443,113,000

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Working Documents

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Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 238/73) for a regulation on the opening, allocating and administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef falling within subheading No 02.01 A II a) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff (1974)

Rapporteur: Mr Mario VETRONE

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By letter of 12 November 1973 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 43(2) of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal for a regulation submitted by the Commission to the Council on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef falling within subheading 02.01 A II (a) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff (1974).

At its sitting of 15 November 1973 the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture.

At its meeting of 14 November 1973 the Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr Vetrone rapporteur.

At its meeting of 22-23 November 1973 it discussed the proposal for a regulation and approved the motion for a resolution unanimously with one abstention.

The following were present: Mr Houdet, chairman; Mr Vetrone, vice-chairman and rapporteur; Mr Laban, vice-chairman; Mr Héger, Mr de Koning, Mr Lemoine, Mr Ligios, Mr Liogier, Lord St. Oswald, Mr Scott-Hopkins.

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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 on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef falling within subheading 02.01 Å II (a) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff (1974)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council (COM (73) 1780 fin.),
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 238/73),
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 257/73),
- 1.Approves the Commission's proposal;
- 2.Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the accompanying report to the Council and Commission of the European Communities.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Committee on Agriculture has been asked to report on the proposal for a regulation on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for frozen beef falling within subheading 02.01 A II (a) 2 of the Common Customs Tariff (1974).

The opening of this Community tariff quota with a duty of 20% stems from the commitment made by the Community at the last GATT negotiations and from the 1971 agreement between the Community and Argentina.

The quota is for a total quantity of 34,000 metric tons and corresponds to the quota opened by the Council for 1973 in regulation No. 186/73 (OJ L25, 30 January 1973) for the nine Member States (22,000 metric tons for the original Member States and 12,000 for the new Member States).

The total quantity of the quota - 90% of which the Commission proposes to allocate immediately to the Member States while the remaining 10% would be set aside to build up a Community reserve (access to which would be available to all Member States who have used up their initial share) - was fixed in the light of past needs.

It should, however, be noted that the Community could open an autonomous supplementary quota, pursuant to the Community-Argentina agreement, if greater needs arise later.

The Council made use of this facility in fixing the quota for 1973.

Therefore, as the proposal under consideration largely repeats the proposals for 1973 (Doc. 242/72) which the Committee on Agriculture considered and approved, your rapporteur does not find it necessary to make any particular remarks and recommends the committee to vote in its favour.