

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(76) 168 final.

Brussels, 28 April 1976.

PROPOSAL FOR A  
REGULATION (EEC) OF THE COUNCIL

amending Regulation (EEC) No 1059/69 laying down the  
trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the  
processing of agricultural products.

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(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

On imports of processed agricultural products outside Annex II to the Treaty amounts are levied to compensate the differences in price of the basic product used.

These amounts ("variable components") are fixed at the beginning of each quarter of the calendar year. However, changes within the quarter must often be made when new threshold prices come into force during the quarter.

It appears possible, without economic disadvantages, to abolish the obligation to change the amounts during the quarter, which means an important administrative simplification for all concerned. In future, therefore, there will be only four fixings.

However, the Regulation gives the Commission the power to change the amounts in exceptional circumstances, during a three month period. Thus, if a threshold price, not yet decided at the time of the fixing, becomes available and the immediate fixing of new amounts incorporating the missing factor is, in the opinion of the Commission, necessary, it may do so.

It is furthermore proposed to alter the starting date of each quarter so that each begins a month later. With such a change the date of fixing the new variable components would in many cases follow more closely than is the case now the date of fixing the new threshold prices.

PROPOSAL FOR  
A REGULATION (EEC) No        /        OF THE COUNCIL

of  
amending Regulation (EEC) No 1059/69 laying down  
the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods  
resulting from the processing of agricultural products

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,  
and in particular Articles 14 (7), 28, 92, 93, 94, 113 to 116, 227 and  
235 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas by virtue of Article 6 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1059/69 (1)  
of 28 May 1969, laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain  
goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products, as last  
amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3058/75 (2), the amounts of the variable  
components charged on importation of these goods are fixed for each quarter  
of the calendar year; whereas, however, pursuant to Article 7 of the said  
regulation corrected amounts must be fixed, particularly to take account of new  
threshold prices which are fixed during a quarter; whereas these corrections  
are frequently necessary in practice, thereby creating administrative com-  
plications for the Member States and a climate of instability for importers;

Whereas experience has shown that it is possible, without economic drawbacks,  
to abolish the rule which imposes corrected variable components so as to limit  
the number of annual fixings to four, always at a fixed date known in advance;

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(1) OJ No L141, 12.6.1969, p. 1

(2) OJ No L 306, 26.11.1975, p. 3

Whereas at the same time, it is desirable to put back by one month the dates on which each quarterly period begins, so as to ensure that as far as possible these fall shortly after the dates on which the new threshold prices are fixed,  
whereas it is desirable to leave open the possibility, exceptionally, of correcting the variable components when the effect of a price change during a quarter is such that trade is, or is in danger of being, seriously disturbed,

HAS ADOPTED THE FOLLOWING REGULATION:

Article 1

The text of Article 6 (1) of Regulation (EEC) no 1059/69 shall be replaced by the following text:

- " 1. The Commission shall fix the amount of the variable component for all goods for three-monthly periods beginning on 1 February, 1 May, 1 August and 1 November."

Article 2

The text of Article 7(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1059/69 shall be replaced by the following text:

- "2. When the factor which was not available is determined, the Commission may fix a corrected variable component if, by reason of the application of paragraph 1, trade experiences or is threatened with serious disturbances.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President