

Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1994/0143(CNS)	Procedure completed
Financing of the Common Agricultural Policy (amend. regul. 729/70/EEC)		
Subject 3.10 Agricultural policy and economies		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	CONT Budgetary Control		05/10/1994
		PSE WEMHEUER Rosemarie	
	Former committee for opinion		
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		08/09/1994
		PSE HAPPART José H.G.	
Council of the European Union	BUDG Budgets		07/09/1994
		ARE DELL'ALBA Gianfranco	
	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	1846	22/05/1995

Key events			
14/09/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
14/09/1994	Report referred back to committee		
02/12/1994	Vote in committee		Summary
02/12/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0096/1994	
13/12/1994	Debate in Parliament		
15/12/1994	Decision by Parliament	COM(1994)0240	Summary
23/02/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
23/02/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0037/1995	
17/03/1995	Debate in Parliament		
17/03/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0126/1995	Summary

02/05/1995	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0161	Summary
22/05/1995	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/05/1995	End of procedure in Parliament		
08/06/1995	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1994/0143(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1994)0240	01/07/1994	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0096/1994 OJ C 018 23.01.1995, p. 0004	02/12/1994	EP	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0037/1995 OJ C 089 10.04.1995, p. 0004	23/02/1995	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0126/1995 OJ C 089 10.04.1995, p. 0192-0218	17/03/1995	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal		COM(1995)0161	02/05/1995	EC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Final act

Regulation 1995/1287 OJ L 125 08.06.1995, p. 0001 Summary
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Financing of the Common Agricultural Policy (amend. regul. 729/70/EEC)

This proposal followed on from the conclusions of a group of experts, chaired by Mr Belle, on the functioning of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 on the financing on the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Several changes were proposed to Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 with a view to revising the objectives of the reformed clearance procedure: enhanced preventive measures, based on greater cooperation and partnership, applied at the same time as the operations, providing increased legal certainty, and accompanied by adequate procedural guarantees. To this end, it was proposed that two distinct procedures for the clearance of accounts be defined: - One concerned the clearing of accounts proper, through a procedure involving the rendering and adoption of accounts, reduced to the fundamental account audits concerning the annual statements of account provided by the Member States, based on a system of certification and within a shorter time frame, and resulting in a single annual decision in all the Member States, whose goal would be to determine the total expenditure to be entered against the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF in the general account; - The other involved checks on conformity, broken down into an amicable phase and, if this did not work, a contentious phase: the Commission would carry out on-the-spot checks in the Member States, which would not be linked to a particular financial year, with the only reservation being that they were limited to a time frame of no more than three years. In the case of an irregularity requiring a financial correction, the Commission would propose the necessary measures to the Member States concerned (amicable phase). If there was disagreement as to the measures to be taken, a conciliation body could be convened, without prejudice to proceedings before the Court of Justice (contentious phase). It was important to note that irrespective of whether or not agreement was reached, any financial correction should be subject to an official decision by the Commission. ?

Financing of the Common Agricultural Policy (amend. regul. 729/70/EEC)

The European Parliament approved the proposal for a regulation, subject to a number of amendments which aimed to: - stress that the Member States should assume full practical responsibility for checking EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure; - strengthen the Commission's right to carry out checks: it should be entitled and enabled to carry out all checks into the management of expenditure it considered necessary; - ensure effective transparency and mutual assistance between the Member States and the Commission; - ensure consistency in the standards required for accreditation of paying agencies in the Member States: to this end, the Commission should set out detailed instructions on the criteria to be applied and ensure that they were respected throughout the Community; - ensure that the Commission had full and immediate access to information on expenditure; - separate the procedure for the clearance of accounts into two types of decision: one for the establishment and adoption of the EAGGF accounts for the reference year; the other to determine the consequences, including financial corrections, to be drawn from the results of compliance audits. ?

Financing of the Common Agricultural Policy (amend. regul. 729/70/EEC)

The Commission incorporated in its amended proposal the great majority of the amendments approved by Parliament in its plenary session.

The amendments incorporated, among other things, give Parliament the possibility to receive useful information to better evaluate expenditures in the Member States.

The text of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 had also been adapted to take account of the results of the considerations by the Council's technical groups.

Financing of the Common Agricultural Policy (amend. regul. 729/70/EEC)

OBJECTIVE: to strengthen checks on EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure. MEASURE: Council Regulation (EC) No 1287/95 amending Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 on the financing of the common agricultural policy. SUBSTANCE: . to strengthen checks by the Commission: the Commission is entitled and enable to carry out all checks on the management of expenditure it considers necessary; . consistency with the standards required for accreditation of paying agencies in Member States: to this end, the Commission draws up detailed guidelines on the criteria to be applied and ensures that these criteria are respected throughout the Community; . only expenditure effected by paying agencies accredited by the Member States is financed; . each Member State should restrict the number of accredited paying agencies; . where a Member State accredits more than one paying agency, it must designate a single contact body; . where one or more of the conditions for accreditation are not fulfilled, accreditation shall be withdrawn; . the procedure for the clearance of accounts is separated into two types of decision: one concerning the clearance of the EAGGF accounts for the reference period concerned, the other determining the consequences, including financial corrections, to be drawn from the results of the checks on conformity. The Regulation shall enter into force on 15 June 1995. It shall apply from the financial year beginning on 16 October 1995. ?