

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(77) 13 final.

Brussels, 5 February 1977.

DRAFT COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

relating to the organization of a survey on the earnings
of permanent workers employed in agriculture

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(77) 13 final.



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Explanatory Memorandum

In order to perform certain tasks assigned to it under the Treaty, the Commission must have information on the current status and trends of earnings in the Community countries. It therefore requires comparable statistics on these matters for all sectors of economic activity.

As a result of the activities of the Working Party for Statistics on Earnings in Agriculture, which is composed of representatives of the national administrations, employers and labour, Community surveys of the earnings of permanent workers employed in agriculture were conducted in 1974, 1975 and 1976 (1). These surveys provided comparable information on the level and distribution of earnings, the number of hours paid and the existence or absence of benefits in kind, taking into account certain personal data on wage earners such as age, sex and occupational qualifications. The figures for 1974 have already been published (2), those for 1975 will be so shortly and the 1976 data will be available towards the middle of 1977.

In view of the quantity of information now available on the relationship between the level of earnings and certain data on wage earners, the Working Party for Statistics on Earnings in Agriculture agreed with the Commission that for the period 1977-1979 smaller-scale surveys should make it possible to monitor current trends adequately provided a more detailed survey, comparable to those carried out from 1974 to 1976, was conducted in 1980. The proposed simplification of the survey is largely of a technical nature, consisting in a fairly substantial reduction in the size of the sample required for Community purposes. The survey is also to be limited meantime to wage earners of the male sex.

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- (1) Council Regulations (EEC) Nos 677/76 of 21 March 1974 (OJ No L 83, 28.3.1974, p. 4/5), 1103/75 of 28 April 1975 (OJ No L 110, 30.4.1975, p. 2/3) and 1035/76 of 30 April 1976 (OJ No L 118, 5.5.1976, p. 3/4)
- (2) Eurostat, Earnings of permanent workers in agriculture, 1974 (Social Statistics, 5/1975)

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Council Regulation (EEC) No

of

relating to the organization of a survey on the earnings of permanent workers employed in agriculture.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 213 thereof,

Having regard to the draft Regulation submitted by the Commission,

Whereas, in order to carry out the tasks assigned to it under the Treaty, and in particular those set out in Articles 2, 39, 117, 118, 119 and 122 thereof, the Commission requires information on the current status and trends of earnings in the Member States;

Whereas such statistical data as do exist within the Member States on the earnings of agricultural workers do not at present permit valid comparisons to be made, and it is consequently necessary to conduct a specific Community survey based on uniform definitions and characteristics as was done in 1974, 1975 and 1976 pursuant to Council Regulations (EEC) Nos 677/74 (1), 1103/75 (2) and 1035/76 (3);

Whereas the technical difficulties involved in a survey on earnings in agriculture make it necessary to restrict the survey at present to the earnings of permanent agricultural workers;

Whereas it is convenient, in view of the results already obtained, to restrict the scope of the survey meantime to data on workers of the male sex, who represent over 90 % of the permanent agricultural labour force;

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- (1) OJ No L 83, 28.3.1974, p. 4
(2) OJ No L 110, 30.4.1975, p. 2
(2) OJ No L 118, 5.5.1976, p. 3

Whereas it is possible and more economical to carry out such a survey by random sampling only,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

During 1977, 1978 and 1979 the Commission shall undertake a survey of the actual earnings of permanent workers employed in agriculture on the basis of statistical data relating to September, October or November.

Article 2

The survey shall cover all holdings which employ permanent workers and which engage in activities as specified and defined under class 01 of the General Nomenclature of Economic Activities in the European Communities (NACE), with the exception of holdings whose activities are mainly or exclusively directed to creating and maintaining gardens and parks, to hunting or to activities ancillary to agriculture.

Article 3

The survey shall be carried out by means of random sampling.

In respect of those holdings appearing in the survey sample, employers shall supply the information required for the survey in the manner set out hereafter.

Article 4

The survey shall consist in the collection for each male permanent worker of all data relating to gross cash earnings for September, October, or November 1977, 1978 and 1979, the existence or absence of benefits in kind, the nature of work performed, the basis on which earnings are calculated and the number of hours paid, as well as age and occupational qualifications.

Article 5

The information shall be collected by the statistical offices of the Member States.

The Commission, with the collaboration of these offices, shall determine the technical details of the survey and the arrangements for transmitting the results to the Commission.

Article 6

Individual items of information supplied for purposes of the survey may be used for statistical purposes only. It shall be prohibited to use the information for taxation purposes or to communicate it to third parties.

Member States shall take appropriate sanctions against any infringement of :

- a) the obligation to supply the information referred to in Article 3,
- b) the obligation, under the first paragraph of this Article, to maintain secrecy as regards the information obtained.

Article 7

To cover the expenditure incurred in conducting the survey, the Member States shall receive a lump sum proportionate to the number of holdings covered. This sum shall be charged against the European Communities' budget appropriations allocated for this purpose.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at , (date)

For the Council

The President