Procedure file

Basic information

CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	1999/0219(CNS)	Procedure completed
Veterinary medicines: bovine somatotropine BST, placing on the market and administration (repeal. Decision 90/218/EEC) Subject 3.10.08 Animal health requirements, veterinary legislation and pharmacy		

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		24/11/1999
		PPE-DE KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT Hedwig	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Fisheries	2237	17/12/1999
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Health and Food Safety		

Key events

26/10/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0544	Summary
15/11/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
13/12/1999	Vote in committee		Summary
13/12/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0098/1999	
15/12/1999	Debate in Parliament		
16/12/1999	Decision by Parliament	T5-0175/1999	Summary
17/12/1999	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
17/12/1999	End of procedure in Parliament		
23/12/1999	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1999/0219(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 163; EC before Amsterdam E 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/12235

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1999)0544	26/10/1999	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES1137/1999 OJ C 051 23.02.2000, p. 0096	08/12/1999	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0098/1999 OJ C 296 18.10.2000, p. 0018	13/12/1999	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0175/1999 OJ C 296 18.10.2000, p. 0133-0184	16/12/1999	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act

Decision 1999/879
OJ L 331 23.12.1999, p. 0071 Summary

Veterinary medicines: bovine somatotropine BST, placing on the market and administration (repeal. Decision 90/218/EEC)

PURPOSE : to ban for reasons of animal health and welfare the marketing and use of bovine somatotrophin (BST) in the Community as from 01/01/2000. CONTENT : Council Decision 90/218/EEC concerning the placing on the market and administration of Bovine somatotrophin (BST), was last amended by Council Decision 94/936/EC extending the moratorium on the marketing and use of BST in the Community until 31/12/1999. Article 2 of Council Decision 94/936/EC provides that the Commission entrust a Working Party of independent scientists with the task of assessing the effects of using BST, taking into account of the opinion of the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products, in particular as regards the impact of the use of this product on the incidence of mastitis. The Scientific Committee on Animal Welfare (SCAWAH), on 10/04/1999, adopted its report on Animal Welfare Aspects of the Use of Bovine Somatotrophin and stated that BST increases the risk of clinical mastitis as well as the duration of treatment of mastitis, that it increases the incidence of foot and leg disorders and that it can affect adversely reproduction as well as induce severe reactions at the injection site. Council Directive 98/58/EC concerning the protection of animals kept for farming purposes states in Annex point 18 that no other substance with the exception of those given for therapeutic or prophylactic purposes shall be administered to an animal unless it has been demonstrated by scientific studies of animal welfare or established experience that the effect of the substance is not detrimental to the health or welfare of the animal. BST is not used in cattle for therapeutic purposes, but only to enhance milk production. Therefore, the opinion of the SCAHAW is that BST should not be used in dairy cows. The Protocol on protection and welfare of animals annexed to the Treaty of the European Union calls on the Community and the Member States, when formulating and implementing the Community's agricultural policy, to pay full regard to the health and welfare requirements of animals. By Decision 78/923/EEC, the Community has approved the European Convention for the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes (hereinafter called 'the Convention') and has deposited its instrument of approval. All Member States have also ratified this Convention. Therefore, in the light of this opinion, it is proposed to ban for reasons of animal health and welfare the marketing and use of BST in the Community as from 01/01/2000, in accordance with the provisions laid down in Council Decision 98/58/EC on the protection of animals kept for farming purposes. However, undertakings buying or producing bovine somatotrophin substances and undertakings authorized in any capacity to market such substances shall be required to keep registers detailing, in chronological order, quantities produced or acquired and those sold or from whom they were purchased. The above information must be made available to the competent authority at its request and, in the case of computerized records, in the form of a printout. Furthermore, it should be noted that this proposal has noimpact on imports of dairy products from third countries and it has no financial implications for the Community budget. ?

Veterinary medicines: bovine somatotropine BST, placing on the market and administration (repeal. Decision 90/218/EEC)

The committee unanimously adopted the report (consultation procedure) by Hedwig KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT (EPP/ED, D) approving the Commission's proposal to convert the current moratorium on the marketing and administration of BST (bovine somatotrophin) into a permanent ban. The committee was concerned about the risks to human health posed by BST in dairy products and adopted a number of amendments to the proposal highlighting the need for further evaluation of them. Under WTO rules, the ban cannot apply to the manufacture and importing of BST in the Member States for the purposes of exports to third countries as long as there is no scientific evidence of a danger to human health. The committee reluctantly accepted this but sought to amend the proposal to ensure that no EU subsidies go towards the production or bottling of a product whose use is considered irresponsible. ?

Veterinary medicines: bovine somatotropine BST, placing on the market and administration (repeal. Decision 90/218/EEC)

In adopting the report by Mrs Hedwig KEPPELHOFF-WIECHERT (EPP/ED, D), the European Parliament approved the proposal concerning the placing on the market and the administration of bovine somatotropine (BST). Moreover, it requests that: - the Commission continues to follow the scientific research on the potential adverse effects on human health of dietary exposure to products derived from rBST-treated dairy cows and, if necessary, make recommendation for further preventive measures; - the Union's financial resources are not used, directly or indirectly, in order to support the manufacture, packaging or exportation of rBST.?

Veterinary medicines: bovine somatotropine BST, placing on the market and administration (repeal. Decision 90/218/EEC)

PURPOSE : to prohibit the placing on the market and the administration of bovine somatotrophin (BST) in the Community from 01/01/2000. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 1999/879/EC concerning the placing on the market and administration of bovine somatotrophin (BST) and repealing Decision 90/218/EEC. CONTENT : in the terms of the Council Decision, the Member States are to ensure that the placing on the market of bovine somatotrophin for the purposes of its marketing and administration thereof on their territory to dairy cows by any means whatsoever will not be authorised. Undertakings buying or producing bovine somatotrophin substances and undertakings authorized in any capacity to market such substances shall be required to keep registers detailing, in chronological order, quantities produced or acquired and those sold or used for purposes other than placing on the market, as well as the names of the persons to whom such quantities were sold or from whom they were purchased. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 01/01/2000.?