

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1975-1976

June 1975

DOCUMENT 144/75

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External
Economic Relations

on the proposal from the Commission of the
European Communities to the Council (Doc. 103/75)
for a Regulation on/imports of fresh lemons
originating in Israel

Rapporteur: Mr G. KASPEREIT

PE 40.886/fin.

By letter of 14 May 1975 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 103/75) for a regulation on imports of fresh lemons originating in Israel.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations by letter of 2 June 1975 and to the Committee on Agriculture and the Associations Committee for their opinions.

On 10 June 1975 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mr KASPEREIT rapporteur. It considered the proposal at its meeting of 10 June 1975.

At the same meeting the committee adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement unanimously with 2 abstentions.

Present: Mr Kaspereit, chairman and rapporteur; Mr Thomsen, Mr Bermani and Mr Boano, vice-chairmen; Lord Bethell, Mr Cousté, Mr Dunne, Mr De Koning, Mr Schwörer (deputizing for Mr Schulz), Mr Spicer and Mr Vetrone.

The opinion of the Committee on Agriculture is attached.

The opinion of the Associations Committee will be given orally.

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The Committee on External Economic Relations hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Regulation on imports of fresh lemons originating in Israel

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(75) 189 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc.103/75),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture and of the Associations Committee (Doc. 144/75),
1. Notes that the Commission's proposal for a Regulation only contains implementing provisions on part of the agreement signed between the EEC and Israel on 11 May 1975;
 2. Approves the Commission's proposal.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The Commission's proposal for a Regulation contains provisions implementing the arrangement, contained in Protocol No. 1 of the new agreement between the European Economic Community and Israel, for imports into the Community of lemons originating in Israel.

2. The main aim of these implementing provisions, on the basis of Regulations (EEC) No. 1035/72 and (EEC) No. 2745/72 on the common organization of the market in fruit and vegetables, is to guarantee that prices fixed on the internal market of the Community are taken into account for imports of Israeli lemons.

3. The primarily technical character of the proposal poses no particular problems. The Committee on External Economic Relations therefore approves it as another step towards the regulation of trade with Israel in the light of market conditions in the Community agricultural sector.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Letter from the chairman of the Committee on Agriculture
to Mr G. KASPEREIT, chairman of the Committee on External
Economic Relations

Strasbourg, 17 June 1975

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 16 June 1975,¹ the Committee on Agriculture considered a proposal for a regulation on imports of fresh lemons originating in Israel, on which it has been asked for its opinion, the Committee on External Economic Relations being the committee responsible.

This Regulation should enter into force on 1 July 1975 simultaneously with the new Agreement with Israel.

This Agreement establishes preferential arrangements for imports into the Community of fresh lemons originating in Israel. However, to prevent these concessions from disturbing the internal Community market, the Agreement provides a number of mechanisms for stabilizing supplies on the Community market.

In general, imports from Israel will be subject to compliance with existing or future Community agricultural regulations, and in particular with the provisions of regulation No. 1035/72 on the common organization of the markets in the fruit and vegetables sector.

The Customs duties to be paid by Israel on the products in question on importation into the Community are equal to 60% of the Common Customs Tariff on condition that prices of lemons originating in Israel on the internal Community market, after customs clearance and deduction of various charges, are equal to or higher than the reference price for the period concerned augmented by the incidence on this price of the customs duties applicable to imports from third countries and a fixed charge of 1.20 u.a. per 100 kilogrammes.

¹ Present: Mr Houdet, Chairman; Mr Vetrone, Vice-Chairman, Mr Bourdellès, Mr Brégégère, Mr Cifarelli, Mr Cipolla, Mr Fröh, Mr Hansen, Mr Liogier, Mrs Orth and Lord St. Oswald.

However, when, for three consecutive market days, prices remain lower than the price to be observed, the customs duty in force with respect to third countries on the date of importation shall be applied to the products in question, and this arrangement shall continue to apply until prices are for three consecutive market days once more equal to or higher than the price to be observed.

The Committee on Agriculture welcomes the Agreement with Israel, which fits naturally into the framework of the global Mediterranean approach, and approves the proposal for a regulation in question.

(sgd.) Roget HOUDET