

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 186/74

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 168/74) for a regulation[/] extending for the third time the period of validity of Regulation (EEC) No 2313/71 and 2823/71 on the temporary partial suspension of the Common Customs Tariff duties on wine originating in and coming from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey

Rapporteur: Mr Libero DELLA BRIOTTA

By letter of 25 June 1974 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 for a regulation (EEC) of the Council extending for the third time the period of validity of Regulations (EEC) No. 2313/71 and 2823/71 on the temporary partial suspension of the Common Customs Tariff duties on wines originating in and coming from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.

On 28 June 1974 the President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture as the committee responsible and the Committee on External Economic Relations as the committee asked for its opinion.

The Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr Della Briotta rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 2 and 3 July 1974 and unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement.

The following were present: Mr Houdet, chairman; Mr Laban, vice-chairman; Mr Della Briotta, rapporteur; Mr Baas, Mr Dalsager, Mr Fröh, Mr Hunault, Miss Lulling, Mr Martens, Mr Jørgen Nielsen, Mrs Orth, Mr Scott-Hopkins.

The opinion of the Committee on External Economic Relations is attached.

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A.

The Committee on Agriculture 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 (EEC) extending for the third time the period of validity of Regulations (EEC) No.2313/71 and 2823/71 on the temporary partial suspension of the Common Customs Tariff duties on wine originating in and coming from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (COM(74) 806 final),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc.168/74),
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and the opinion of the Committee on External Economic Relations, (Doc. 186/74),
1. Approves the Commission's proposal;
 2. Invites the Commission of the European Communities to do all it can to ensure that a definitive system is instituted as soon as possible within the appropriate context of an overall policy vis-à-vis the Mediterranean countries;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of its committee to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.

B.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The Committee on Agriculture has been requested to consider a proposal for a Council Regulation extending for the third time the validity of Regulations (EEC) 2313/71 and 2823/71 on the temporary partial suspension of the Common Customs Tariff duties on wine originating in and coming from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.

The European Parliament has already been faced on several occasions with the problem of the system to be applied to wines originating in and coming from the countries of the Mediterranean Basin, notably the Maghreb countries.

2. In view of the fact that the European Parliament has already dealt with this question in several reports by Mr Vals (Doc. 129/70, 156/71, 99/72 and 136/73), there is no reason to restate here the arguments advanced on those occasions. It seems appropriate to point out, however, that the system applied consists in reducing customs duties to 60% of the Common Customs Tariff, on the understanding that the Community reference price is observed in respect of exports. This system was instituted on 1 November 1971 and extended until 31 August 1974.

The European Parliament is now asked to deliver its opinion on a further extension of the validity of these regulations until 31 August 1975.

3. The Commission of the Communities feels it is possible that a definitive system regulating the products in question could be adopted and enacted within the framework of 'the global approach' before this date, but even then it could not enter into force for several months.

Although it is regrettable that no definitive system has yet been established, the fact remains that the Commission's proposal is calculated to encourage exports of the products concerned. From the economic point of view, the Committee on Agriculture considers that the third extension of the validity of the regulations does not impair the smooth functioning of the common agricultural market in the wine sector as long as reference prices are strictly observed.

While inviting the Commission to do all it can to ensure that a definitive system is instituted as soon as possible within the appropriate context of an overall policy vis-à-vis the Mediterranean countries without derogating from past EEC enactments within the context of the common agricultural market, the Committee on Agriculture approves the proposed regulation.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Letter from Mr de la MALENE, chairman of the Committee on External Economic Relations, to Mr HOUDET, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture

Luxembourg, 3 July 1974

Dear Mr Houdet,

I have the honour to inform you that, at its meeting of 2 July 1974, the Committee on External Economic Relations, asked for its opinion, considered briefly the proposal for a Council regulation extending for the third time the period of validity of Regulations (EEC) No. 2313/71 and 2823/71 on the temporary partial suspension of the Common Customs Tariff duties on wines originating in and coming from Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey (COM(74) 806 final).

Our committee had no objections to this proposal and instructed me to inform you accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd.) Christian de la MALENE

The following were present: Mr de la Malène, chairman; Mr Fellermaier and Mr Thomsen, vice-chairmen; Mr Brégégère, Lord Chelwood, Mr Corterier, Mr Eisma (deputizing for Mr Patijn), Mr Frehsee (deputizing for Mr Behrendt), Mr Herbert, Mr Kaspereit, Mr Klepsch, Mr Lange, Mr Maigaard, Mr Nielsen (deputizing for Mr Rizzi), Mr Pounder (deputizing for Lord Lothian), Lord St. Oswald, Mr Sandri, Mr Schwabe (deputizing for Mr Radoux), Mr Schulz, Mr Thornley.

