

**Proposal for a decision instituting a standing committee on agricultural, horticultural
and forestry seeds and seedlings**

(Submitted by the Commission to the Council on 3 March 1964)

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMISSION
OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Proposal for a decision instituting a standing committee on agricultural, horticultural and forestry seeds and seedlings

(Submitted by the Commission to the Council on 3 March 1964)

The Council of the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal of the Commission;

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas the implementation of the directives designed to promote practical and legal harmonization in the marketing of beet seed, seed potatoes, herbage seeds, cereal seeds and forestry reproductive material will entail a number of specific tasks;

Whereas one of these tasks is the application of harmonized legislative provisions, which must be carried out as uniformly as possible in all the Member States and in such a way as to leave no obstacle to this branch of trade within the European Economic Community;

Whereas by these directives certain powers and responsibilities devolve upon the Commission in connection with the issue of licences after consultation of the Member States;

Whereas it has been provided that the Member States may take certain implementing measures only after consulting the Commission and the other Member States;

Whereas, in so far as they concern agricultural seeds and seedlings, the directives provide for the institution of expert committees to render opinions on the basis of growth trials of certified seeds of all categories;

Whereas new tasks will arise from the planned harmonization of laws, notably in connection with the marketing of vegetable seeds, the establishment of a common catalogue of varieties and the external characteristics of forestry reproductive material;

Whereas all these tasks necessitate a committee of government experts, which in cases of urgency can be speedily consulted, particularly if it is necessary for the Commission to authorize a Member State to admit provisionally other categories of seeds or seedlings in poor harvest years;

Whereas in the interests of efficiency, the membership of the Committee should be

confined to one head of delegation and two other experts per Member State; whereas in view of the diversity of the products concerned, more especially as regards agricultural seeds and seedlings and forestry reproductive material, the Member States must be authorized to vary the composition of their delegations according to the subject being dealt with,

Has made the present decision:

Article 1

1. A standing committee on agricultural, horticultural and forestry seeds and seedlings, hereinafter referred to as "the Committee", shall be set up and attached to the Commission.

2. The Committee shall:

a) deal with all questions arising from the implementation or harmonized laws or regulations on seeds and seedlings;

b) advise on the preparation of measures to be adopted by the Commission under:

i) Articles 16, 17(1) and 20(2 and 3) of the Directive on the marketing of beet seed;

ii) Articles 13(2), 14(4), 15 and 16(1) of the Directive on the marketing of seed potatoes;

iii) Articles 3(3), 16, 17(1) and 18(2 and 3) of the Directive on the marketing of herbage seeds;

iv) Articles 15, 16(1) and 19(2 and 3) of the Directive on the marketing of cereal seeds;

v) Articles 12(3) and 13 of the Directive on forestry reproductive material;

c) to carry out the duties of the committees of experts referred to in:

i) Article 20(1) of the Directive on the marketing of beet seed;

ii) Article 14(3) of the Directive on the marketing of seed potatoes;

iii) Article 20(1) of the Directive on the marketing of herbage seeds;

iv) Article 19(1) of the Directive on the marketing of cereal seeds.

Article 2

The consultation of the Member States stipulated in the provisions referred to in Article 1(2 b) above shall take place within the Committee.

Article 3

The Committee shall comprise one delegate with not more than two alternates of the Government of each Member State. The delegates and alternates may be varied according to the subject under discussion.

Article 4

1. The Committee shall have as its chairman

a representative of the Commission (Directorate-General for Agriculture).

2. Secretarial services shall be provided by the Commission.

Article 5

The Committee shall draw up its own rules of procedure.

Article 6

The present decision is addressed to the Member States.