



at4am

An IT tool to amend legislative texts
made by EP
used by Members of EP
now available for everybody

September 2013

Claudio Fabiani

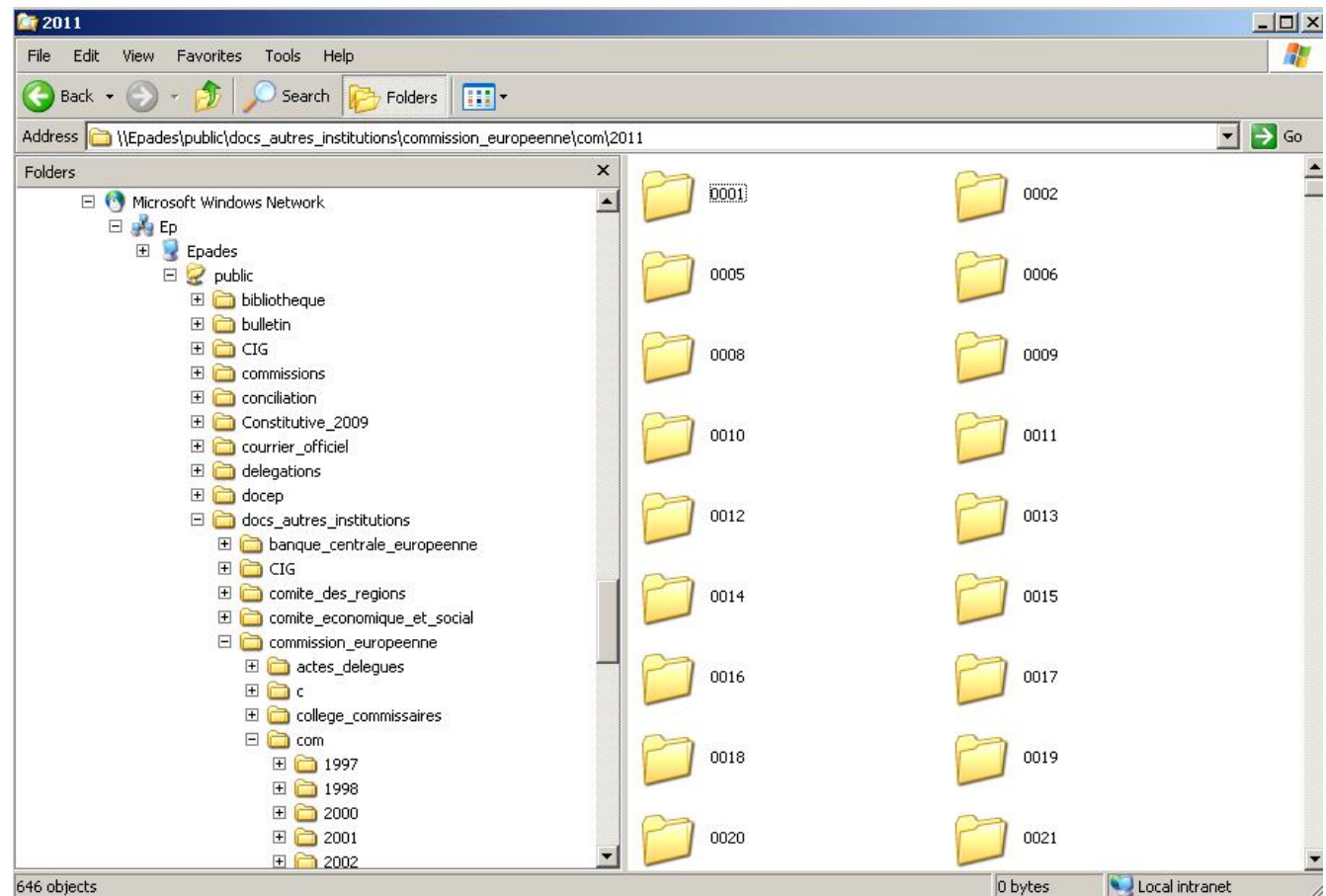
The EP: some figures

- 5.000.000 existing documents
- 450 legislative and official procedures per year
- for each procedure, several documents/reports are produced and translated in 23 languages



The eParliament Programme

Moving from...



An XML web based chain at European Parliament

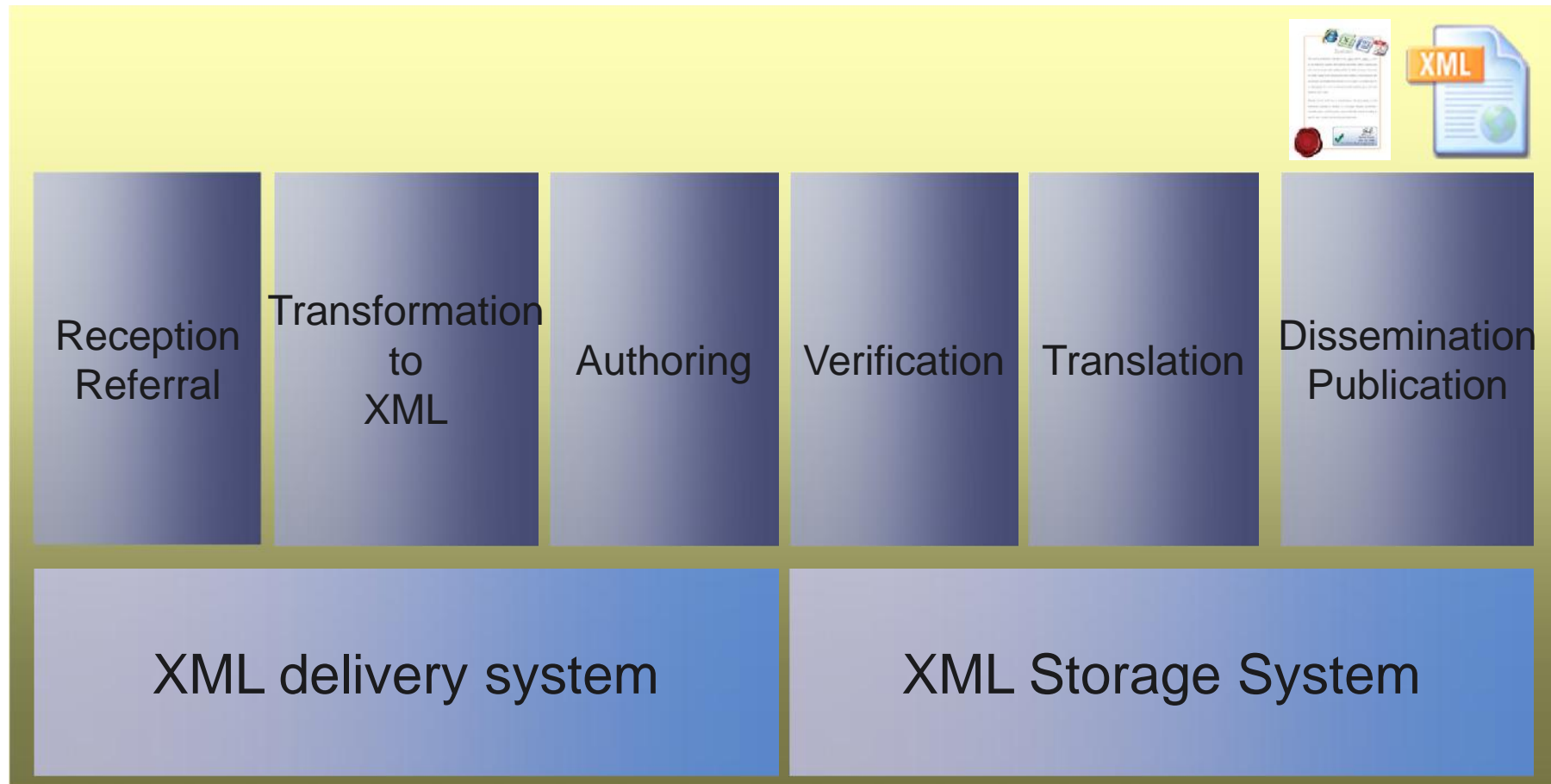
The eParliament Programme

to...



The eParliament Programme

Enhance the legislative chain by providing better IT tools



Disadvantages of the documents centric architecture

- Layout oriented
- Manual operations: more errors
- Monolithic elements, difficulty in treating partial content separately
- Reduced collaboration/sharing
- Redundancy between draft, review and translate activities
- Because of the complexity, drafters tends to use unofficial templates

Why moving from MS Word to XML

Big overhead in processing amendments:

- Amendments not created correctly via the existing tools; complex layout
- A lot of manual work to create reports, voting lists
- Difficult re-use of amendments and their translations
- Manual consolidation

Benefits of the XML based web interface

- Time to draft, verify, translate AMs is drastically reduced
- Instant access to all language versions of source text
- Quality is improved
- Authors can focus on the drafting activity, forget layout issues
- AMs are stored as individual objects and therefore available for subsequent reuse

Benefits of the XML web interface

- Easiness of usage
- Easy comparison between versions
- Support real-time interaction between users
- Support computer assisted consolidation

XML for creation of content vs diffusion

- XML is not applied at the end of the chain, for diffusion
- XML is used from the initial drafting of content to drive the authors in providing better quality text for revision

How IT tools can facilitate drafting of legislation?

Static versus dynamic content

Article 12 Activities

1. The objectives of cooperation in Sport shall be pursued through the following transitional activities:

[Amend](#) [New](#) [Delete](#) Chapter III – article 12 – paragraph 1 – point a

(a) support to trans Extend current structure

(b) support to non aline

(c) support the str article

(d) support to cap book

(e) dialogue with chapter

2. The sport activities clause

third parties such as pr division

hcontainer

indent

list

paragraph

part

point

section

...ing several European countries;

...y making ;

...ge supplementary funding through partnership with

How IT tools can facilitate drafting of legislation?

Provide tools for drafting needs

The screenshot shows a web-based interface for drafting legislation. At the top, a red banner indicates a deadline: "Deadline passed on 28/06/2013 12:54". The main content area is titled "Amendment 1 Candidate" and contains "Recital 5". It is divided into two columns: "Text proposed" and "Amendment".

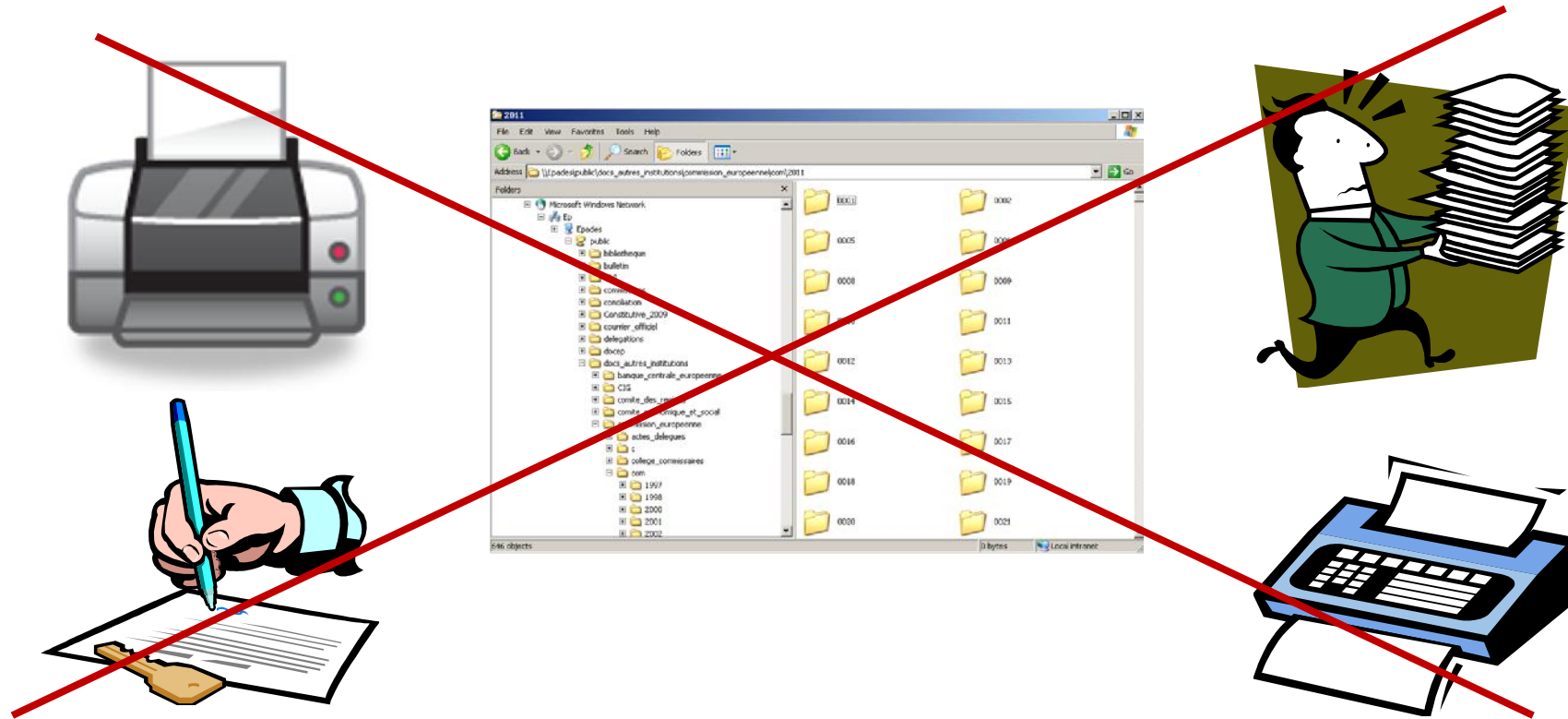
Text proposed:
(5) The European Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (Europe 2020) is defining the Union's growth *strategy* for the coming decade to support smart, sustainable and inclusive growth *setting five ambitious* objectives to be reached by 2020, particularly in the field of education to reduce

Amendment:
(5) The European Strategy for sustainable and inclusive growth (Europe 2020) is defining the Union's growth the coming decade to support smart, sustainable and inclusive growth objectives to be reached by 2020, particularly in the field of education to reduce early school leaving rates below

A context menu is open on the right side of the amendment text, listing options: Table, Delete, History, Export as XML, Export as PDF, Export as Word, and Export as HTML.

How IT tools can facilitate drafting of legislation?

Reduce the number of operations



How IT tools can facilitate drafting of legislation?

Reduce drafting errors

Amendment 6

Sonia Alfano

Proposal for a directive

Annex 1 – point 6 – point 5.2

Text proposed by the Commission

iii) protezione e allarme *automatici* lato utente;

Amendment

iii) protezione e allarme manuali lato utente;

pr.

Amend + Add new element - Delete annex 1 – point 6 – point 6.2 – point a – point iii

iii) protezione e allarme automatici lato utente;

Amendment 1 ● CANDIDATE ✎ ✕ ▾

Sonia Alfano

Annex 1 – point 6 – point 6.2 – point a – point iii

<i>Text proposed by the Commission</i>	<i>Amendment</i>
iii) protezione e allarme <i>automatici</i> lato utente;	iii) protezione e allarme <i>manuali</i> lato utente;

Or. it

How IT tools can facilitate drafting of legislation?

Reduce drafting errors

Amendment 6

Sonia Alfano

Proposal for a directive
Annex 1 – point 6 – point 5.2

Text proposed by the Commission

iii) protezione e allarme *automatici* lato utente;

Amendment

iii) protezione e allarme manuali lato utente;

Or.

Amend + Add new element - Delete annex 1 – point 6 – point 6.2 – point a – point iii

iii) protezione e allarme automatici lato utente;

Amendment 1
Sonia Alfano
Annex 1 – point 6 – point 6.2 – point a – point iii

Text proposed by the Commission *Amendment*

iii) protezione e allarme *automatici* lato utente; iii) protezione e allarme *manuali* lato utente;

Or. it

● CANDIDATE ✎ ✕ ▾

at4am AUTHORIZING TOOL FOR AMENDMENTS



NO MORE <TAGS>!

DocEP <Tags> are for machines so we have removed them. Now it is easier for authors to draft, edit and table an amendment. It is also easier for committees to review tabled amendments and put them in the right order.



AUTOMATIC BOLD/ITALIC

You no longer have to compare the two columns of your amendment manually. Let the application do it for you.



BETTER

The amendment heading, the original language, the correct layout and styles are produced for you. Your amendment will automatically contain all the information required by other users and IT systems.

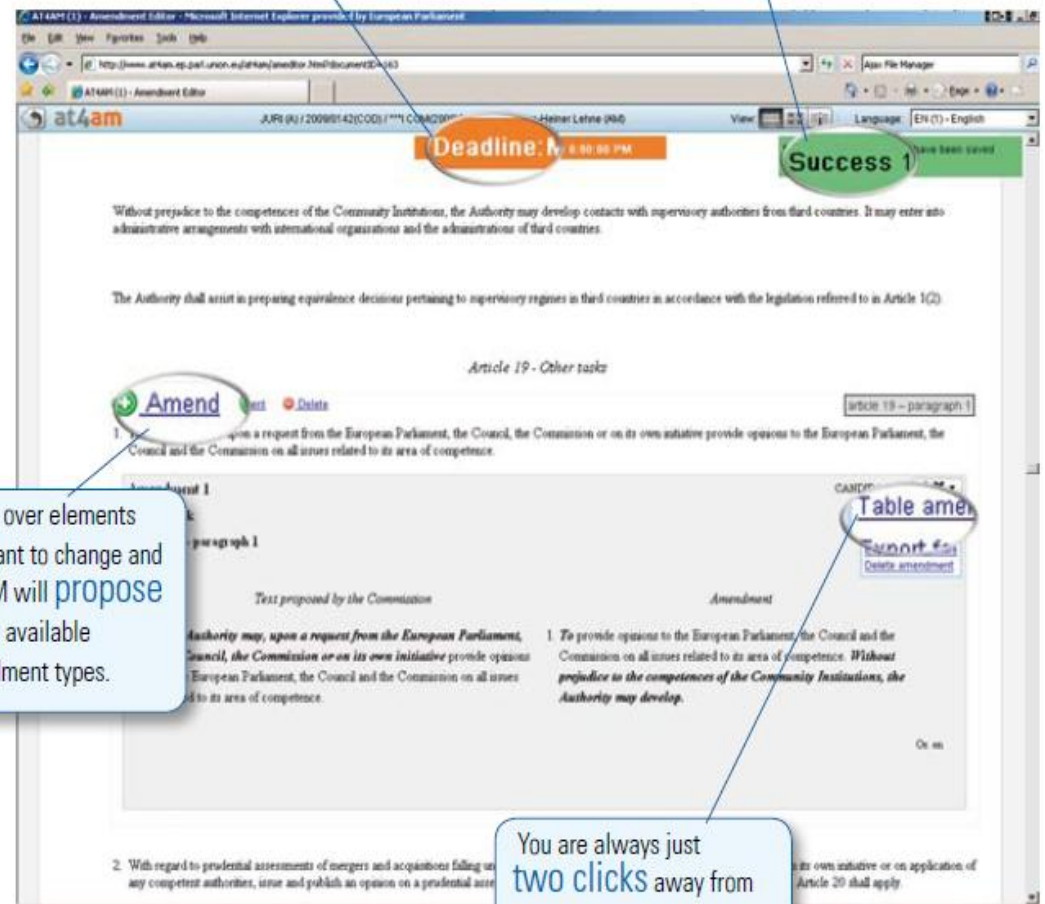


QUICKER

Just write your text and table new amendments – it is super fast! Tabled amendments are automatically, put in the correct order, so committees can produce a final document more quickly.

If less than 24h, AT4AM will **always** show you how much time it is left.

AT4AM communicates with you clearly, all the time!



Home

 Next committees procedures

Source text no	Procedure no	Title	F/A	Crnte	Rapporteur	Deadline	
PE473.812	2011/2225(DEC)		F	CONT	Christofer Fjellner	05/03/2012 00:00	Open editor
COM(2011)0594	* 2011/0261(CNS)	Common system for taxing financial transactions and amendment to Directive 2008/7/EC ...	F	ECON	Anni Podimata	07/03/2012 00:00	Open editor
COM(2011)0798	*** 2011/0364(COD)	Amendment of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1185/2003 on the removal of fins of shark...	A	ENVI	Andrea Zanoni	07/03/2012 12:00	Open editor

 Show me more procedu

 Next plenary procedures

Ax ref. no	Source text no	Procedure no	Title	Rapporteur	Deadline	
A7-0447/2011	COM(2011)0484	*** 2011/0212(COD)	Amendment of Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 on the European Fisheries Fund	João Ferreira	07/03/2012 12:00	Open editor
A7-0025/2012	COM(2011)0384	*** 2011/0169(COD)	Amending Council Regulation (EC) No 617/2009 opening an autonomous tariff quota for i...	Godelieve Quisthoudt-Rowohl	07/03/2012 12:00	Open editor

AT4AM (0) - Amendment Editor

   Page Safety


CONT (F) | 2011/2225(DEC) | PE473.812 | Rap.: Christofer Fjellner | (AM)

View:    Language: IT - Italian

38. invita pertanto la Commissione ad effettuare una valutazione esterna della qualità di tutte le sua strutture di audit interno e a comunicarne i risultati al Parlamento;

 Amend  Add new element  Delete

paragraph 39

39. prende atto della relazione annuale dello IAS all'autorità di scarico (COM(2010)0447) sugli audit interni effettuati nel 2009 e rileva che il revisore interno della Commissione è del parere che sia necessaria una supervisione a livello d'istituzione affinché i processi comuni quali l'analisi del rischio e la gestione della continuità operativa siano efficaci nel proteggere l'istituzione nel suo complesso e nel garantire una sana gestione finanziaria degli investimenti nei sistemi informatici attraverso economie di scala e fornendo soluzioni comuni a requisiti comuni;

Amendment 90

Created: Maria do Céu Patrão Neves - ver. 1

Actions

Maria do Céu Patrão Neves

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Verifica que a maior parte das medidas referidas no actual plano de acção, *que não é muito ambicioso*, já foram aplicadas de forma satisfatória;

Amendment

2. Verifica que a maior parte das medidas referidas no actual plano de acção já foram aplicadas de forma satisfatória;

Or. pt

Amendment 91

You are editing ...

Created: Mairead McGuinness - ver. 1

Actions

Mairead McGuinness

Motion for a resolution

Paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Notes that the vast majority of the **measures** contained in the current - *albeit still none too ambitious* - action plan have been implemented satisfactorily;

Amendment

2. Notes that the vast majority of the **measureactions** contained in the current action plan have been implemented satisfactorily;

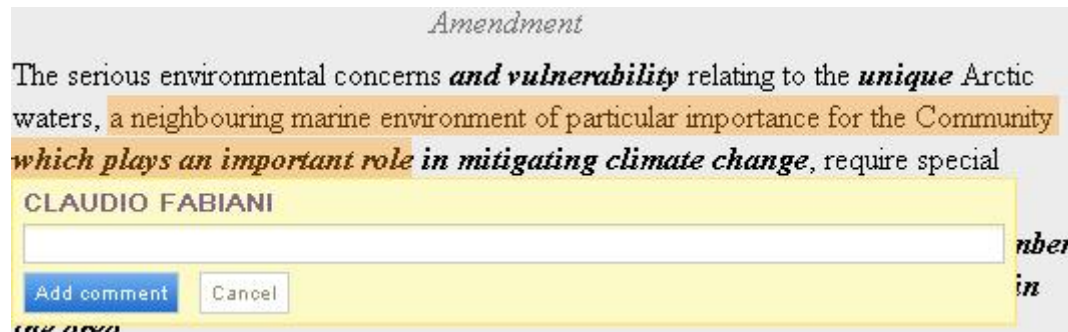
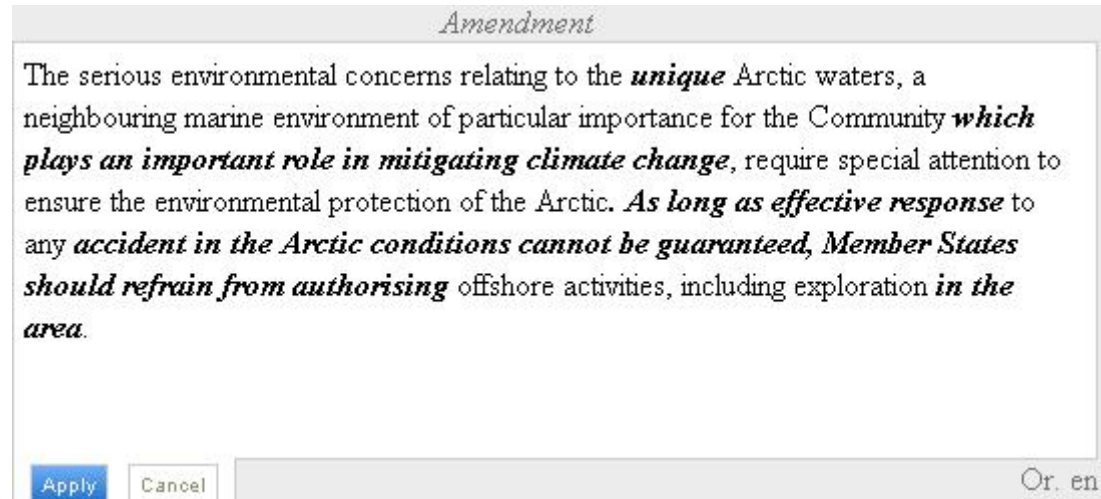
Or. en

Save changes

Cancel

Main features

In line editing



Highlight text
Add comments

Main features

Versioning, history, track changes

History revision | Compare **1.** Ivo Belet (1 month ago) vs. **3.** Michal FEHERPATAKY (active) 24 days ago

Ivo Belet

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) In accordance with Directive 85/337/EEC, as amended, which applies to exploration and exploitation of oil and gas activities, **projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to an assessment with regard to their effects and a requirement for development consent. In line with Directive 85/337/EEC when an activity** is subject to development consent an effective public participation should be provided in accordance with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters

Amendment

(12) **Within the framework of Directive 2001/42 Member States have to determine detailed arrangements for effective public participation with regard to plans and programmes which are prepared for energy. Also** in accordance with Directive 2011/92/EU which amongst others applies to exploration and exploitation of oil and gas activities, **projects likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue, inter alia, of their nature, size or location are made subject to an assessment with regard to their effects and a requirement for development consent. In line with Directive 2011/92/EU when an activity** is subject to development consent an effective public participation should be provided in accordance with the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-Making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters.

The EP XML schema

- Implementing Akoma NToso 2.0
(www.akomantoso.org)
- Marking up:
 - European Commission proposals
 - Amendments on proposals
 - European Parliament own initiative reports



From AT4AM to AT4AM for All



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



OFFICE FOR PROMOTION OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY

in association with the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Identifying benefits deriving from the adoption of XML-based chains for drafting legislation

3 - 4 May 2012 // European Parliament // Brussels

Parliaments able to save time thanks to free EP tool for managing legislative amendments

OTHERS Article - Information society - 20-03-2013 - 14:01



AT4AM for All

AT4AM for All is the free / open source release of AT4AM, the web-based amendment authoring tool for Parliament.

[Learn more »](#)

Feel free to test the draft sample application and create your own amendments!

[Do the test »](#)

News: The open source release of AT4AM is available!

AT4AM for All

- Provide to other Parliaments and public organisations a set of libraries to amend texts in XML
- Publicly available under EUPL licence
- Just go to www.at4am.org
- Interested? Write to:
at4am-os@europarl.europa.eu

<thanks>Thank You!</thanks>

- <metadata>
- <author>Claudio Fabiani</author>
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- </metadata>