


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1996/0211(CNS)	Procedure completed
Beef and veal: common organisation of the markets COM (amend. regul. 805/68/EEC)		
Subject 3.10.05.01 Meat		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		03/09/1996
		PPE FUNK Honor	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		04/09/1996
		PPE MCCARTIN John Joseph	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1959	28/10/1996
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1963	14/10/1996
	Fisheries	1955	14/10/1996
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1946	17/09/1996

Key events			
30/07/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0422	Summary
04/09/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/09/1996	Debate in Council	1946	Summary
17/09/1996	Vote in committee		
17/09/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0281/1996	
20/09/1996	Debate in Parliament		
20/09/1996	Decision by Parliament	T4-0496/1996	Summary
14/10/1996	Debate in Council	1955	
14/10/1996	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		Summary

14/10/1996	End of procedure in Parliament		
19/10/1996	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1996/0211(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 043; Rules of Procedure EP 163
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/08146

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(1996)0422	30/07/1996	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0281/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0063	17/09/1996	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0496/1996 OJ C 320 28.10.1996, p. 0237-0251	20/09/1996	EP	Summary
Implementing legislative act		31996R2222 OJ L 296 21.11.1996, p. 0050	18/11/1996	EU	

Additional information	
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 1996/1997 OJ L 267 19.10.1996, p. 0001-0002 Summary

Beef and veal: common organisation of the markets COM (amend. regul. 805/68/EEC)

OBJECTIVE: the object of the proposal for a Council Regulation is to control or restore balance on the market for beef and veal in the wake in particular of the BSE crisis, which has brought about a sharp fall in consumption, a fall in prices paid to producers and very substantial buying-in. **SUBSTANCE:** the proposed amendments cover: - discontinuation of the second tranche of premium for uncastrated male bovine animals and an increase in the first tranche of premium; - reduction in the ceilings for male bovine animals; - adjustment of the extensification premium: the development of extensive beef cattle raising is fostered to the extent that 60% of the animals on which the premium is currently paid will qualify for the higher premium of ECU 54; - making the application of the calf processing premium compulsory in all Member States, extending its scope to cover all male calves, and authorizing the Member States to extend it to animals withdrawn before they are 20 days old on condition they introduce the controls necessary to eliminate from the human food chain the animals thus withdrawn. ?

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While awaiting Parliament's opinion, the Council held an initial debate on the matter in question on the basis of preparatory work undertaken by the Special Committee on Agriculture. The discussion focused on a package of three proposals concerning: - the adaptation of certain current measures applying to the beef industry in order to control production and stabilise the market following the bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) crisis. These measures related in particular to the intervention scheme and the premiums system; - achieving cost savings under the EAGGF by reducing compensation payments in the arable crops sector in order to tackle the problems facing the beef sector; - changes to the eligibility requirements for receiving investment aid and for the setting-up of young farmers in the beef sector, and to the compensation allowances applying to mountainous and less-favoured regions. The Council debates served to highlight the wide range of views held on each of the Commission's proposals. However, it was also possible to identify areas of agreement and a number of convergent

positions. In this respect: - there was agreement on the need for raising the intervention limits as a short-term measure; - there was also broad support for the proposal on intervention for grazing animals; - several delegations were concerned about the Commission's proposal on the reduction of aid for arable crops and took the view that in any case such a reduction should be subject to a time limit, since the budget problem was too; - several Member States were of the opinion that the Commission's proposal, which sought to delay payments to the oilseed sector, would be an appropriate measure; - there was also broad support for introducing measures aimed at promoting beef consumption.

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In adopting, by 88 votes to 24 with 7 abstentions, the report by Mr Honor FUNK (PPE, D), Parliament approved the measures to support the market in beef and veal and aid to producers. In its amendments the EP considered it was necessary to take the following measures: - the increase in intervention quantities should be applied gradually; - to limit such intervention, further limits should be placed on the number of heavy animals by way of premium incentives for young animals. The bullock premium should therefore be increased from ECU 123.9 to ECU 163.1; - uncastrated male animals should only receive a one-off premium at the age of 8 months. Both premiums should be retained for bullocks. The EP considered that the keeping of suckler cows also contributes to the disruption of the beef market and called for a 5% reduction from 1997 in all the Member States of the premium rights taken up for suckler cows. It opposed the encouragement of extensive stock-raising on the grounds that the Commission proposal would lead to a sharp rise in rentals. Whilst accepting an increase in the intervention quantity, Parliament considered that such purchases should not exceed 500 000 tonnes (as against 720 000 tonnes proposed by the Commission) in 1996 and 400 000 tonnes (instead of 500 000) for 1997. It suggested that, should the market situation so require, the Council could increase these quantities in tranches of up to 100 000 tonnes each, up to the ceilings initially proposed by the Commission. Finally, to restore consumer confidence, the EP proposed the establishment of a fund to promote the sale of beef products. ?

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OBJECTIVE: the object of the proposal for a Council Regulation is to control or restore balance on the market for beef and veal in the wake in particular of the BSE crisis, which has brought about a sharp fall in consumption, a fall in prices paid to producers, and very substantial buying-in. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation (EC) No 1997/96 amending Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal. SUBSTANCE: the Regulation only deals with those elements of the Commission proposal which require an urgent decision, including an increase in the maximum quantity for intervention buying-in needed until mid-November 1996. The Council will decide in due course on the other elements of the proposal, including other increases in the maximum quantity. DATE OF ENTRY INTO FORCE: 14 October 1996. ?

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The Council adopted by qualified majority an amendment of Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 on the common organisation of the market in beef, with the Italian and Spanish delegations voting against the proposal. The Italian and Spanish delegations, which voted against the amendment, gave two statements to be recorded in the minutes for the session. The amendment, which was drawn up following the conclusions of the informal meeting of Agriculture Ministers that was held in Killarney on 24 September 1996, was aimed at providing for sufficient intervention quantities (increased to 460 000 tonnes for 1996) to cover beef bids for October and November 1996 and to allow intervention buying-in for grazing animals up until the end of 1996.