

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1975-1976

3 December 1975

DOCUMENT 395/75

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 318/75) for a regulation of the Council suspending application of the condition governing the import into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Cyprus, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey in accordance with the agreements in force between the European Economic Community on the one hand and each of these countries on the other

Rapporteur: Mr E. KLEPSCH

PE 42.712/fin.

By letter of 16 October 1975 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation of the Council suspending application of the condition governing the import into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Cyprus, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey in accordance with the agreements in force between the European Economic Community on the one hand and each of these countries on the other.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture and the Associations Committee for their opinions.

On 4 November 1975 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mr Klepsch rapporteur.

It considered the proposal at its meeting of 18 November 1975.

At the same meeting the committee adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement with 9 votes in favour and 3 abstentions.

The committee decided to ask for the report to be dealt with without debate in plenary sitting.

Present: Mr Kaspereit, chairman; Mr Scott-Hopkins, vice-chairman; Mr Klepsch, rapporteur; Mr Dykes, Mr Fellermaier, Mr E. Muller, Mr Nyborg, Mr Pintat, Mr Radoux, Mr Schulz, Mr Spicer and Mr Thornley.

The opinions of the Committee on Agriculture and the Associations Committee are attached.

C O N T E N T S

| | <u>Page</u> |
|---|-------------|
| A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION | 5 |
| B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT | 6 |
| Opinion of the Committee on Agriculture | 7 |
| Opinion of the Associations Committee | 9 |

A

The Committee on External Economic Relations hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation of the Council suspending application of the condition governing the import into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Cyprus, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey in accordance with the Agreements in force between the European Community on the one hand and each of these countries on the other

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council¹,
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 318/75),
- having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations and to the opinions of the Committee on Agriculture and the Associations Committee (Doc. 395/75),

Approves the Commission's proposal.

¹ OJ No. C 240, 21.10.1975, p.2.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The existing Agreements between the EEC and a number of Mediterranean countries contain provisions granting a tariff reduction on imports into the Community of fresh lemons originating in those countries. This reduction is, however, subject to observance of the price determined on the internal Community market. This means that the provisions in question must be adapted to the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables. Accordingly, each of these Agreements has a separate implementing regulation.

2. As is well known, on 24 and 25 June 1975 the Council decided to introduce special measures to improve the production and marketing of citrus fruits in the Community. The object of this measure was to protect intracommunity trade in these products originating in the Member States against imports of the same products from non-member Mediterranean countries.

At the same time, the Council decided to abandon the officially agreed price for citrus fruits on the internal market.

3. In consequence, the relevant provisions of each of the above-mentioned agreements must be suspended. The same applies to the implementing regulations. That is the purpose of this proposal.

4. This regulation should come into force at the same time as the Council regulation amending Regulation No. 2511/69, laying down special measures for improving the production and marketing of Community citrus fruit, and is applicable until 31 May 1976. The European Parliament delivered its opinion on the latter regulation in September 1975¹, on the basis of the report by Mr KOFOED on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 256/75).

5. The Committee on External Economic Relations sees no reason to make any observations on this regulation, the purpose of which is to implement a decision already taken.

It simply wonders why this proposal was not submitted simultaneously with the abovementioned regulation amending Regulation No. 2511/69, in view of the close connection between the two regulations.

¹OJ No. C 239, 20.10.1975

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Letter from the vice-chairman of the committee to Mr Kaspereit, chairman of the Committee on External Economic Relations

Brussels, 5 November 1975

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 4 and 5 November 1975, the Committee on Agriculture considered the proposal for a regulation (EEC) of the Council suspending application of the condition governing the import into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Cyprus, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey in accordance with the agreements in force between the EEC on the one hand and each of these countries on the other (Doc. 318/75)¹.

This proposal suspends, until 31 May 1976, the rules in the Agreements at present in force with the Mediterranean countries mentioned above as regards the agreed price for imports into the Community of fresh lemons.

At its meeting of 24 and 25 June 1975, the Council introduced special measures for Community citrus fruit and amended the Community rules on reference prices for citrus fruit in general. As regards lemons in particular, the new rules will remain in force for the period 1 October 1975 to 31 May 1976, and the Council has undertaken to review the situation for successive marketing years in the light of the results of the study which the Commission is to carry out on the market in lemons in the Community.

After Parliament had given its opinion on the new rules on citrus fruit (see Kofoed report, doc. 256/75), the appropriate regulations were finally approved by the Council and published in Official Journal No. L 254 of 1 October 1975, and thus entered into force in the normal way.

It was therefore necessary temporarily to suspend the rules on the lemon prices contained in the various Agreements in force with the Mediterranean countries.

¹ Present: Mr Laban, acting chairman, Mr Bourdellès, Mr Brégégère, Mr Cifarelli, Mrs Dunwoody, Mr Espersen, Mr Hughes, Mr De Koning, Mr Martens, Lord St. Oswald, Mr Scott-Hopkins, Lord Walston.

This then is basically a simple technical adjustment rendered necessary by the adoption of new Community rules. The Committee on Agriculture therefore has no particular observations to make, but invites the Council to adopt in due course any provisions for forthcoming marketing years which appear necessary in the light of developments and of the conclusions reached in the abovementioned study by the Commission.

(sgd.) C. LABAN
Acting Chairman

OPINION OF THE ASSOCIATIONS COMMITTEE

Letter from the chairman, Mr Schuijt, to Mr KASPEREIT, chairman of the Committee on External Economic Relations

Luxembourg, 29 October 1975

Subject: Opinion of the Associations Committee on Doc. No. 318/75

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 29 October 1975¹ the Associations Committee considered the proposal for a Council Regulation suspending application of the condition governing the import into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Cyprus, Spain, Israel, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey, in accordance with the Agreement in force between the European Economic Community on the one hand and each of these countries on the other on which it had been asked to deliver an opinion to your committee (doc. 318/75).

Our committee accepts that the regulation is necessary, because the decision to abandon the officially agreed price requires the consequential amendment of the various agreements with the countries concerned to suspend the provisions in those agreements which related to the officially agreed price. The Council has decided to abandon the officially agreed price for citrus fruit on the internal market. In consequence, it is necessary to suspend the provisions which relate to the officially agreed price in the agreements with the various countries concerned. That is what the present proposal seeks to do.

Our committee is concerned with these regulations only in so far as they relate to trade with Cyprus and Turkey and it is satisfied that the regulations will not have an adverse effect on the exports of those two countries.

The Committee has therefore instructed me to inform you of its approval, without modification, of the proposal for a regulation on which it was asked for its opinion.

(sgd) Willem J. SCHUIJT

¹ Present: Mr Schuijt, chairman; Mr De Clercq and Mr Hansen, vice-chairmen; Mr Boano, Lord Bethell, Mr Bourdellès, Mrs Caretoni Romagnoli, Mr Corrie, Mr Corterier, Mr Glinne, Mr Härzschel (deputizing for Mr Klepsch), Mr Lemoine, Mr Pintat, Mr Radoux, Mr Rivierez, Mr Vandewiele and Mr Vetrone

Luxembourg
P.O.B. 1601