

Directorate C – Legislative Work 2

Head of Unit C1 - Commission for Territorial Cohesion
Policy and EU Budget



European Committee
of the Regions

Brussels, 28 September 2020
COTER/FA/ms(2020)/NI/ 2919

Memo for the attention of: Mr Petr Blizkovsky, Secretary General
Mr Thomas Wobben, Director - Directorate for Legislative Work 2

Subject: Summary of the decisions taken at the online 5th meeting of the Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget on 24 September 2020

Total number of members in the Commission for Territorial Cohesion Policy and EU Budget: 107

Participants: 78

Full members: 70, Alternate members: 8

Members participating remotely: 78

Members participating in the meeting room: 0

1. Organisation of the future work of the COTER Commission

a) Appointment of rapporteurs:

Following the discussion at the political coordinators' meeting, the COTER Chair decided to postpone the decision on the proposal of the ECR group for an own-initiative opinion on "The situation of regional airports during the COVID-19 pandemic and their adaptation to the new challenges" to the subsequent meeting of the COTER commission.

b) Decisions not draw up an opinion: the COTER commission decided not to draw up an opinion on the following dossiers (COR-2020-3742-00-00-TCD-TRA):

Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council empowering France to negotiate an agreement supplementing its existing bilateral Treaty with the United Kingdom concerning the construction and operation by private concessionaires of a Channel Fixed Link – COM(2020) 622 final

Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive (EU) 2016/798, as regards the application of railway safety and interoperability rules within the Channel Fixed Link – COM(2020) 623 final

c) External activities:

The COTER commission was informed of the cancellation of the 2020 external meeting and conference, planned in Bordeaux for 26/27 November 2020.

d) Ongoing work programme (COR-2020-00410-00-06-TCD-TRA): **adopted**

2. **Opinions**: the opinions were dealt with as follows, according to the procedures for **remote voting** on amendments and opinions:

a) **Opinion COTER-VII/003** COR-2020-02613-00-02-PA-TRA

"Challenges for public transport in cities and metropolitan regions"

Rapporteur: Adam STRUZIK (PL/EPP)

Own-initiative Opinion

Presentation of the draft opinion by the rapporteur and discussion with COTER members.

55 amendments and 0 Rapporteur amendments were tabled.

The vote on the amendments took place remotely on 24 September: 48 amendments were adopted 5 amendments were rejected and 2 amendments fell.

The vote on the opinion as amended took place remotely on 25 September.

The opinion was **adopted unanimously**.

It will be presented for adoption at the Plenary Session on **9-10 December 2020**.

b) **Opinion COTER-VII/007** COR-2020-03319-00-00-PA-TRA

Implementation of the renewed strategic partnership with the EU's outermost regions"

Rapporteur: Angel Victor TORRES PEREZ (ES/PES)

Own-initiative Opinion

Presentation of the draft opinion by the rapporteur, statement by Ms Monika Hencsey, European Commission, DG REGIO, Director for Budget, Communication and General Affairs. Statement by Mr Stephane Bijoux (FR/Renew Europe), Member of the European Parliament, REGI rapporteur and discussion with COTER members.

16 amendments and 0 rapporteur amendments were tabled.

The vote on the amendments took place remotely on 24 September: 16 amendments were adopted, no amendments was rejected and no amendments fell. The vote on the opinion as amended took place remotely on 25 September. The opinion was **adopted unanimously** (1 abstention).

It will be presented for adoption at the Plenary Session on **9-10 December 2020**.

c) **Opinion COTER-VII/009** COR-2020-03320-00-00-PA-TRA

"The role of the EU's cohesion policy with respect to intelligent and innovative economic change in the regions against the backdrop of the coronavirus crisis"

Rapporteur: Michiel RIJSBERMAN (NL/RE)

German Presidency Referral

Presentation of the draft opinion by the rapporteur, statement by Ms Karin Scheffel, German Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, representing the German Presidency. Statement by Ms Denisa Perrin, European Commission, DG REGIO, unit "Smart and Sustainable Growth and discussion with COTER members.

42 amendments and 12 rapporteur amendments were tabled. 25 Amendments were adopted, 11 Amendments were rejected, 18 Amendments fell. The vote on the opinion as amended took place remotely on 25 September.

The opinion was **adopted unanimously**.

It will be presented for adoption at the Plenary Session on **12-14 October 2020**.

3. General exploratory debate:

Opinion COTER-VII/008 COR-2020-3318-00-00-PAC-TRA

"REACT-EU package"

Rapporteur-general: Mieczyslaw STRUK (PL/EPP)

Presentation of the draft opinion by Mr Struzik (replacing rapporteur Mr Struk, who was unable to attend), Statement by Ms Anna Wagner, representative of the European Commission from DG REGIO, unit "Policy Development and Economic Analysis" and discussion with COTER members.

It will be presented for adoption at the Plenary Session on **12-14 October 2020**.

4. Exchange of views:

Opinion COTER-VII/005 COR-2020-02615-00-00-DT-TRA

"Cross-border Public Services (CPS) in Europe"

Rapporteur: Pavel BRANDA (CZ/ECR)

Own-initiative Opinion

Presentation of the draft opinion by the rapporteur, statement by Mr Nicolas Rossignol (ESPON) and discussion with COTER members.

The opinion will be submitted for adoption at the COTER meeting of **26 November 2020**.

5. Confirmation of the date of the next meeting of the COTER commission:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, **26 November 2020**, in Brussels.



Marie-Claire NEILL-COWPER