



Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	2007/0027(CNS) Procedure completed
Milk and milk products: common organisation of the markets (CMO), additional general rules for drinking milk Amending Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 1997/0114(CNS)	
Subject 3.10.05.02 Milk and dairy products	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		26/02/2007
		PPE-DE JEGGLE Elisabeth	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	2819	26/09/2007
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Agriculture and Rural Development	FISCHER BOEL Mariann	

Key events			
14/02/2007	Legislative proposal published	COM(2007)0058	Summary
15/03/2007	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/07/2007	Vote in committee		Summary
19/07/2007	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0284/2007	
04/09/2007	Debate in Parliament		
05/09/2007	Results of vote in Parliament		
05/09/2007	Decision by Parliament	T6-0373/2007	Summary
26/09/2007	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
26/09/2007	End of procedure in Parliament		
	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2007/0027(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amending Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 1997/0114(CNS)
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/6/47139

Documentation gateway					
Legislative proposal		COM(2007)0058	15/02/2007	EC	Summary
Committee draft report		PE386.533	15/05/2007	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0284/2007	19/07/2007	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0373/2007	05/09/2007	EP	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary		SP(2007)5401	18/10/2007	EC	

Additional information	
National parliaments	IPEX
European Commission	EUR-Lex

Final act
Regulation 2007/1153 OJ L 258 04.10.2007, p. 0006 Summary

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

PURPOSE: the amendment of Council Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 in order to simplify a number of rules.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Regulation.

BACKGROUND: this proposal is being presented as a package, alongside two other, related proposals on the dairy sector. The other two proposals concern the amendment of:

- Council Directive 2001/114/EC relating to certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption. See [CNS/2007/0025](#)
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products. See [CNS/2007/0026](#).

CONTENT: current legislation states that only three categories of drinking milk may be produced and marketed in the EU namely: skimmed milk (0.5% fat or less); semi-skimmed milk (1.5% and 1.8% fat) and whole milk (3.5% fat or more).

However, a large number of derogations to the above exist. These derogations will expire in 2009 (other than for Estonia where the derogation will expire in April 2007). Estonia has, therefore, asked for a prolongation of its derogation until 2009.

At the same time and in order to respond to new nutritional habits, the Commission is proposing to liberate the drinking milk market by allowing the production and marketing of milk with fat contents outside the three established categories. Provisions are being proposed that will allow consumers to have clear, labelled, information regarding the fat content of the milk being consumed. The result of liberalising the milk market

thus will be the abolition of the derogations; increased transparency; and enhanced trade among the Member States.

As far as the financial consequences are concerned, the Commission estimates that the liberation of the drinking milk Regulation will not lead to a change in the consumption of lower fat drinking milk. Given that the trend in the average fat content is not expected to change the Commission does not foresee any changes to the Community budget as a result of the proposed amendments.

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

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development adopted unanimously the consultation report by Elisabeth JEGGLE (EPP-ED, DE) and made several amendments to the proposal to amend Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 laying down additional rules on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products for drinking milk.

Council Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 currently recognises only three categories of drinking milk that can be produced and marketed in the Community. These are skimmed milk (maximum 0.5% fat), semi-skimmed milk (1.5% to 1.8% fat) and whole milk (at least 3.5% fat). By amending Council Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 the Commission proposes to allow the production and marketing of drinking milk that does not comply with the present three categories in the European Union as long as a clear and easily readable indication of the fat content is present on the label.

To avoid confusion and uncertainty for the consumer, the committee suggests that the milk fat content percentage should be clearly indicated on the packaging directly next to the product description and that there is no real need to include a margin of tolerance of '± 0.2%' for the fat content indication.

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

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Elisabeth JEGGLE (EPP, ED, DE), and made some amendments the proposal to amend Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 laying down additional rules on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products for drinking milk:

- the milk fat content percentage should be clearly indicated on the packaging directly next to the product description;
- the proposed margins of tolerance for stating fat content (+/- 0.2%) should be deleted.

It should be noted that, to simplify the common market organisation (CMO) in milk and milk products, the Commission proposed three sets of amendments to current legislation. This proposal is closely related to the proposal on amending Directive 2001/114/EC relating to certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption (CNS/2007/0025) and the proposal amending Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products (CNS/2007/0026.)

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

PURPOSE: the amendment of Council Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 in order to simplify certain rules.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Regulation (EC) No 1153/2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 2597/97 laying down additional rules on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products for drinking milk

BACKGROUND: this proposal was presented as a package, alongside two other, related proposals on the dairy sector. The other two proposals adopted alongside this one concern amendments to:

- Council Directive 2001/114/EC relating to certain partly or wholly dehydrated preserved milk for human consumption. See [CNS/2007/0025](#)
- Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products. See [CNS/2007/0026](#).

Current legislation states that only three categories of drinking milk may be produced and marketed in the EU namely: skimmed milk (0.5% fat or less); semi-skimmed milk (1.5% and 1.8% fat) and whole milk (3.5% fat or more).

However, a large number of derogations to the above exist. These derogations will expire in 2009.

CONTENT: the purpose of this Regulation, therefore, is to amend Council Regulation (EC) No 2597/1997 on the dairy sector in order to liberate the drinking milk market by allowing the production and marketing of milk with fat contents outside the three established categories. In essence the amendment states that heat treated milk shall be considered drinking milk provided that the fat content is clearly indicated with one decimal and easily readable on the packaging in the form of ?? % fat?. However, such milk cannot be described as whole milk, semi-skimmed milk or skimmed milk.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 7 October 2007.

APPLY: 1 January 2008.