

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1973-1974

12 February 1974

DOCUMENT 367/73

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Agriculture

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 330/73) for a Directive to delay the implementation of Council Directive No. 72/160/EEC concerning measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement, of 17 April 1972, for the Kingdom of Denmark

Rapporteur: Mr H. FREHSEE

By letter of 15 January 1974 the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Articles 42 and 43 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a Directive to delay the implementation of Council Directive No.72/160/EEC, concerning measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement, of 17 April 1972, for the Kingdom of Denmark.

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

The Committee on Agriculture appointed Mr Frehsee rapporteur at its meeting of 4 February 1974.

It considered this proposal at its meeting of 7/8 February 1974 and, at the same meeting adopted the motion for a resolution by 14 votes to 1 with 5 abstentions.

The following were present: Mr Vetrone, vice-chairman and acting chairman; Mr Laban, vice-chairman; Mr Frehsee, rapporteur; Mr Aigner (deputizing for Mr Lücker), Mr Cipolla, Mr Della Briotta (deputizing for Mr Cifarelli), Mr Früh, Mr Gibbons, Mr Héger, Mr John Hill, Mr Kavanagh, Mr de Koning, Mr Ligios, Mr Liogier, Mr Martens, Mr Jørgen Nielsen (deputizing for Mr Lefèbvre), Mr Radoux (deputizing for Mr Vals), Lord St. Oswald, Mr Scott-Hopkins, Mr Thornley (deputizing for Mrs Orth).

The Committee on Agriculture instructed its rapporteur to present the explanatory statement orally.

The opinion of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment is attached.

The Committee on Agriculture hereby submits to the European Parliament the following Motion for a Resolution:

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 Directive to delay the implementation of Council Directive No. 72/160/EEC, concerning measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement, of 17 April 1972, for the Kingdom of Denmark

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. COM (73) 2196 fin.);
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Articles 42 and 43 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 330/73);
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and the opinion of the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment (Doc. 367/73);

whereas

- measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement are an important part of Community structural reform and should supplement the Common Agricultural Policy;
- some Member States have difficulties in implementing the measures necessary to comply with the provisions of the structural directives within the time limits set¹;
- the postponement of the implementation of the directive should therefore be a general regulation rather than an exceptional one for a single Member State;

¹ See also Directive 73/210/EEC, OJ L 207 of 24.7.1973, p. 48, and FREHSEE's report of 6 June 1973 (Doc. 84/73)

- only a relatively short postponement would be reasonable for a solution to the transitional difficulties mentioned in the preamble of the proposal since otherwise part of the Community structural policy, which has been developed under extreme political difficulty, will be indefinitely postponed and hence might be placed in jeopardy;

1. Therefore requests the Commission to submit, as required, a general directive until 31 December 1974; to delay the implementation of structural directives;
2. For the above reasons opposes the present proposal for a directive;
3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and Commission of the European Communities;

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT

Letter from Mr BERTRAND, chairman of the committee, to Mr HOUDET,
chairman of the Committee on Agriculture

Luxembourg, 5 February 1974

Dear Mr Chairman,

I have the honour to inform you that, at its meeting of 22/23 January 1974, the Committee on Social Affairs and Employment considered the proposal for a Council Directive to delay the implementation of Council Directive No.72/160/EEC concerning measures to encourage the cessation of farming and the reallocation of utilized agricultural area for the purposes of structural improvement, of 17 April 1972, for the Kingdom of Denmark.

It came to the conclusion that there could be no objection to the proposal from the social point of view, and thus unanimously adopted a favourable opinion.

The following were present: Mr Bertrand, chairman; Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, Lady Elles, Mr Frehsee, Mr Härzschel, Sir John Peel, Mr Pêtre, Mr Radoux (deputizing for Mr Bermani), Mr Schwabe, Mr Vermeylen, Mr Wieldraaijer.

Yours sincerely,

A. BERTRAND

Luxembourg
P.O.B. 1601