

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1983-1984

3 October 1983

DOCUMENT 1-780/83

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-439/83 - COM(83) 269 final) for a directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the power take-offs of wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors and their protection

Rapporteur: Mr K. NYBORG

PE 85.615/fin.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT,
PUBLIC HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

in the form of a letter from the chairman of the committee to Mr J. MOREAU,
chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

on

the proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of the laws of the
Member States relating to the roll-over protection structures (rear-mounted
rollbar, frame or cab type) of narrow-track wheeled agricultural tractors
(COM(83) 167 final)

and

the proposal for a Council directive on the approximation of the laws of the
Member States relating to the power take-offs of wheeled agricultural and
forestry tractors and their protection (COM(83) 269 final)

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 22 September 1983 the Committee on the Environment,
Public Health and Consumer Protection considered the abovementioned proposals.

The purpose of the draft directives based on Article 100 of the EEC Treaty
is not only to remove the barriers to trade that result from the differences in
national legislation but also to ensure road and working safety throughout the
Community.

The proposals are in line with the type approval procedure for tractors laid
down in Directive 74/150/EEC. The principles of accident prevention in respect
of the design and manufacture of machines, equipment and tools, including
agricultural machinery, are set out in the Community programme on safety and health
at work (OJ No. C 165 of 11.7.1978).

The Committee is in full agreement with these proposals and hopes that a
proposal applying similar provisions to the manufacture of narrow-track agri-
cultural and forestry tractors with protection structures consisting of two
pillars mounted in front of the driver's seat, will be submitted at an early date.

Please consider this letter as the opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection.

Yours sincerely,

p.p. A. E. Schmid-Colmjon
First Secretary

K. COLLINS
Chairman

The following took part in the vote: Mr Collins, chairman; Mr Ryan, vice-chairman; Mr Alber, Mr Berkhouwer, Mr Forth, Mr Ghergo, Mr Mertens (deputizing for Mr Del Duca), Mrs Schleicher, Mrs Siebel-Emmerling and Mrs Spaak.

By letter of 13 June 1983, the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 100 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities for a Council directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the power take-offs of wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors and their protection (Doc. 1-439/83).

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs as the committee responsible and to the Committee on the Environment, Health and Consumer Protection for an opinion.

At its meeting of 20 September 1983, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs appointed Mr Kai Nyborg rapporteur.

At its meeting of 27 September 1983, the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs unanimously adopted the Commission's proposal and the motion for a resolution. The committee also decided to request application of Rule 34 of the Rules of Procedure (procedure without debate).

The following took part in the vote: Mr Moreau, chairman; Mr Nyborg, rapporteur; Mr de Ferranti, Mr Herman, Mr Leonardi, Mrs Tove Nielsen, Mr Nordmann, Mr Papantoniou, Mr Purvis (deputizing for Mr Welsh), Mr Rogalla (deputizing for Mr Ruffolo), Mr Van Rompuy, Mr Wagner, Mr Wedekind (deputizing for Mr Schnitker) and Mr von Wogau.

The opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection is attached.

The report was tabled on 29 September 1983.

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
A. MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION	5
B. EXPLANATORY STATEMENT	6
Opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection	

The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

closing the procedure for consultation of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the power take-offs of wheeled agricultural and forestry tractors and their protection.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission¹;
 - having been consulted by the Council (Doc. 1-439/83);
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and the opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Health and Consumer Protection (Doc. 1-780/83);
 - having regard to the result of the vote on the Commission's proposal;
1. Endorses the Commission's proposal;
 2. Instructs its President to forward to the Council and Commission, as Parliament's opinion, the Commission's proposal as voted by Parliament and the corresponding resolution.

¹ OJ No. C 164, 23 June 1983, p. 5

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Commission's proposal should be seen as part of the type approval procedure covered by Directive 74/150/EEC with special reference to power take-offs and their protection. Besides removing technical barriers to trade in this area, the objective of the proposal is to increase safety.

It is apparent from the Commission's explanatory memorandum that there is agreement between the Commission departments and the experts of the national governments and industries on the content of this directive. Opinions are divided on one point only, viz. the provision stipulating that it must not be possible to remove the protective guard without a tool. The Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs has no objection to the Commission proposing this particular provision on grounds of user safety.