


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	2000/0076(CNS)	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Pigmeat: common organisation of the markets		
Subject 3.10.05.01 Meat		

Key players			
European Parliament			
Council of the European Union			
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2511	26/05/2003
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2322	19/12/2000
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2256	17/04/2000
European Commission	Commission DG Agriculture and Rural Development	Commissioner	

Key events			
10/04/2000	Legislative proposal published	COM(2000)0193	Summary
17/04/2000	Debate in Council	2256	
19/05/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/10/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
16/10/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0305/2000	
14/11/2000	Debate in Parliament		
15/11/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0508/2000	Summary
19/12/2000	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		Summary
26/05/2003	Debate in Council	2511	
06/08/2004	Additional information		Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/0076(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure

Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037; EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 036
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	AGRI/5/12740

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(2000)0193 OJ C 248 29.08.2000, p. 0121 E	11/04/2000	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1009/2000 OJ C 367 20.12.2000, p. 0040	20/09/2000	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0305/2000 OJ C 223 08.08.2001, p. 0004	17/10/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T5-0508/2000 OJ C 223 08.08.2001, p. 0104-0176	15/11/2000	EP	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Pigmeat: common organisation of the markets

PURPOSE : to present a proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation 2759/75/EEC on the common organisation of the market in pigmeat. **CONTENT** : the purpose of this proposal is to incorporate a regulatory mechanism, that will enable producers' incomes to be stabilised by a system of levies to be collected during periods when the short-term economic situation is satisfactory and a system of payments to be made in times of recession, in the basic Regulation 2759/75/EEC. The main components of this proposal are the following : - Member States will be authorised to establish a regulatory fund in their territory. Participation by pigfarmers will be on a voluntary basis and for a period of not less than 5 years; - the regulatory funds will be financed by the pigfarmers themselves, on the basis of a levy paid in respect of each fattening pig. To meet the administrative costs incurred on setting up the fund, Member States may grant degressive launching aid. The funds may seek loans from banks on market terms; - the regulatory mechanism will have 2 components: a levy threshold, triggering the collection by the funds of an amount in respect of each fattening pig, and a payment threshold, triggering the grant of an amount in respect of each pigfarmer. The 2 thresholds will be set by the funds and authorised by the Commission in accordance with the management committee procedure; - where a fund must start a payment period without the necessary financial resources being available, the Member State concerned may grant it an interest-free loan. The loan reimbursed by the fund in full; - where a regulatory fund has sufficient financial resources, it may suspend collection of the levy temporarily; - upon becoming a member of the fund, the pigfarmers must declare the number of their fattening places. They must give an undertaking not to increase that number during their period of membership. However, where market prospects permit, Member States may be authorised by the Commission to derogate from that requirement. ?

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The committee adopted the report by Georges GAROT (PES, F) amending the Commission proposal under the consultation procedure. It expressed doubts as to the effectiveness of the proposal and wanted to see a more effective crisis management system and improved regulation of production. Given the cyclical nature and instability of the pigmeat market, it was essential that measures be taken to ensure reliable short- and long-term forecasts for production and market trends. This was a prerequisite for the smooth functioning of the regulatory fund proposed by the Commission. The committee also called for the Community to provide funding for the regulatory mechanism, in addition to the levies to be paid into the scheme by pig farmers, arguing that the latter, who were facing a 30% collapse in prices, could not be expected to bear the full brunt of the worst ever recession to hit the sector. It said the scheme should be mandatory in the Member States and not voluntary, as the Commission was proposing, as it would not be effective unless all the Member States took part. It also called for mandatory launching aid from the Community to cover the administrative costs of setting up the funds instead of voluntary aid from the Member States. ?

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The Parliament voted 310 to 188 with 33 abstentions in favour of a resolution, drafted by Mr Georges GAROT (PES, F), approving with non-binding amendments a Commission proposal to reform the organisation of the market in pigmeat by authorising the Member States to provide start up aid for a special fund for pig farmers to be financed by the farmers themselves through payment of a levy. The scheme would

be voluntary and only farmers prepared not to increase production over a five year period would participate. The amendments approved seek to make the scheme mandatory but participation optional with funding to be provided from the EU budget on a co-financing basis. Another amendment seeks to ensure that the launch aid from the EU to cover the administrative costs setting-up the scheme is provided. Furthermore, in a period of recession the regulatory fund shall provide 100% intervention per farm in respect of the first 2000 pigs slaughtered in the course of the year, in the case of pig breeders/fatteners and pig breeders; the first 100 sows present over the year, in the case of specialist breeder farmers. Over and above these ceilings, the funds shall, for each farm, bear the costs relating to 75% of the pigs slaughtered or of the sows present. If a pig farmer provides proof that he has reduced his production by 25% during the recession, the fund shall cover 100% of his production after the reduction. ?

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The Council adopted a statement which stipulates that a qualified majority of Member States cannot be achieved on the basis of the Commission proposal. The Council therefore wishes to continue giving consideration to alternative means so as to anticipate market disturbances more effectively while respecting market mechanisms and improving the sector's competitiveness at the European level with due regard for environmental rules. The Council calls on the Commission to take all steps to increase the reliability of market forecasts and to explore, where appropriate, the scope for collating the information gathered under the health monitoring programmes. The Council also requests the Commission to consider alternative short-term measures in order to absorb the crises while preserving the dynamic of the market and taking into account the need for pigfarmers to be competitive. Given that the development of pig products on lucrative external markets contributes to market stabilisation, the Council would like the Commission to make full use of the aid arrangements for promotion in third countries. ?

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As this proposal is no longer of topical interest, it has been withdrawn by the Commission.