

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1998/0107(CNS)	Procedure completed
Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)		
Subject 3.10.06.03 Cereals, rice 8.20.12 Enlargement's agricultural point of view		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		29/09/1997
		PSE FANTUZZI Giulio	
	Former committee responsible		
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		29/09/1997
		PSE FANTUZZI Giulio	
	Former committee for opinion		
	BUDG Budgets		03/06/1998
		GUE/NGL MIRANDA Joaquim	
	JURI Legal Affairs, Citizens' Rights	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	CONT Budgetary Control	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2178	17/05/1999

Key events			
18/03/1998	Legislative proposal published	COM(1998)0158	Summary
15/06/1998	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
08/12/1998	Vote in committee		Summary
08/12/1998	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0496/1998	
13/01/1999	Debate in Parliament		
28/01/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0049/1999	Summary

28/01/1999	Report referred back to committee		
20/04/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
20/04/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0215/1999	
05/05/1999	Debate in Parliament		
06/05/1999	Decision by Parliament	T4-0446/1999	Summary
17/05/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/05/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
26/06/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1998/0107(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/10133; AGRI/4/10756

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1998)0158	18/03/1998	EC	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	COM(1998)0182	18/03/1998	EC	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0971/1998 OJ C 284 14.09.1998, p. 0062	01/07/1998	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0496/1998 OJ C 104 14.04.1999, p. 0004	08/12/1998	EP	
Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR0273/1998 OJ C 093 06.04.1999, p. 0001	14/01/1999	CofR	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading	T4-0049/1999 OJ C 128 07.05.1999, p. 0011-0060	28/01/1999	EP	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0215/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0006	20/04/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0446/1999 OJ C 279 01.10.1999, p. 0256-0383	06/05/1999	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

[Regulation 1999/1253](#)

Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)

OBJECTIVE: the proposed regulation forms part of the group of proposals on the reform of the common agricultural policy and translates the guidelines of Agenda 2000 in the arable crops sector. SUBSTANCE: the proposals for a regulation on arable crops and the modification of the cereals COM transpose the orientations contained in Agenda 2000 for cereals, oilseeds and protein crops. The main elements are as follows: - the intervention price for cereals will be reduced by 20% in a single step; - the provisions for maize and sorghum and export refund (in particular for malt) will be adapted. The minimum price for starch potatoes will be reduced by 20% and compensation payments to starch potato producers will be increased in line with the increase of area payments for arable crops. Furthermore, the notion of quality type will become obsolete. The instrument of export levies would be retained, but under normal circumstances would not be required; - the regulation on arable crops increases the direct payment for cereals from ECU 54 per tonne to ECU 66 per tonne and puts direct payments for oilseeds and non-textile linseed at the same level; - protein crops will receive an additional direct payment of ECU 6.5 per tonne. Compared to the current situation this will mean a reduction in the direct payment from ECU 78.49 per tonne to ECU 72.5 per tonne. The specific scheme for durum wheat will be continued; - compulsory set-aside will be retained as an instrument, while its normal rate will be fixed at zero under certain conditions. Voluntary set-aside will still be allowed, but its effectiveness and positive impact on the environment should be further improved. It should be available for at least 10% of the arable area across the Community; - the payment per hectare and the rate of set-aside may be modified according to market developments; - the proposal for a regulation on arable crops provides for continuation of aid for silage cereals, which will result in important cost savings compared to Agenda 2000. ?

Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)

The Mr FANTUZZI's report, on support for producers of arable crops, was rejected by 18 votes to 18 with one abstention, and the unamended Commission proposal was voted down by 9 votes to 26 with one abstention. The main points at issue were the retention of specific arrangements for the oil seeds and linseed sector and the maize sector, which the Commission wants to discontinue. The basic problem which prevented adoption of the report as a whole was that the committee did not want either intervention prices or compensation payments reduced. ?

Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)

The proposal was approved with a number of amendments and the matter was then referred back to committee pursuant to Rule 60 (2). The Parliament's Rapporteur was Mr. G. FANTUZZI, (I, PES). The main amendments were with respect to the following : - intervention price for cereals subject to intervention shall be fixed at ECU 101.31 per tonne (and not ECU 95.35); - intervention prices to apply to the standard quality; - measures governing the operation of intervention agencies.?

Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)

The Committee has adopted a position broadly endorsing the package of Agenda 2000 farm reforms, in the light of the deal struck at the Berlin Summit and with certain reservations. Although the committee, chaired by Juan Luis COLINO SALAMANCA (PES, E), is not entirely happy with the Berlin agreement, it finds it more acceptable than the original, more drastic, Commission proposals and does not want to hold up the CAP reforms. "In many areas my Group is not satisfied ... but we cannot open up Pandora's Box again", said German Socialist Klaus REHDER, echoed by Livio FILIPI (EPP, I) who said: "We must be realistic. We have done what we can. Public opinion thinks the results are the best that can be obtained." The MEPs' main reservations are set out in a dozen compromise amendments adopted at the committee's last meeting before the European elections. These amendments reflect compromises hammered out with the Commission and Council and will be tabled in plenary next month, as the committee's "last word", replacing the amendments on those points adopted in plenary in November and January. Giulio FANTUZZI (PES, I) wants the cuts in compensation for oilseed and linseed producers to be phased in over four years rather than in three stages. MEPs will debate the entire package of Agenda 2000 reforms. The farm legislation will probably be passed by the Agriculture Council. Although, under the consultation procedure, the content of the EP's formal opinions on the CAP reforms is not legally binding, the proposals cannot become law without them. They will also be an important political statement and will provide a basis for the work of the new parliament which will be faced with the next round of discussions on CAP financing. After Parliament postponed delivering its formal opinions on the CAP proposals in November and January because the Commission could not accept its amendments, the EP held a series of informal 'conciliation' talks with the Council, in which it was able to bring some pressure to bear, resulting in the Council accepting many of Parliament's demands.?

Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)

In the light of the agreement reached on Agenda 2000 at the Berlin Summit in March and under consultation procedure, the European Parliament adopted the second report by Giulio Fantuzzi (PSE,IT), which approves the Commission proposal for a Council regulation amending regulation 1766/92/EEC on the common organisation of the market in cereals and repealing regulation 2731/75/EEC fixing standard qualities for common wheat, barley, maize and durum wheat, subject to the amendments adopted by the Parliament on 28/01/99.?

Agenda 2000: cereals, reform of the common organisation of the markets (COM)

PURPOSE: to improve, by the lowering of the intervention price, the competitiveness of cereals on internal and external markets while safeguarding farm incomes through direct aid to farmers. **COMMUNITY MEASURE:** Council Regulation 1253/1999/EC amending Regulation 1766/92/EC on the common organisation of the market of cereals and repealing Regulation 2731/75/EEC fixing standard qualities for common wheat, rye, barley, maize and durum wheat. **CONTENT:** The Regulation modifies the existing common organisation of markets for cereals to bring it into line with the Agenda 2000 guidelines. The main provisions are as follows : - the intervention price for cereals will be cut by 15% in two equal steps starting in the 2000/01 marketing year, bringing it down from EUR 119.19 to EUR 110.25 per tonne for all cereals in the 2000/1 marketing year and to EUR 101.31 per tonne from the 2001/02 marketing year. Direct aid will be increased from EUR 54 per tonne to EUR 63 per tonne. Prices fixed by the Regulation can be modified as a function of production and market trends. A decision will be taken on a final intervention price reduction applicable for the 2002/03 marketing year; - as far as potatoes intended for the manufacture of potato starch are concerned, the Regulation sets a minimum price of EUR 194.05/tonne for the 2000/01 marketing year and EUR 178.31/tonne from the 2001/02 marketing year onwards. It also introduces a system of payments for producers of potatoes intended for the manufacture of potato starch. The payment amount applies to the quantity of potatoes needed to manufacture one tonne of starch and is set at EUR 98.74/tonne for the 2000/01 marketing year and EUR 110.54 per tonne for the 2001/02 marketing year onwards. The payment will be made only in respect of the quantity of potatoes covered by a cultivation contract between the potato producer and the starch manufacturer, within the limit of the quota allocated to that undertaking. The concept of 'standard quality' is no longer relevant since the quality required for intervention is the minimum quality without any further distinction. **ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 27/06/1999. The Regulation will apply from the 2000/01 marketing year onwards.?