

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of: Part III, Article 122

By Mr : Dick Roche

Status : - Member

Article III-122 (ex Article 37)

The Commission shall submit proposals for working out and implementing the common agricultural policy, including the replacement of the national organisations by one of the forms of common organisation provided for in [Article III-119(1) (ex 34(1))], and for implementing the measures referred to in [this Section].

These proposals shall take account of the interdependence of the agricultural matters mentioned in this Section.

2. A ~~European~~ law or framework law **of the Council** shall establish the common organisation of the market provided for in [Article III-119(1) (ex 34(1))] and the other provisions necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the common agricultural policy and the common fisheries policy. **The Council shall act by QMV after consulting the European Parliament.**

3. The Council, acting on a proposal from the Commission, shall adopt ~~the~~ European regulations or decisions on fixing prices, levies, aid and quantitative limitations, ~~and~~ on the fixing and allocation of fishing opportunities **and on measures to further rural development. The Council shall act by QMV after consulting the European Parliament.**

4. In accordance with [paragraph 2], the national market organisations may be replaced by the common organisation provided for in [Article III-119(1) (ex 34(1))] if:

- (a) the common organisation offers Member States which are opposed to this measure and which have an organisation of their own for the production in question equivalent safeguards for the employment and standard of living of the producers concerned, account being taken of the adjustments that will be possible and the specialisation that will be needed with the passage of time;
- (b) such an organisation ensures conditions for trade within the Union similar to those existing in a national market.

5. If a common organisation for certain raw materials is established before a common organisation exists for the corresponding processed products, such raw materials as are used for processed products intended for export to third countries may be imported from outside the Union.

Explanation

Removal of the distinction between obligatory and non-obligatory spending is acceptable only if two conditions are met. Firstly, as proposed in my amendment to Article 315, the budget must make explicit provision for financial obligations to third parties.

Secondly, Article 122 should be amended to ensure that in respect of the common organisation of the market, rural development, price levels, agricultural supports and the conditions under which grants in aid are made, the Council shall act by QMV after consulting the European Parliament (see also my proposed amendment to Article 315).

I believe that most decisions on the CAP need to be taken more quickly than the co-decision procedures allow for. Moreover, the level of detail and complexity involved in governing the various common market organisations is also such as to render co-decision unsuitable.