

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

# Working Documents

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5 October 1981

DOCUMENT 1-551/81

## Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

**on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-352/81) for a directive amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured areas within the meaning of Council Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands)**

**Rapporteur: Mr E.P. WOLTJER**



By letter of 26 June 1981 and pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty, the President of the Council of the European Communities asked the European Parliament for its opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities for a Council directive amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured areas within the meaning of Council Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands).

On 1 July 1981 the President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture as the committee responsible.

At its meeting of 23/24 June 1981 the committee appointed Mr Woltjer rapporteur.

It considered the proposal at its meeting of 21 and 22 September 1981 and adopted the motion for a resolution and explanatory statement unanimously with one abstention.

Present: Mr Delatte, vice-chairman and acting chairman; Mr Früh, vice-chairman; Mr Woltjer, rapporteur; Mr Barbarella, Mr Battersby, Mr Bocklet, Mrs Castle, Mr Clinton, Mr Davern, Mr Gautier, Mr Hord, Mr Kirk, Mr B. Nielsen, Mr d'Ormesson, Mr Pranchere, Mr Provan, Mr Thareau and Mr Wettig.

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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 Council directive amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured areas within the meaning of Council Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands)

The European Parliament,

having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council (COM(81) 194 final)<sup>1</sup>,  
having been consulted by the Council, pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-352/81),  
having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 1-551/81),  
approves the Commission proposal.

<sup>1</sup>OJ No. C 160, 30.6.1981, p. 3

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. Directive 75/275/EEC<sup>1</sup> contained a list of agricultural problem areas in the Netherlands which met the criteria and values defined in Article 3(1) of Directive 75/268/EEC<sup>2</sup> concerning mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas.
2. In view of the fact that some agricultural problem areas defined in Directive 75/275/EEC have lost their agricultural character and are now being used for nature conservancy purposes, the Netherlands government has submitted to the Commission, in accordance with Article 2(1) of Directive 75/268/EEC, a new list of areas meeting the necessary criteria.
3. The following table compares total area and the number of areas as they appear in the Directive 75/275/EEC and the Commission proposal.

Provinces	Area in hectares			Number of areas		
	Directive 75/275 <sup>1</sup>	Proposal <sup>2</sup>	(P - D)	Directive 75/275 <sup>1</sup>	Proposal <sup>2</sup>	(P - D)
Groningen	177.50	40	- 137.50	11	1	- 10
Friesland	3,893.60	2,897	- 996.60	72	10	- 62
Drenthe	1,430.00	220	- 1,210.00	32	5	- 27
Overijssel	2,894.00	2,041	- 853.00	65	7	- 58
Gelderland	1,862.00	1,695	- 167.00	22	10	- 12
Utrecht	74.80	92	+ 17.20	1	2	+ 1
North-Holland	54.50	415	+ 360.50	1	2	+ 1
South-Holland	420.30	890	+ 469.70	17	4	- 13
Zeeland	741.50	532	- 209.50	17	9	- 8
North-Brabant	2,059.75	1,582	- 477.75	23	4	- 19
Limburg	14.00	792	+ 778.00	1	2	+ 1
Netherlands	13,622.00	11,196	- 2,426.00	262	56	-206

4. The table shows that the total area is reduced by 2,426 hectares, and the total number of areas declines from 262 to 56. This means that the average area of the recognized problem areas rises from 52 to 200 hectares.

<sup>1</sup>OJ No. L 128, 19.5.1975, p. 229

<sup>2</sup>OJ No. L 128, 19.5.1975, p.1

5. Since the present proposal's purpose is, firstly, to delete from the list a number of problem areas which have lost their agricultural character and, secondly, to include certain areas in which particular difficulties arise on the Community list of less-favoured areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC, the Committee on Agriculture endorses the Commission proposal.

