

European Communities

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EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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6 May 1980

DOCUMENT 1-143/80

## Second Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

**on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-691/79) for a Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine**

**Rapporteur: Mr H.J. BUCHOU**



By letter of 18 January 1980 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 a proposal for a Council regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine.

The President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Budgets for its opinion.

At its meeting of 31 January the Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr Buchou rapporteur.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 27-29 February and adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement by 21 votes with 6 abstentions.

Present: Sir Henry Plumb, chairman; Mr Buchou, rapporteur; Miss Barbarella, Mr Clinton, Mr Colleselli, Mr Curry, Mr Dalsass, Mr Delatte, Mr Diana, Mr Gautier, Mr Helms, Mrs Herklotz, Mr Kirk, Mr Louwes (deputizing for Mr Jürgens), Mr Maffre-Baugé, Mr Maher, Mr Brøndlund Nielsen, Mr d'Ormesson, Mr Papapietro, Mr Pranchère, Mr Provan, Mr Schmid (deputizing for Mr Wettig), Mr Skovmand, Mr Sutra, Mr Tolman, Mr Vernimmen and Mr Woltjer.

At its plenary sitting of 14 March 1980 the European Parliament rejected the motion for a resolution and referred the report by Mr Buchou back to committee.

At its meeting of 22-24 April 1980, the Committee on Agriculture decided to confirm the report by Mr Buchou as adopted at its meeting of 27-29 February 1980.

Present: Mr Früh, vice-chairman and acting chairman; Mr Buchou, rapporteur; Miss Barbarella, Mr Clinton, Mr Dalsass, Mr Gatto, Mr Helms, Mr Jürgens, Mr McCartin (deputizing for Mr Bocklet), Mr Maffre-Baugé, Mr Maher, Mr Martin (deputizing for Mr Pranchère), Mr d'Ormesson, Mr Papapietro, Mr Provan, Mr Skovmand, Mr Sutra and Mr Woltjer.

The opinion of the Committee on Budgets is attached.

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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 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council,<sup>1</sup>
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community (Doc. 1-691/79),
- having regard to the second report of the Committee on Agriculture and to the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (Doc.1- 143/80),

approves the Commission proposal.

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No. C 25, 1.2.1980, p.11

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. When the basic wine regulations were revised in 1976 the Council decided to introduce supplementary intervention measures for the holders of long-term (9 months) private storage contracts for table wine. Article 12 of Regulation (EEC) No. 337/79<sup>1</sup> lays down that these measures, designed to ensure that rates remain above the activating price, may take the form of
  - either an extension of the storage for the wines concerned,
  - or a distillation measure at activating price,
  - or a combination of the two.They constitute what is known as the 'performance guarantee'.
2. These measures were introduced for the first time in autumn 1977 and soon proved effective, being selective in nature, simply to apply and easy to control. However, they are due to expire in autumn 1980.
3. Realising that exceptional harvests are likely to disturb the balance of the wine market,<sup>2</sup> the Commission proposes that, until the measures intended to adapt wine-growing potential to market requirement on a lasting basis take their full effect, the validity of these provisions should be extended to cover three more years, i.e. up to 1982/83.
4. Since the measures are of benefit to the Community wine-growing sector they can certainly be approved, whilst regretting the fact that the financial statement is not more precise, in that it puts their cost at between 5 and 121m EUA depending on the size of the harvest and the quantities delivered for distillation. However, this degree of uncertainty is not unusual in the agricultural field, and would not be sufficient grounds for rejecting the Commission proposal which, by making it possible to anticipate market fluctuations, will have a regulatory effect on the market beneficial to European wine-growing.

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No L 54, 5.3.1979, p. 1

<sup>2</sup>Doc. 496/78, rapporteur Mr Pisoni

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

Letter from the chairman to Sir Henry PLUMB, chairman of the Committee on Agriculture

Strasbourg, 11 March 1980

Subject: Proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 337/79 on the common organization of the market in wine (Doc. 1-691/79) and corrigendum COM(79) 653 final/2 (new financial statement)

Dear Sir Henry,

The Committee on Budgets considered the above proposal at its meeting of 10 March 1980.

The committee notes that in the revised financial statement the annual expenditure for the period 1981-1983 amounts to between 5 mio. and 121 mio. EUA. In the opinion of the committee it is in practice impossible to verify such financial limits and therefore asks the Commission not to submit financial statements with such a financial span.

With this considerable reservation the committee can deliver a favourable opinion.

Yours sincerely,

Erwin Lange

Present: Mr Lange, chairman; Mr Notenboom, Mr Rossi, vice-chairmen; Mr Adonnino, Mr Ansquer, Mr Baillot, Mr Balfe, Mr Bonde, Mrs Cassanmagnago (deputizing for Mr Lega), Mr Dankert, Mr Fich, Mr Forth, Mrs Gaspard, Mr Gouthier, Mrs Hoff, Mr Hord, Mr Jackson, Mr Langes, Mrs Lenz (deputizing for Mr Aigner), Mr Megahy (deputizing for Mr Colla), Mr Nord, Mr Nordlohne (deputizing for Mr Pfennig), Mr O'Leary, Mrs Scrivener, Mr Simonnet, Mr J.M. Taylor and Mr Tuckman

