



*European Communities
Commission
Press Release*

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GROWING CONSUMER VOICE IN AGRICULTURAL POLICY

The views of consumers are becoming increasingly important in the development of the common agricultural policy.

Mr Pierre Lardinois, the Commission member responsible for agriculture, promised a special meeting of the Consumers' Consultative Committee in Brussels that consumer opinion would be taken fully into account in the stock-taking of the farm policy which the Commission will undertake in the next few months.

Mr Anthony Dumont, President of the committee, listed some points which are of particular concern to consumers at the present time. Mr Lardinois frankly conceded that the consumer point-of-view had not in the past been given sufficient weight in framing European agricultural policy. He undertook to provide consumers with fuller information on all aspects of farm policy and discussions will shortly take place to establish a permanent structure of consultation.

Mr Lardinois also suggested that meetings should be arranged from time to time between consumers and representatives of food producers so that the latter might be fully informed of consumers' views.

The meeting was organised by Commission Vice-President, Mr Scarascia Mugnozza.

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