The European Parliament,

– having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2011)0631),

– having regard to Article 294(2) and Article 43(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C7-0338/2011),

– having regard to the opinion of the Committee on Legal Affairs on the proposed legal basis,

– having regard to Article 294(3) and the first paragraph of Article 42 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

– having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 25 April 2012¹,

– having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 4 May 2012²,

– having regard to the undertaking given by the Council representative by letter of 9 July 2012 to approve Parliament’s position, in accordance with Article 294(4) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

– having regard to Rules 55 and 37 of its Rules of Procedure,

– having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development (A7-0203/2012),

1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;

2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it intends to amend its proposal substantially or replace it with another text;

3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.


(As an agreement was reached between Parliament and Council, Parliament's position corresponds to the final legislative act, Regulation (EU) No 1028/2012.)