

Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1997/0114(CNS) Procedure completed
Milk and milk products: common organisation of the markets COM, additional general rules for drinking milk	
Amended by 1999/0048(CNS) Amended by 2007/0027(CNS)	
Subject 3.10.05.02 Milk and dairy products	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Fisheries	2063	18/12/1997
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2061	15/12/1997

Key events			
16/07/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0133	Summary
19/09/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
30/09/1997	Vote in committee		
22/10/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0490/1997	Summary
18/12/1997	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
18/12/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
23/12/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	1997/0114(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amended by 1999/0048(CNS) Amended by 2007/0027(CNS)

Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 52-p1; EC before Amsterdam E 043; EC before Amsterdam E 042
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/09284

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1997)0133 OJ C 267 03.09.1997, p. 0093	16/07/1997	EC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0490/1997 OJ C 339 10.11.1997, p. 0046-0057	22/10/1997	EP	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1189/1997	29/10/1997	ESC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Regulation 1997/2597 OJ L 351 23.12.1997, p. 0013 Summary
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Milk and milk products: common organisation of the markets COM, additional general rules for drinking milk

OBJECTIVE: to consolidate Council Regulation (EEC) No 1411/71 laying down additional general rules on the common market organization in milk and extend the derogation from the requirements on the minimum fat content of milk granted to Finland and Sweden under the Act of Accession. SUBSTANCE: Since its entry into force, Regulation (EEC) No 1411/71 has been amended repeatedly, and other Regulations and Directives have also been adopted which affect its field of application. For these reasons, the proposal checks the validity of the rules in force and consolidates the Regulation. Some changes are laid down, for example, to take account of: -the wishes of consumers, who are attaching growing importance to nutritional aspects of milk proteins: the new Regulation stipulates that the natural protein content must not under any circumstances be reduced and that milk may be enriched with fat-free dried milk ingredients, -experience gained with health rules for the production of raw milk and milk-based products, by incorporating these rules in the Regulation (particularly rules on the freezing point of milk and standards for the heat treatment of milk). Upon accession, Finland and Sweden were granted a derogation, until 31.12.1997, from the requirements concerning minimum fat content laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 1411/71. In these 2 countries, the fat content of milk is proportionally lower than consumers elsewhere in the Community are accustomed to. In order both to respect habits in these two countries and to avoid any danger of confusion for industry and European consumers, the Commission proposes extending by two years the transitional situation which is already to prevail until 31.12.1997.?

Milk and milk products: common organisation of the markets COM, additional general rules for drinking milk

Parliament approved without debate the proposal for a Regulation laying down additional rules on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products (Rule 99 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure).?

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The ESC welcomes the Commission's move to streamline the rules on production and to incorporate health and hygiene aspects in the relevant blanket directive so as to ensure uniformity. The ESC considers that the proposal fails to place sufficient emphasis on the flexibility needed to give consumers freedom of choice as regards the range of drinking milk and authorized fat content. The Commission is inconsistent when it cites the absence of consumer demand for a change in classification as grounds for its refusal to authorize lower fat contents in the case of Finland and Sweden yet at the same time says that consumer demand for semi-skimmed and skimmed milk has shot up. The proposal to extend the derogation is necessary because of the importance of drinking milk on these markets and the way consumer choice looks today. One way of increasing the consumer's range of choice, without any change in the current basic rules, would be to authorize a variable rate of up to 0.5% instead of 0.3% as at present. The derogation currently applicable to Finland and Sweden is extended for a further two years. In

view of the transitional rules from which other countries have benefited in this matter, the ESC feels that a longer transitional period of five years would be more appropriate to enable the two countries to undertake the necessary adjustments.?

Milk and milk products: common organisation of the markets COM, additional general rules for drinking milk

OBJECTIVE: to codify and update the existing provisions laying down additional rules on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products for drinking milk. COMMUNITY MEASURE: Council Regulation (EC) No 2597/97. SUBSTANCE: following the political agreement reached within the Agriculture Council on 15/12/1997, the Council adopted by a qualified majority, with the Danish and Greek delegations voting against the measure, the Regulation laying down additional rules on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products for drinking milk. The Regulation consolidates and updates Regulation (EEC) No 1411/71, which has been amended many times since its entry into force. It also makes it possible to enrich drinking milk with mineral salts, vitamins or milk proteins and to reduce the lactose content by converting it into glucose and galactose, on condition that these modifications are clearly indicated on the packaging and are not prohibited by the Member State in question. ?