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*Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development*

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**2009/2156(INI)**

9.2.2010

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 92**

**Draft report**  
**Herbert Dorfmann**  
(PE430.737v01-00)

Agriculture in areas with natural handicaps: a special health check  
(COM(2009)0161 – 2009/2156 (INI))

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**EN**

*United in diversity*

**EN**

AM\_Com\_NonLegReport

**Amendment 1**  
**George Lyon, Vincenzo Iovine, Marian Harkin**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**- having regard to the opinion of the  
European Economic and Social  
Committee on the Communication from  
the Commission, delivered on 17  
December 2009,**

Or. en

**Amendment 2**  
**Michel Dantin**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**Fa. whereas the particular situation in the  
outermost regions requires the  
implementation of specific procedures to  
deal with them,**

Or. fr

**Amendment 3**  
**Ville Itälä**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

H. whereas, as a result of the reform of  
legislation on support for less-favoured  
areas and the adoption of Regulation (EC)  
No 1698/2005, the previous category of  
'intermediate LFAs' has been abolished and

H. whereas, as a result of the reform of  
legislation on support for less-favoured  
areas and the adoption of Regulation (EC)  
No 1698/2005, the previous category of  
'intermediate LFAs' has been abolished and

eligible areas are defined as areas 'affected by significant natural handicaps' *and 'where maintaining extensive farming activity is important for the management of the land'*,

eligible areas are defined as areas 'affected by significant natural handicaps',

Or. en

**Amendment 4**  
**Esther De Lange**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H**

*Motion for a resolution*

H. whereas, as a result of the reform of legislation on support for less-favoured areas and the adoption of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, the previous category of 'intermediate LFAs' has been abolished and eligible areas are defined as areas 'affected by significant natural handicaps' and 'where maintaining extensive farming activity is important for the management of the land',

*Amendment*

H. whereas, as a result of the reform of legislation on support for less-favoured areas and the adoption of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, the previous category of 'intermediate LFAs' has been abolished and eligible areas are defined as areas 'affected by significant natural handicaps, *notably a low soil productivity or poor climate conditions*', and 'where maintaining extensive farming activity is important for the management of the land',

Or. nl

**Amendment 5**  
**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital I**

*Motion for a resolution*

I. whereas the socio-economic criteria used prior to the 2005 reform by some Member States may no longer be used to delimit areas with 'natural handicaps', but may continue to be used to define areas with

*Amendment*

*(Does not affect English version.)*

'specific handicaps', which are supported pursuant to Article 50(3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005,

Or. de

#### **Amendment 6**

**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Recital I**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

I. whereas the socio-economic criteria used prior to the 2005 reform by some Member States may no longer be used to delimit areas with 'natural handicaps', but may continue to be used to define areas with 'specific handicaps', which are supported pursuant to Article 50(3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005,

##### *Amendment*

I. whereas the socio-economic criteria used prior to the 2005 reform by some Member States may no longer be used **as the main criteria** to delimit areas with 'natural handicaps', but may continue to be used to define areas with 'specific handicaps', which are supported pursuant to Article 50(3)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005,

Or. es

#### **Amendment 7**

**Jarosław Kalinowski, Czesław Adam Siekierski, Filip Kaczmarek, Artur Zasada, Janusz Wojciechowski, Jacek Włosowicz**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Recital K**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area are not anticipated to be suitable in all cases for determining the actual handicap, as this **partly** depends on **the crop grown**,

##### *Amendment*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area are not anticipated to be suitable in all cases for determining the actual handicap, as this depends on **many factors, including those linked to biophysical constraints which interact with each other**,

**Amendment 8**  
**Mairead McGuinness**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital K**

*Motion for a resolution*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area are not anticipated to be suitable in all cases for determining the actual handicap, as this partly depends on the crop grown,

*Amendment*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area are not anticipated to be suitable in all cases for determining the actual handicap, as this partly depends on the crop grown **and on soil moisture**,

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Astrid Lulling**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital K**

*Motion for a resolution*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area are not anticipated to be suitable in all cases for **determining** the actual handicap, as this partly depends on the crop grown,

*Amendment*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area are not anticipated to be suitable in all cases for **highlighting** the actual handicap, as this partly depends on the crop grown,

Or. fr

**Amendment 10**  
**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital K**

*Motion for a resolution*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area **are not anticipated to** be suitable in all cases for determining the actual handicap, **as this partly depends on** the crop grown,

*Amendment*

K. whereas the proposed eight biophysical criteria **might not prove to be sufficient** and the proposed threshold value of 66% of the area **might not be found** suitable in all cases for determining the actual handicap **in a manner respectful of the great diversity of EU rural areas; whereas the crop grown, the level of investment, the combination of soil types and climate are, among others, also factors relevant for the purpose of determining the actual handicap in a given area,**

Or. en

**Amendment 11**  
**Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Stresses the importance of an appropriate compensatory payment for less-favoured areas in order to maintain the management of the land and the cultivated landscape in these regions; emphasises that less-favoured areas, in particular, are often of high value in terms of the cultivated landscape;

*Amendment*

1. Stresses the importance of an appropriate compensatory payment for less-favoured areas, **based on the true additional costs incurred and income foregone by the farmer**, in order to maintain the management of the land and the cultivated landscape in these regions **as well as to guarantee a just allocation of the payments**; emphasises that less-favoured areas, in particular, are often of high value in terms of the cultivated landscape;

Or. en

**Amendment 12**  
**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Stresses the importance of an appropriate compensatory payment for less-favoured areas ***in order to maintain*** the management of the land and the cultivated landscape in these regions; emphasises that less-favoured areas, in particular, are often of high value in terms of the cultivated landscape;

*Amendment*

1. Stresses the importance of an appropriate compensatory payment for less-favoured areas ***as an indispensable tool to secure the provision of high-value public goods such as maintaining*** the management of the land and the cultivated landscape in these regions; emphasises that less-favoured areas, in particular, are often of high value in terms of the cultivated landscape, ***biodiversity preservation and environmental benefits, as well as rural employment and the vitality of rural communities;***

Or. en

**Amendment 13**  
**Christel Schaldemose**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Stresses the importance of ***an appropriate*** compensatory *payment* for less-favoured areas in order to maintain the management of the land and the cultivated landscape in these regions; emphasises that less favoured areas, in particular, are often of high value in terms of the cultivated landscape;

*Amendment*

1. Stresses the importance of compensatory ***payments*** for less-favoured areas in order to maintain the management of the land and the cultivated landscape in these regions; emphasises that less favoured areas, in particular, are often of high value in terms of the cultivated landscape;

Or. da

**Amendment 14**  
**Richard Ashworth**



**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Recognises that because of their unique position less-favoured areas have an important role to play in delivering environmental benefits and in maintaining the landscape and stresses that payments under this measure should seek to achieve these goals;***

Or. en

**Amendment 15**  
**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1a. Stresses that Article 158 of the TEC on the cohesion policy, as reformed in Lisbon, pays particular to regions with natural handicaps; urges the Commission to devise a comprehensive strategy to eliminate the disparities between Member States in dealing with these areas and promote an integrated strategy that takes account of specific national and regional characteristics;***

Or. es

**Amendment 16**  
**Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that '*extensive farming activity*' is maintained, and consequently at countering abandonment of the land and migration;

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that farming *activity* is maintained **also in less-favoured areas**, and consequently at countering abandonment of the land and migration;

Or. en

### **Amendment 17**

**George Lyon, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 2**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that 'extensive farming activity' is maintained, and consequently at countering abandonment of the land and *migration*;

###### *Amendment*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that 'extensive farming activity' is maintained, and consequently at countering ***the risk of*** abandonment of the land and ***depopulation, which would be likely to have negative consequences for the environment, biodiversity and land risk management (prevention of floods, fires)***;

Or. en

### **Amendment 18**

**Esther De Lange**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 2**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that 'extensive farming activity' is maintained, and consequently at countering abandonment of the land and migration;

###### *Amendment*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that 'extensive farming activity' is maintained ***and at supporting farming in mountain regions, areas with specific handicaps and areas with significant natural handicaps, such as low soil***

*productivity or poor climate conditions,*  
and consequently at countering  
abandonment of the land and migration;

Or. nl

**Amendment 19**  
**Richard Ashworth**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that 'extensive farming activity' is maintained, ***and consequently at countering abandonment of the land and migration;***

*Amendment*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that 'extensive farming activity' is maintained;

Or. en

**Amendment 20**  
**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle,**  
**Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that '***extensive farming activity***' is maintained, ***and consequently at countering abandonment of the land and migration;***

*Amendment*

2. Emphasises that support for areas with natural handicaps is aimed in particular at ensuring that ***an efficient and multifunctional form of agriculture is widely and permanently preserved, thereby maintaining the countryside as a vital economic area and place to live in;***

Or. de

**Amendment 21**  
**Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***2a. Points out the need to develop and apply an approach which will ensure that resources are directed as precisely as possible to those parts of the areas with natural handicaps which are most in danger of inappropriate land use or abandonment;***

Or. bg

**Amendment 22**  
**Richard Ashworth**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as a contribution to the overall economic development of these areas;***

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 23**  
**Marit Paulsen**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as

3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as

a contribution to the overall economic development of these areas;

a contribution to the overall economic development of these areas; ***underlines the importance of good animal husbandry in this respect;***

Or. en

**Amendment 24**  
**Rareş-Lucian Niculescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as a contribution to the overall economic development ***of*** these areas;

*Amendment*

3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as a contribution to overall economic development ***and increased quality of life in*** these areas;

Or. ro

**Amendment 25**  
**Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă, Daciana Octavia Sârbu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as a contribution to the overall economic development ***of*** these areas;

*Amendment*

3. Stresses the need to manage these less-favoured areas not only with a view to producing nutritious foodstuffs, but also as a contribution to the overall economic development ***and demographic and social stability in*** these areas;

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă, Daciana Octavia Sârbu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**3a. In this sense, calls on the Commission to take into account also the social implications of the new classification for areas with natural handicaps;**

Or. en

**Amendment 27**  
**Richard Ashworth**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**4. Points out that, in contrast to agri-environmental measures, compensatory payments for less-favoured areas must not be subject to additional specific conditions regarding the method of land management;**

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 28**  
**Christel Schaldemose**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**4. Points out that, in contrast to agri-environmental measures, compensatory payments for less favoured areas must not be subject to additional specific conditions regarding the method of land**

*deleted*

*management;*

Or. da

### **Amendment 29**

**George Lyon, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 4**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

4. Points out that, in contrast to agri-environmental measures, compensatory payments for less-favoured areas must not be subject to additional specific conditions regarding the method of land management;

###### *Amendment*

4. Points out that, in contrast to agri-environmental measures, compensatory payments for less-favoured areas must not be subject to additional specific conditions regarding the method of land management ***which would go beyond cross-compliance requirements; recalls that the LFA scheme must in principle offer compensation to farmers who are also land managers operating with significant natural handicaps which the market does not compensate for as such;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 30**

**Alyn Smith**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 4 a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

###### *Amendment*

***4a. Emphasises, however, that LFA payments must be linked to active farming of the land, i.e. the production of food or activities intimately related to the production of food;***

Or. en

### Amendment 31

Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 5

###### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission *may* be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

###### *Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission *could, in principle*, be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps; *stresses, however, that the criteria may not be used in all cases for objectively delimiting areas with natural handicaps*;

Or. de

### Amendment 32

George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 5

###### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission *may* be *suitable* for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

###### *Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission *might not* be *sufficient* for delimiting areas with natural handicaps; *moreover, is of the opinion that additional criteria which address major constraints faced by farmers situated in these areas should also be considered*;

Or. en

### Amendment 33

Richard Ashworth

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 5



*Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps ***but recognises that other biophysical criteria could also be suitable and urges Member States to put forward additional relevant suggestions to the Commission;***

Or. en

**Amendment 34**  
**Luis Manuel Capoulas Santos**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps, ***but that other additional criteria could be adopted once the Member States have submitted the preliminary simulation if the delimitation proves to be clearly inadequate;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 35**  
**Astrid Lulling**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural

handicaps;

handicaps, *without, however, forbidding Member States from having recourse to other criteria on the basis of relevant scientific data;*

Or. fr

### **Amendment 36**

**Filip Kaczmarek, Jarosław Kalinowski, Artur Zasada, Czesław Adam Siekierski**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 5**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission *may be* suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

###### *Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission *are not completely* suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps; *therefore proposes that further studies should be undertaken and further discussions on the matter held;*

Or. pl

### **Amendment 37**

**Michel Dantin**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 5**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

###### *Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps, *but that other criteria must also be studied, such as, for instance, afforestation;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 38**  
**James Nicholson**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps;

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that the eight biophysical criteria proposed by the Commission may be suitable for delimiting areas with natural handicaps *to a degree*;

Or. en

**Amendment 39**  
**Alyn Smith**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*5a. Recognises, however, that strict and purely biophysical criteria may not be suitable for all areas of Europe, and may lead to unintended consequences in terms of areas which qualify; therefore recommends that the case for socio-economic criteria such as distance from markets, lack of services and depopulation be re-examined, on a purely objective basis;*

Or. en

**Amendment 40**  
**James Nicholson**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*5a. Points out, however, that the proposed eight criteria do not adequately recognise the problems posed by farming in cool, wet and maritime conditions; urges the Commission, therefore, to consider introducing additional criteria for the designation of areas with natural handicaps which would accurately reflect the relationship between soil moisture levels and climate;*

Or. en

**Amendment 41**  
**Richard Ashworth**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*5a. Stresses how important it is that, in line with the Court of Auditors' report and the 2005 reform, socio-economic criteria no longer form part of this measure;*

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă, Daciana Octavia Sârbu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*5 a. Urges the Commission to take into account all the standpoints expressed during the consultation with the Member States, regional and local authorities and farming organisations, regarding the definition of areas with natural handicaps;*

**Amendment 43**

**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5a. In particular, the inclusion of a geographical criterion referred to as 'isolation' would address the specific natural handicap stemming from distance from the market, remoteness and limited access to services;***

**Amendment 44**

**Czesław Adam Siekierski, Jarosław Kalinowski, Filip Kaczmarek, Artur Zasada, Janusz Wojciechowski, Jacek Włosowicz**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5 a. Considers that the discussions and studies so far conducted by the Member States on the question of new methods of delimiting LFAs point to the need to change the definition of some criteria (e.g. soil texture) and to introduce additional biophysical criteria (e.g. soil acidity), in order to ensure that the new LFAs include all areas with natural handicaps affecting agricultural production in a manner consistent with the Council regulation;***

**Amendment 45**  
**Rareş-Lucian Niculescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**5a. Calls on the Commission to study the possibility of rounding off the list of criteria with other criteria relating to:**

- humus reserve;**
- saturation and pseudosaturation;**
- total porosity;**
- soil reaction (acidity);**
- risk of floods, landslides and soil erosion;**
- level of soil degradation and degree of pollution;**
- livestock rearing potential;**
- lack of alternative activities in the area to offset natural handicaps or of a potential for such activities;**
- population density;**

Or. ro

**Amendment 46**  
**Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**5a. Considers it necessary to review the definition of the criterion of 'soil moisture balance' so as take account of the different agro-climatic conditions which exist in the various Member States of the Union;**

Or. it

**Amendment 47**

**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5b. To acknowledge the limitations of wet unworkable soils, the inclusion of a 'field capacity days' criterion would allow the interaction between soil types and climate to be taken into account (for instance to adequately reflect maritime climate difficulties);***

Or. en

**Amendment 48**

**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5c. Asks the Commission, therefore, to pursue its research efforts and analysis with a view to including potential additional criteria in the new LFA scheme in order to further adapt its proposals to practical difficulties farmers are facing and build a robust set of criteria which will remain suitable in the long term;***

Or. en

**Amendment 49**

**Astrid Lulling**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; calls for the detailed maps that are to be submitted by the Member States to be used if necessary to adapt the criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% (to the reality in terms of the natural environment);

*Amendment*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; calls for the detailed maps that are to be submitted by the Member States to be used if necessary to adapt the ***limit values of the*** criteria, ***defining areas with natural handicaps***, and the proposed threshold value of 66% (to the reality in terms of the natural environment);

Or. fr

**Amendment 50**  
**Georgios Papastamkos, Spyros Danellis**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; calls for the detailed maps that are to be submitted by the Member States to be used if necessary to adapt the criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% (to the reality in terms of the natural

*Amendment*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; calls for the detailed maps that are to be submitted by the Member States to be used if necessary to adapt the criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% (to the reality in terms of the natural



environment);

environment); *expresses reservations about the proposed 66% threshold and takes the view that it should be adjusted downwards with the preferred threshold being 50%;*

Or. el

**Amendment 51**  
**James Nicholson**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; calls for the detailed maps that are to be submitted by the Member States to be used if necessary to adapt the criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% (to the reality in terms of the natural environment);

*Amendment*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States *and regions* with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; calls for the detailed maps that are to be submitted by the Member States to be used if necessary to adapt the criteria and the proposed threshold value of 66% *at Member State or regional level* (to the reality in terms of the natural environment);

Or. en

**Amendment 52**  
**Mairead McGuinness**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; ***calls for*** the detailed maps ***that are*** to be submitted by ***the*** Member States ***to be*** used ***if necessary*** to adapt ***the criteria*** and the proposed threshold value of 66% (to ***the reality in terms*** of the natural ***environment***);

6. Stresses, however, that in order to apply these criteria and establish realistic threshold values in practice, it is essential that the necessary biophysical data are available to the Member States with a sufficient degree of accuracy in relation to the natural environment; supports, therefore, the test of practical application of the proposed criteria introduced by the Commission; ***considers it essential that*** the detailed maps, to be submitted by Member States, ***are*** used to adapt, and ***in some cases lower***, the proposed ***criteria and*** threshold value of 66%, to ***take sufficient account*** of the natural ***environment***;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 53**

**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***6a. Stresses, in particular, that in order to address the interactions between many influencing factors in a practical manner, the cumulative use of the adopted criteria might prove necessary; it could enable those disadvantaged areas which accumulate two or more small to medium-scale natural handicaps to be classified as LFAs even when individual criteria would not trigger that classification;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 54**

**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**6a. Takes the view that areas in which none of the eight biophysical criteria are met, but in which individual criteria cumulatively show the existence of a substantial handicap, should also be recognised as areas with natural handicaps;**

Or. de

**Amendment 55**  
**James Nicholson**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

7. Emphasises that a final opinion on the criteria and threshold values proposed by the Commission can only be given when the detailed maps drawn up by the Member States are available;

7. Emphasises that a final opinion on the criteria and threshold values proposed by the Commission can only be given when the detailed maps drawn up by the Member States **or regions** are available;

Or. en

**Amendment 56**  
**George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

7. Emphasises that a final opinion on the criteria and threshold values proposed by the Commission can only be given when the detailed maps drawn up by the Member

7. Emphasises that a final opinion on the **basic territorial unit chosen, the** criteria and threshold values proposed by the Commission can only be given when the

States are available;

detailed maps drawn up by the Member States are available; *stresses that in the absence of such simulation results, the 66% proposed threshold as well as the thresholds defining the criteria themselves must be viewed with considerable caution and can only be objectively and appropriately adjusted once the national maps are made available; recalls that the national mapping exercise results should be made available to the European Parliament as soon as possible;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 57**

**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 7**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

7. Emphasises that a final opinion on the criteria and threshold values proposed by the Commission can only be given when the detailed maps drawn up by the Member States are available;

###### *Amendment*

7. Emphasises that a final opinion on the criteria and threshold values proposed by the Commission can only be given when the detailed maps drawn up by the Member States are available; *calls on the Commission therefore promptly to examine the simulation outcomes and, on this basis, to draw up without delay a detailed communication on the delimitation of areas with natural handicaps;*

Or. de

#### **Amendment 58**

**Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă, Daciana Octavia Sârbu**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***7a. Stresses that when the final map of intermediate disadvantaged areas is drawn up, objective national criteria should also be taken into account in order to make possible the adaptation of the definition of the areas to the different specific conditions in each country; considers that this adaptation should be performed in a transparent manner;***

Or. en

**Amendment 59**  
**Rareş-Lucian Niculescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***7a. Considers it desirable for the Commission to submit a proposal in the future for flexible rules that will also make it possible to grant aid to farmers in areas with natural handicaps that have a small surface area, located for administrative purposes in units that do not meet the criteria set;***

Or. ro

**Amendment 60**  
**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

8. Considers fine tuning of the criteria for

8. Considers ***the voluntary, national*** fine

support *for areas with natural handicaps* to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately *to* particular geographical situations and *crops grown* and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; *proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose*; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

tuning of the criteria *as a means of differentiating within the delimited areas* for support to be necessary *in order to take into account* particular geographical, *geological and agricultural* situations and in order to be able to respond appropriately and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention, *but also to include areas where necessary*; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States, *since many Member States have already developed an appropriate and suitable system of differentiation which should be maintained; it should, however, be possible to combine fine tuning with a determination of the degree of difficulty faced by individual holdings, so as to be able to exclude holdings located in heterogeneous areas which do not face difficulties from support and to make the extent of support dependent on the determination of difficulty*;

Or. de

## Amendment 61

George Lyon, Britta Reimers, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 8

##### *Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations *and crops grown and to exclude areas in which* natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must

##### *Amendment*

8. Considers *a degree of* fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations *where* natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; *however emphasises that when land quality has been improved, the burden of high investment costs and the ongoing associated maintenance costs such as drainage and irrigation must be*

lie with the Member States;

*taken into consideration*; proposes that farm data (such as farm income *and productivity of the land*) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

Or. en

## **Amendment 62**

**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 8**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used *inter alia* for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

##### *Amendment*

8. Considers fine tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used for this purpose *so that aid is not scrapped in regions with low levels of farm income*; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

Or. es

## **Amendment 63**

**Riikka Manner**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 8**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to

##### *Amendment*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to

be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must ***be voluntary and lie with the Member States; however, in some cases, where the natural handicap is obvious (e.g. on the basis of a short growing period), no fine tuning seems necessary;***

Or. en

**Amendment 64**  
**Astrid Lulling**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine tuning of the ***criteria for support for*** areas with natural handicaps ***to*** be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

*Amendment*

8. Considers ***that*** fine tuning of the ***delimitation of*** areas with natural handicaps ***may*** be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income ***or the costs of production***) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

Or. fr

**Amendment 65**  
**Alyn Smith**



**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

*Amendment*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States ***and regional and local authorities;***

Or. en

**Amendment 66**  
**James Nicholson**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

*Amendment*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) ***may*** be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States ***or regions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 67**  
**Richard Ashworth**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

*Amendment*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention **or further bio-physical conditions**; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 68**  
**Iratxe García Pérez**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

*Amendment*

8. Considers fine tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) **and population data** be used inter alia for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine tuning must lie with the Member States;

Or. es

**Amendment 69**  
**Ville Itälä**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used *inter alia* for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must lie with the Member States;

*Amendment*

8. Considers fine-tuning of the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps to be necessary in order to be able to respond appropriately to particular geographical situations and crops grown and to exclude areas in which natural handicaps have been offset by human intervention; proposes that farm data (such as farm income) be used *inter alia* for this purpose; emphasises, however, that the decision on the criteria to be used for fine-tuning must ***be voluntary and*** lie with the Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 70**  
**George Lyon, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***8a. Urges the Commission, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders, to develop a common framework for farm-level eligibility criteria; points out that Member States and regional authorities should be free to choose, on the basis of that framework, which criteria are best suited to fulfil their priorities and needs;***

*Amendment*

Or. en

**Amendment 71**  
**Astrid Lulling**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8a. Considers that the possible implementation of the eligibility rules at the farm level must remain voluntary;**

Or. fr

**Amendment 72**  
**Richard Ashworth**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8a. Stresses the importance of appropriate farm-level eligibility criteria in the interests of ensuring proper targeting of payments on those farms affected by natural handicaps, and urges the Commission to develop a common framework of such criteria;**

Or. en

**Amendment 73**  
**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8a. Advocates the need to establish a Community criterion for 'depopulation' in the 'fine-tuning' that the Member States are to carry out when drawing up the map of intermediate disadvantaged areas;**

*warns that depopulation is one of the main causes of desertification, often accentuating the natural disadvantages of the land;*

Or. es

**Amendment 74**  
**Rareş-Lucian Niculescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*8a. Stresses the importance of a sound correlation between the support granted to farmers in the less-favoured areas and the funding available for them and for the local community within the framework of rural development programmes;*

Or. ro

**Amendment 75**  
**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*8b. Takes the view that areas which will lose the status of 'areas with natural handicaps' under the new rules or areas in which a disproportionate shift is taking place should be allowed a sufficiently long transitional period to adapt to the new situation;*

Or. de

**Amendment 76**

**George Lyon, Liam Aylward, Marian Harkin, Vincenzo Iovine, Riikka Manner**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 8 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8b. Taking into account the fact that the new criteria might exclude certain areas that are currently eligible, points out that an adequate phasing-out period should be defined, in order to allow a smooth transition for farmers to adapt to the new support regime;**

Or. en

**Amendment 77**

**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 8 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8b. Draws attention to the fact that the new intermediate disadvantaged areas scheme could lead to a transfer of aid from some areas to others, making it necessary for places which lose the status of intermediate disadvantaged areas to be given a sufficient transitional period to adapt to the new situation;**

Or. es

**Amendment 78**

**Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă, Daciana Octavia Sârbu**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 8 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***8b. Considers that the new scheme could lead to a transfer of aid from some areas to others, making it necessary for those which lose the status of intermediate disadvantaged areas to be given a sufficient transitional period to adapt to the new situation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 79**  
**Rareş-Lucian Niculescu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***8b. Takes the view that the delimitation of areas with natural handicaps should be based on homogenous ecological areas rather than on LAU2 areas if it is to be relevant;***

Or. ro

**Amendment 80**  
**Vasilica Viorica Dăncilă, Daciana Octavia Sârbu**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***8c. Underlines that the areas which have overcome the natural disadvantages of the land through farming techniques should not be definitively removed, especially if they still have low agricultural income or very few production alternatives, and calls on the Commission to ensure a smooth transition for these areas;***

Or. en

**Amendment 81**  
**Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national decisions by the Commission;

*Amendment*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; ***underlines the need for full participation by regional and local authorities in this process***; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national decisions by the Commission;

Or. bg

**Amendment 82**  
**James Nicholson**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national decisions by the Commission;

*Amendment*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States ***and regions*** in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national ***or regional*** decisions by the Commission;

Or. en



**Amendment 83**  
**Astrid Lulling**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national decisions by the Commission;

*Amendment*

9. Emphasises the responsibility **and competence** of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national decisions by the Commission;

Or. fr

**Amendment 84**  
**Lorenzo Fontana, Giancarlo Scotta'**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national decisions by the Commission;

*Amendment*

9. Emphasises the responsibility of the Member States in connection with the objective designation of areas with natural handicaps and the formulation of balanced programmes for rural development; stresses at the same time the need for notification and approval of these national **and regional** decisions by the Commission;

Or. it

**Amendment 85**  
**Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9a. Emphasises that the reform concerning areas with natural handicaps forms an essential part of the future development of the European Union's common agricultural policy;**

Or. bg

**Amendment 86**  
**Béla Glattfelder**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9a. Points out that, taking into consideration the fight against climate change, reforestation of those areas where it is ecologically feasible should be supported in the longer term; underlines that agricultural activity requires more greenhouse gas emissions in these areas than in areas having favourable conditions, whereas planting of new forests could do much to reduce carbon dioxide emissions;**

Or. en

**Amendment 87**  
**Peter Jahr, Herbert Dorfmann, Albert Deß, Elisabeth Köstinger, Elisabeth Jeggle, Giovanni La Via**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9a. Calls on the Commission within one year to draw up a separate legislative text on agriculture in areas with natural handicaps;**

Or. de

**Amendment 88**  
**Alyn Smith**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9a. Calls for the review of the Less Favoured Area Scheme to take place in concert with discussions of CAP reform as a whole, to ensure coherence in design of the new support systems for farmers, especially in relation to the new Single Farm Payment;**

Or. en

**Amendment 89**  
**Lorenzo Fontana, Giancarlo Scotta'**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9a. Considers it desirable that the regions should participate in indicating the criteria for support for areas with natural handicaps in view of the role of the regions in managing the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and the Cohesion Fund and because they possess better, direct knowledge of the regional features and**

*problems of these areas;*

Or. it

**Amendment 90**

**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***9a. Is aware of the implications that the exercise to re-define intermediate disadvantaged areas could have for the future design of CAP aid, so calls on the Commission to take account of all the standpoints expressed during the public consultation by Member States and by regional and local authorities and the farming groups concerned;***

Or. es

**Amendment 91**

**Rosa Estaràs Ferragut, Esther Herranz García**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 9 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***9b. Calls on the Commission also to launch a review of the scheme intended for regions confronting specific problems, given that the current definition fails to take into account certain natural disadvantages besetting farming activity, such as the insularity or the remote and outlying location of certain areas of the European Union;***

Or. es

**Amendment 92**  
**Alyn Smith**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 9 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***9b. Demands the protection of the European part of the budget for LFA, and urges Member States to make full use of co-financing opportunities for LFA, as one of the most effective and important rural development schemes;***

Or. en