of view of health, of the water, soil or airspace of another Member State.