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OPINION

of the Committee on Budgets

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 95/76) for a directive concerning the statistical surveys to be carried out by the Member States in order to determine the production potential of plantations of certain types of fruit trees

Draftsman: Mr E. LANGE

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON BUDGETS

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

Luxembourg, 14 June 1976

Dear Mr Houdet,

At its meeting of 2/3 June 1976 the Committee on Budgets considered the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a directive concerning the statistical surveys to be carried out by the Member States in order to determine the production potential of plantations of certain types of fruit trees (Doc. 95/76).

The committee noted that (a) the proposal simplified and reformulated existing legal provisions on statistical surveys of certain types of fruit trees, (b) the departures from the existing provisions were relatively minor and technical in nature and (c) all the Member States would therefore be able to carry out simultaneous surveys for the first time in 1977.

The committee took the view that the financial statement appended to the proposal was rather incomplete. In particular, it gave no precise details about how the maximum amounts mentioned in Article 10 of the proposal for a directive were arrived at. It was apparent from the statement, however, that the maximum amounts concerned had been estimated at 1,280,000 u.a., of which 400,000, i.e. 31.25%, were to be covered by funds from Article 264 of the Commission Section of the budget for 1977, the balance of 880,000 to be met in 1978.

The committee also had misgivings about including increases in product prices in the costs for the survey. As a counterinflationary measure, this type of indexing should be avoided in the future.

This opinion was adopted unanimously by the Committee on Budgets at its meeting of 14 June 1976.

Present: Mr Lange, chairman; Mr Aigner, vice-chairman; Lord Ardwick (deputizing for Mr Dalyell), Mr Artzinger, Mr Bangemann, Lord Bessborough, Lord Bruce of Donington, Mr Cointat, Mr Gerlach, Mr Lautenschlager, Mr Notenboom, Mr Patijn, Lord Reay (deputizing for Mr Shaw).

Yours sincerely,

Erwin Lange

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