

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : III – 307

Suggestion for protocol :

By Mr : Dick Roche

Status : - Member

Article III-307 [ex Article 273]

1. If no budget law has been adopted at the beginning of a financial year, a sum equivalent to not more than one twelfth of the budget appropriations entered in the budget law for the preceding financial year may be spent each month in respect of any chapter or other subdivision of the budget in accordance with the provisions of the European law referred to in [ex Article 279]; this arrangement shall not, however, have the effect of placing at the disposal of the Commission appropriations in excess of one twelfth of those provided for in the draft budget under consideration.

2. The Council, on a proposal by the Commission and in compliance with the other conditions laid down in the first paragraph, may adopt a European decision authorising expenditure in excess of one twelfth. The Council shall forward the decision immediately to the European Parliament.

The European decision shall lay down the necessary measures relating to resources to ensure application of this Article.

It shall enter into force thirty days following its adoption if the European Parliament, acting by a majority of its component members, has not decided to reduce this expenditure within that time-limit.

Explanation (if any) :

I do not oppose the draft articles on the Union's budget. I welcome the provisions that shall ensure that the financial means are made available to allow the Union to fulfil its legal obligations in respect of third parties. I would agree with M. de Villepin that it would also be important that Article III - 122 ensures the maintenance of the current procedures in agricultural matters: the mechanisms of the common organisation of agricultural markets and rural development policy, agricultural assistance and price levels, and conditions for the granting of assistance. These must continue to involve laws adopted by the Council acting by qualified majority, after consultation of the European Parliament.