


Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1995/0084(CNS)	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Banana, fruit and vegetables sector		
Subject 3.10.06.01 Fruit, citrus fruits		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		27/06/1995
		PSE COLINO SALAMANCA Juan Luis	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		
	DEVE Development and Cooperation		21/06/1995
		ARE CASTAGNÈDE Bernard	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1908	19/03/1996
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1901	22/01/1996
	Agriculture and Fisheries	1865	17/07/1995

Key events			
04/04/1995	Legislative proposal published	COM(1995)0114	Summary
16/06/1995	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/07/1995	Debate in Council	1865	
07/09/1995	Vote in committee		Summary
07/09/1995	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0198/1995	
11/10/1995	Debate in Parliament		
12/10/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0460/1995	Summary
12/12/1995	Decision by Parliament	T4-0593/1995	Summary
22/01/1996	Debate in Council	1901	Summary

07/02/1996	Modified legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0037	Summary
19/03/1996	Debate in Council	1908	
17/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/12/1998	Additional information		Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1995/0084(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/06747

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1995)0114 OJ C 136 03.06.1995, p. 0018	04/04/1995	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0198/1995 OJ C 269 16.10.1995, p. 0010	07/09/1995	EP	
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0977/1995 OJ C 301 13.11.1995, p. 0077	14/09/1995	ESC	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading	T4-0460/1995 OJ C 287 30.10.1995, p. 0149-0180	12/10/1995	EP	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0593/1995 OJ C 017 22.01.1996, p. 0019-0025	12/12/1995	EP	Summary
Modified legislative proposal	COM(1996)0037 OJ C 092 28.03.1996, p. 0017	07/02/1996	EC	Summary

Additional information

European Commission	EUR-Lex
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Banana, fruit and vegetables sector

This proposal for a regulation aimed to amend Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 on the common organisation of the market in bananas: . Since this Regulation currently covered fig bananas, which presented totally different characteristics and were marketed in a totally different way to the bananas most commonly marketed in the Community, the Commission proposed excluding this type of banana from the regulation and including it in Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72 on the COM in fruit and vegetables, along with other tropical fruit, and to amend at the same time Regulation (EEC) No 2658/87 on nomenclature and the Common Customs Tariff (CCT). It was also important to amend Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 since the concept of "marketed quantities" used a basis to determine the reference quantities for operators when adopting the regulation was too complex (system with the dual objective of not disrupting the normal trading relations between persons operating at different points in the banana marketing chain while also allowing some evolution of trading structures). The current regulation proposed basing the allocation by volume and the administration of the tariff quota on the criterion of effective importation of bananas. . Similarly, Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 provided for the possibility of adjusting the tariff quota in exceptional circumstances affecting production or import conditions relating to this product on the basis of a review of the forecast supply balance. Indeed, experience showed that this arrangement should be developed in order to ensure the continuity of Community supplies while also allowing appropriate remedy for any serious damage suffered in such circumstances by Community producers or by certain categories of banana operators. . Finally, the proposal stipulated that, in cases of force majeure, ACP producing states should be permitted to supply the Community with bananas of other origins. This amendment also provided for the possibility of reallocating traditional and non-traditional quantities from ACP countries in cases not ascribable to force

majeure. This reallocation should be temporary and take place between ACP countries located in the same geographical zone, as listed in the annex to the proposal. The conditions for applying these two mechanisms were adopted according to the management committee procedure. ?

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The report was unanimously approved. As regards the amendments proposed by the Commission, the rapporteur was firstly of the opinion that the exclusion of fig bananas from the common organization for bananas, due to their limited production and their status as an exotic or luxury product, and as a result the inclusion of fig bananas in the COM for fruit and vegetables, raised a number of problems which related particularly to their definition and identification. He was therefore in favour of maintaining the status quo, though considered, on the other hand, that there were grounds for introducing the criterion of "actual import". The rapporteur also subscribed to the Commission's criteria which sought to reduce the reference period for the allocation of operators' import duties and, in this regard, he proposed fixing this period to a single calendar year instead of two (as proposed by the Commission). The report took the view that the COM's operating balance could be considered as a positive one. In this context the rapporteur stressed the importance of maintaining the preferences granted to ACP countries and also called on the Commission to present again a proposal for a programme of diversification and technical aid in favour of the banana-producing countries of Latin America, as the Council had never adopted the previous proposal. Finally, the report held that the complaints of the United States' administration, which threatened retaliatory measures, were unjustified. ?

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The ESC approved the Commission proposal with the exception of the exclusion of fig bananas from the scope of the COM in bananas. It could not be sure that this exclusion would not lead to distortions in the import system. The ESC also felt that the Commission should, when considering banana supply, take account of the working conditions in the producing countries and urge the exporting countries to ensure that social conditions were respected and workers' human rights protected in such production. Finally, the concept of "force majeure" in the Commission proposal should include war that seriously affected the production possibilities of a given country.

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Parliament approved the proposal for a regulation and then referred to committee the report of Mr Juan COLINO SALAMANCA (PSE, E). The amendments approved by Parliament at the plenary sitting of October I (1995) were as follows: - the title was amended: the regulation seeks only to amend Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 (and not this regulation and Regulation (EEC) No 1035/72). In the same context, Parliament took the view that the exclusion of fig bananas from the common organization for bananas and, consecutively, their inclusion in the COM for fruit and vegetables, was not desirable. It therefore recommended maintaining the status quo (and as a result removed all reference to fig bananas, including Annex I which included this type of banana); - Parliament considered that the Commission should present proposals which seek to remove the current restrictions on the access of banana production to the economic area of the European Union, without affecting the legitimate interests of both Community producers and those in the ACP countries; - it proposed fixing the reference period for the allocation of import duties to a single calendar year instead of two (the Commission's proposal); - to cases of "force majeure", in which the ACP countries were permitted to import products of other origin, it added those cases where there was endemic civil war and the absence of a legitimately recognized government; - as regards the conditions governing the temporary re-allocation of traditional and non-traditional quantities, as attributable to cases other than "force majeure", Parliament held that the transfer should not necessarily take place between ACP States from the same geographic zone; - finally, Parliament called on the Commission to present a report (by 31.12.1995 at the latest) which would be accompanied by appropriate proposals relating to the operation of this regulation (taking account particularly of the flow of trade in Community bananas and in bananas from non-member and ACP countries when applying this regulation). ?

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In adopting the report by Mr COLINO SALAMANCA (PSE, E), the European Parliament approved this proposal for a regulation with the amendments adopted at the plenary sitting of 12 October 1995. ?

Banana, fruit and vegetables sector

With the European Parliament's Opinion now available, the Council resumed its discussion of the common organization of the market in bananas on the basis of the proposal for Regulation submitted by the Commission in April 1995. ?

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In its amended proposal, the Commission decided to comply with Parliament's wishes and continue to include fig bananas in the market organization for bananas. The title of the regulation is changed accordingly (to 'Council Regulation [EEC] amending Regulation [EEC] No 404/93 on the common organization of the market in bananas'), and all references to the exclusion of fig bananas from the common organization for bananas are removed.?

Banana, fruit and vegetables sector

This proposal was withdrawn by the Commission because it was no longer considered to be of relevance.?