

# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	2002/0209(CNS)	Procedure completed
Outermost regions, French overseas departments: dock dues (exten. Decision 89/688/EEC)		
Subject 3.10.06 Crop products in general, floriculture 4.70.06 Outlying and outermost regions, overseas countries and territories		
Geographical area France		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur
	<b>RETT</b> Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		Appointed 10/09/2002
			PPE-DE <a href="#">SUDRE Margie</a>
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion
	<b>ECON</b> Economic and Monetary Affairs		Appointed The committee decided not to give an opinion.
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development		The committee decided not to give an opinion.
Council of the European Union	Council configuration		Meeting
	<a href="#">General Affairs</a>		<a href="#">2474</a> Date 10/12/2002
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner
	<a href="#">Taxation and Customs Union</a>		

Key events			
23/08/2002	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2002)0473</a>	Summary
23/09/2002	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
05/11/2002	Vote in committee		Summary
05/11/2002	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0377/2002</a>	
20/11/2002	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0540/2002</a>	Summary
10/12/2002	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
10/12/2002	End of procedure in Parliament		

## Technical information

Procedure reference	2002/0209(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 299-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	RETT/5/16669

## Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		<a href="#">COM(2002)0473</a>	23/08/2002	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A5-0377/2002</a>	05/11/2002	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0540/2002</a> OJ C 025 29.01.2004, p. 0024-0157 E	20/11/2002	EP	Summary

## Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
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## Final act

<a href="#">Decision 2002/973</a> <a href="#">OJ L 337 13.12.2002, p. 0083-0084</a> Summary
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## Outermost regions, French overseas departments: dock dues (exten. Decision 89/688/EEC)

PURPOSE : to extend the exemption from dock dues in the French overseas departments. CONTENT : Council Decision 89/688/EEC concerning the dock dues in the French overseas departments states that partial or total exemptions from the charge may be authorised for local production activities for a period of not more than ten years from the date of introduction of the system. This period expires on 31 December 2002. Subsequent Treaty amendments mean that future tax requests for such regions have to be assessed on the basis of detailed requests from the Member States in question. A Commission report of 1999 which assesses the system of dock fees concludes that the four French overseas departments are in a much more fragile economic and social situation compared with the rest of the EU by virtue of being outermost regions. Dock dues provide local authorities with a way of helping threatened sectors survive in an unfavourable economic environment and with resources to support the economic and social development of each region, as an adjunct to Community policies, and to maintain a certain level of education and health. The European Court of Justice has, however, laid down criteria for exemptions, which must be necessary, proportionate, and precisely determined. In March 2002, France sent a detailed request to the European Commission to extend the system of dock dues for ten years. The Commission considers that the exact nature of the exemptions needs to be defined. Measures adopted under this system must not undermine the integrity or coherence of the Community legal order, including the internal market and common policies. The French authorities must provide additional information before a long-term system can be introduced. It is essential, however, that continuity is maintained in the special tax arrangements in the overseas departments where there is still a huge structural deficit in development. Average GDP levels are still less than 50% of the Community average and there are sustained rates of high unemployment. The Commission concludes that the effects of Council Decision 89/688/EEC should be temporarily extended from 1 January 2003 for a short period of one year.?

## Outermost regions, French overseas departments: dock dues (exten. Decision 89/688/EEC)

The committee adopted the report by Margie SUDRE (EPP-ED, F) approving the proposal without amendment under the consultation procedure.?

## Outermost regions, French overseas departments: dock dues (exten. Decision 89/688/EEC)

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The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Margie SUDRE (EPP-ED, France) approving the Commission's proposal.?

## Outermost regions, French overseas departments: dock dues (exten. Decision 89/688/EEC)

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PURPOSE : to extend the period of exemption from dock dues in the French overseas departments. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 2002/973/EC amending Decision 89/688/EEC concerning the dock dues in the French overseas departments. CONTENT : This Decision aims to extend for a period of one year, beginning on 1 January 2003, the application of Article 2(3) of Council Decision 89/688/EEC. The latter states that, in the light of the special constraints on the French overseas departments, partial or total exemptions from the charge may be authorised for local production activities for a period which would expire on 31/12/2002. ENTRY INTO FORCE : 01/01/2003.?