


# Procedure file

Basic information	
CNS - Consultation procedure Directive	2009/0117(CNS)
Plant health legislation: delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing	Procedure completed
Amending Directive 2000/29/EC	<a href="#">1997/0338(CNS)</a>
Subject	
3.10.09.02 Plant health legislation	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development		02/09/2009
		S&D <a href="#">DE CASTRO Paolo</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>ENVI</b> Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	<a href="#">Education, Youth, Culture and Sport</a>	<a href="#">2978</a>	27/11/2009
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	<a href="#">Health and Food Safety</a>	VASSILIOU Androulla	

Key events			
11/08/2009	Legislative proposal published	<a href="#">COM(2009)0424</a>	Summary
17/09/2009	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
30/09/2009	Vote in committee		Summary
02/10/2009	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A7-0017/2009</a>	
20/10/2009	Results of vote in Parliament		
20/10/2009	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T7-0032/2009</a>	Summary
27/11/2009	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
27/11/2009	End of procedure in Parliament		
04/12/2009	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2009/0117(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive

	Amending Directive 2000/29/EC <a href="#">1997/0338(CNS)</a>
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 159
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/7/00738

### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	<a href="#">COM(2009)0424</a>	11/08/2009	EC	Summary
Committee draft report	<a href="#">PE428.006</a>	08/09/2009	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A7-0017/2009</a>	02/10/2009	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">T7-0032/2009</a>	20/10/2009	EP	Summary

### Additional information

National parliaments	<a href="#">IPEX</a>
European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>

### Final act

[Directive 2009/143](#)  
[OJ L 318 04.12.2009, p. 0023](#) Summary

## Plant health legislation: delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing

**PURPOSE:** to amend amending Directive 2000/29/EC as regards the delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing

**PROPOSED ACT:** Council Directive.

**BACKGROUND:** under Council Directive 2000/29/EC of 8 May 2000 on protective measures against the introduction into the Community of organisms harmful to plants or plant products and against their spread within the Community the responsible official bodies in the Member States may only delegate the tasks provided for in that Directive, including laboratory testing, to a legal person which under its officially approved constitution is charged exclusively with specific public functions. Since then, the structure and tasks of the plant health authorities of the Member States have evolved. The laboratory tests which have to be carried out in the framework of Directive 2000/29/EC are of a highly technical nature and concern different scientific fields. Such tests require a wide range of different and expensive technical facilities and highly specialised laboratory staff capable of adapting to the rapid development of diagnostic methodology. The number of tests to be carried out has also been growing over recent years. As a result, it has grown increasingly difficult to find legal persons fulfilling all the necessary requirements.

**CONTENT:** this proposal provides for certain amendments to Article 2(1)(g)(ii) of Directive 2000/29/EC in order to adapt the requirements on the delegation of laboratory testing to existing needs. The amendments include the following:

- a provision to allow legal persons carrying out delegated tasks to diversify their activities with other laboratory testing activities than those referred to under that Directive;
- a provision allowing delegation of laboratory testing to legal persons which are not charged exclusively with public functions in the framework of that Directive;
- in both cases, provisions ensuring that the delegated tasks provided for under the Directive remain under the authority and supervision of the responsible official bodies in a Member State and that those responsible official bodies verify that the legal persons in question are impartial and free of conflict of interest as regards the execution of the delegated tasks.

**IMPACT ASSESSMENT:** a light scoping paper illustrating the issue has been produced in April 2008. Because of the limited impact of the proposed changes, no full impact assessment of the proposed changes was deemed necessary.

**BUDGETARY IMPLICATIONS:** this proposal for a Council Directive has no financial implications for the Community budget.

## Plant health legislation: delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development adopted the report by Paolo De CASTRO (S-D, IT) approving unamended, under the consultation procedure, the proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 2009/29/EC in relation to the delegation of laboratory analysis work.

## Plant health legislation: delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing

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The European Parliament adopted by 534 votes to 29, with 14 abstentions, a legislative resolution approving unamended, under the consultation procedure, the proposal for a Council directive amending Directive 2009/29/EC in relation to the delegation of laboratory analysis work.

## Plant health legislation: delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing

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**PURPOSE:** to amend amending Directive 2000/29/EC as regards the delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing.

**LEGISLATIVE ACT:** Council Directive 2009/143/EC amending Directive 2000/29/EC as regards the delegation of the tasks of laboratory testing.

**CONTENT:** the laboratory tests which have to be carried out in the framework of Directive 2000/29/EC are of a highly technical nature and concern different scientific fields. Such tests require a wide range of different and expensive technical facilities and highly specialised laboratory staff capable of adapting to the rapid development of diagnostic methodology. The number of tests to be carried out has also been growing over recent years. As a result, it has grown increasingly difficult to find legal persons fulfilling all the necessary requirements.

Accordingly, the Council adopted a directive authorising Member States to delegate laboratory tests on plants and plant products to legal persons such as universities, research institutes or private laboratories, provided that they satisfy certain conditions. They must be impartial, free of conflicts of interest as well as able to ensure reliable results and protect confidential information.

The laboratory testing may only be delegated if the responsible official body ensures throughout the time of the delegation that the legal person to which it delegates laboratory testing can assure impartiality, quality and protection of confidential information, and that no conflict of interest exists between the exercise of the tasks delegated to it and its other activities.

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 24/12/2009.

**TRANSPOSITION:** 01/01/2011.