

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(74) 465 final  
Brussels, 10 April 1974

## PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION (EEC)

extending Regulation (EEC) No 1174/68 of the  
Council of 30 July 1968 on the introduction of a  
system of bracket tariffs for the carriage of  
goods by road between Member States

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(74) 465 final



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Explanatory Memorandum

Pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EEC) No. 1174/68, the tariff system implemented by this Regulation for the carriage of goods by road between Member States expires on 31 December 1974. The period of application may be extended for one year in the event of the Council not having decided before that date on the tariff system to be applied thereafter.

The Council must therefore decide, before the end of 1974, on a proposal from the Commission, on the extension of the Regulation or on a new system of prices.

The system of obligatory bracket tariffs based on the Regulation has, from the beginning, been considered to be a temporary but necessary intervention into the free fixing of prices in regard to the harmonization of competitive conditions between transport modes and carriers. This system, which is of an experimental nature, and which was implemented in 1968, has only been applied since 1972 in the six original Member States. Its implementation in the new Member States is currently being discussed.

The Commission has underlined this conception in its last communication to the Council regarding the development of the transport policy, where it has been indicated that, in the field of prices, it is envisaged to "prepare the way for the progressive removal of all constraints on the formation of transport rates".

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Under these conditions, the question could therefore arise as to whether the passage from the existing obligatory system to a more flexible system of reference tariffs to be applied with effect from 1 January 1975 should not be considered immediately.

In any case, the different phases towards a definite organisation of the transport market cannot be defined exclusively for international road haulage; an essential amendment of the Regulation cannot be envisaged at present. It is a matter of overall operation which, because of the interdependence of political, economic and legal factors existing in all relevant markets, can only be realised by a global conception, a coherent and harmonious organisation in which all relevant economic facts are taken into account.

The necessary work for this purpose has been started. In the course of 1975, this work could result in a general report accompanied by the necessary proposals. In the meantime, the extension of the existing Regulation seems to be the most adequate solution.

This proposal should not be considered to be a political option in favour of this tariff system and of continuing in this way. There is no indication, after all, that the present experiment should lead to the supposition that the present system should become permanent.

PROPOSAL FOR A  
REGULATION (EEC)

extending Regulation (EEC) No. 1174/68  
of the Council of 30 July 1968 on the  
introduction of a system of bracket  
tariffs for the carriage of goods by  
road between Member States.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,  
and in particular Article 75 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee;

WHEREAS by virtue of its Article 17, Regulation (EEC) No. 1174/68 of the  
Council of 30 July 1968 on the introduction of a system of bracket tariffs  
for the carriage of goods by road between Member States (1) as amended by  
Regulation (EEC) No. 2826/72 of 28.12.1972 (2) expires on 31 December 1974  
and may be extended for a period of one year, in the event of the Council  
not having decided before that date on the tariff system to be applied  
thereafter;

WHEREAS a decision has not yet been made on this tariff system;

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(1) O.J. of the E.C. No. L 194 of 6.8.1968.

(2) O.J. of the E.C. No. L 298 of 31.12.1972.

WHEREAS in addition it appears appropriate to establish the tariff system which is to be applied after 31 December 1975 as part of an overall organisation for the transport markets of the Community; the solution to be found has to take account of all aspects of this organisation. The Council can only take decisions on the future system after having examined this overall conception on the basis of propositions the Commission will submit for this purpose in due course. This future system can therefore only be implemented and enter into force in the course of 1976;

WHEREAS Regulation (EEC) no. 1174/68 has only been applied by the original Member States from 1972 and the tariff system based on it is only in a phase of elaboration for the new Member States;

WHEREAS in these circumstances it is appropriate to extend this Regulation for two years without modifying it. Such solution cannot and should not prejudice the rules to be made in the future for the formation of transport rates for the carriage of goods in the Community;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 17 of Regulation (EEC) no 1174/68 of the Council of 30 July 1968 is replaced by the following:

"This Regulation shall apply until 31 December 1976".

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on .....

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, .....

For the Council

The President