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REPORT

on the Commission proposals on the prices for agricultural products
(COM(2000) 77 – C5-0121/2000 to C5-0126/2000 – 2000/0045(CNS) to
2000/0050(CNS))

Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

Rapporteur: Elisabeth Jeggle

Symbols for procedures

- * Consultation procedure
majority of the votes cast
- **I Cooperation procedure (first reading)
majority of the votes cast
- **II Cooperation procedure (second reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position
majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend
the common position
- *** Assent procedure
majority of Parliament's component Members except in cases
covered by Articles 105, 107, 161 and 300 of the EC Treaty and
Article 7 of the EU Treaty
- ***I Codecision procedure (first reading)
majority of the votes cast
- ***II Codecision procedure (second reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the common position
majority of Parliament's component Members, to reject or amend
the common position
- ***III Codecision procedure (third reading)
majority of the votes cast, to approve the joint text

(The type of procedure depends on the legal basis proposed by the Commission)

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PROCEDURAL PAGE

By letter of 13 March 2000 the Council consulted Parliament, pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty, on the Commission proposals on the prices for agricultural products (COM(2000) 77 - 2000/0045(CNS) to 2000/0050(CNS)).

At the sitting of 17 March 2000 the President of Parliament announced that she had referred this proposal to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Budgets, the Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy and the Committee on Development and Cooperation for their opinions (C5-0121/2000 to C5-0126/2000).

The Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development had appointed Elisabeth Jeggle rapporteur at its meeting of 19 October 1999.

The committee considered the Commission proposals and draft report at its meetings of 20 March 2000, 27 March 2000 and 18 April 2000.

At the last meeting it adopted the draft legislative resolutions:

No 1 (unanimously)

No 2 (unanimously)

No 3 (unanimously)

No 4 (unanimously)

No 5 (unanimously)

No 6 (unanimously)

The following were present for the vote : Friedrich-Wilhelm Graefe zu Baringdorf, chairman; Joseph Daul , vice-chairman; Lutz Goepel (for Elisabeth Jeggle, rapporteur); Gordon J. Adam, Maria del Pilar Ayuso González (for Arlindo Cunha), Alexandros Baltas (for António Campos), Carlos Bautista Ojeda, Niels Busk, Giorgio Celli, Alejandro Cercas Alonso (for Michel J.M. Dary), Francesco Fiori, Carmen Fraga Estévez (for Robert William Sturdy), Georges Garot, Robert Goodwill (for Neil Parish), Willi Görlach, María Izquierdo Rojo, Salvador Jové Peres, Hedwig Keppelhoff-Wiechert, Heinz Kindermann, Christa Klaß (for Michl Ebner), Dimitrios Koulourianos, Albert Jan Maat, Miguel Angel Martínez Martínez (for Bernard Poignant), Xaver Mayer, Jan Mulder (for Giovanni Procacci), Mikko Pesälä, María Rodríguez Ramos, Agnes Schierhuber, Dominique F.C. Souchet, Struan Stevenson, Eurig Wyn (for Danielle Auroi).

The opinion of the Committee on Budgets is attached.

The Committee on Industry, External Trade, Research and Energy decided on 11 April 2000 not to deliver an opinion.

The Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Policy decided on 22 March 2000 not to deliver an opinion.

The Committee on Development and Cooperation decided on 4 April 2000 not to deliver an opinion.

The report was tabled on 19 April 2000.

The deadline for tabling amendments is noon on Thursday, 11 May 2000.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

1. Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the common organisation of the market in cereals (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0121/2000 – 2000/0045(CNS))

The proposal is amended as follows:

Text proposed by the Commission ¹	Amendments by Parliament
	(Amendment 1) Title
Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the common organisation of the market in cereals	Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the common organisation of the market in cereals and Regulation (EEC) No 1251/1999 establishing a support system for producers of certain arable crops

Justification:

The definition of products benefiting from the support system for producers of certain arable crops should be modified so as to take account of mustard seed in the oilseeds section, given that this change is neutral in terms of the budget.

(Amendment 2) Recital 2 (a) (new)

Whereas the quality criteria for taking cereal into intervention affect both the market price and the monthly increases; whereas the provision under which cereals can, under certain circumstances be bought into intervention with a 15% moisture content expires with the 1999-2000 marketing year; whereas this provision should be continued in the 2000-2001 marketing year; whereas the period of application of Regulation (EC) No 1665/99 as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2082/99 should therefore be extended.

¹ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 1.

Justification:

The derogation for cereals with a moisture content higher than 14.5% should be renewed.

(Amendment 3)
ARTICLE 1(4a) (new)

**In Annex I of Regulation (EC) No
1251/1999, the following words are added:
1207/50 mustard seed**

Justification:

The definition of eligible products should be modified to take account of mustard seed in the oilseeds sector.

(Amendment 4)
Annex D

Month	2000/01 Marketing Year	From 2001/02 Marketing Year
July	-	-
August	-	-
September	-	-
October	-	-
November	0,93	0,85
December	1,86	1,70
January	2,79	2,55
February	3,72	3,40
March	4,65	4,25
April	5,58	5,10
May	6,51	5,95
June	6,51	5,95

Month	From 2000/01 Marketing Year
July	-
August	-
September	-
October	-
November	1,0
December	2,0
January	3,0
February	4,0
March	5,0
April	6,0
May	7,0
June	7,0

Justification:

Monthly increments should be maintained at present levels.

(Amendment 5)
Article 1 (a) (new)

***The Commission shall submit a proposal
for extending the period of application of
Regulation (EC) 1665/99, modified by
Regulation (EC) 2082/99 for the
marketing year 2000/01 and continuing
the current provisions for the maximum
moisture content for cereals taken into***

*intervention for the marketing year
2000/01.*

Justification:

See Amendment 2.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

1. **European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the common organisation of the market in cereals (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0121/2000 – 2000/0045(CNS))**

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM(2000) 77²),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty (C5-0121/2000),
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A5-0115/2000),
1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
 2. Calls on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty;
 3. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament should it intend to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
 4. Asks to be consulted again if the Council intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
 5. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

² OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 1.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

2. **Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 on the common organisation of the market in rice (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0122/2000 – 2000/0046(CNS))**

The proposal is approved.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

2. European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 on the common organisation of the market in rice (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0122/2000 – 2000/0046(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM (2000) 77³),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty (C5-0122/2000),
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A5-0115/2000),
1. Approves the Commission proposal;
 2. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament should it intend to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
 3. Asks to be consulted again if the Council intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
 4. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

³ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 3.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

3. Proposal for a Council regulation fixing certain sugar prices and the standard quality of beet for the 2000/01 marketing year (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0123/2000 – 2000/0047(CNS))

The proposal is amended as follows:

Text proposed by the Commission⁴

Amendments by Parliament

(Amendment 6)
Recital 2 (a) (new)

The additional costs of EU foreign policy, although occasioned by an exceptional situation to which the EU must respond with immediate and substantial help, should neither be financed from the sugar sector alone nor from the agricultural sector alone.

Justification:

The EU's response to the situation in Kosovo should not be financed from the sugar sector alone.

(Amendment 7)
Recital 5 (new)

(5) Whereas the Commission shall present a proposal on the revision of the common market organisation of the sugar sector before the Council takes a decision on the agricultural prices for marketing year 2000/01.

Justification:

The agriculture budget for 2001 will be affected by the Berlin Agreement which was concluded in order to prepare the European Union for enlargement and to increase conformity with the WTO. In order to meet the budgetary requirements, many changes have already been implemented in the field of agriculture. However, a revision of the sugar sector remains to be done. This revision should not be postponed until marketing year 2001/02. The

⁴ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 5.

Commission should present a proposal for the revision of the sugar regime before the Council takes a decision on the agricultural price package for 2000/01.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

3. European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation fixing certain sugar prices and the standard quality of beet for the 2000/01 marketing year (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0123/2000 – 2000/0047(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM (2000) 77⁵),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty (C5-0123/2000),
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A5-0115/2000),
1. Approves the Commission proposal as amended;
 2. Calls on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty;
 3. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament should it intend to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
 4. Asks to be consulted again if the Council intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
 5. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

⁵ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 5.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

- 4. Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 845/72 laying down special measures to encourage silkworm rearing (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0124/2000 – 2000/0048(CNS))**

The proposal is approved.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

4. European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 845/72 laying down special measures to encourage silkworm rearing (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0124/2000 – 2000/0048(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM (2000) 77⁶),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty (C5-0124/2000),
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A5-0115/2000),
1. Approves the Commission proposal;
 2. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament should it intend to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
 3. Asks to be consulted again if the Council intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
 4. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

⁶ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 9.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

5. **Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2467/98 on the common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0125/2000 – 2000/0049(CNS))**

The proposal is approved.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

5. European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2467/98 on the common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0125/2000 – 2000/0049(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM (2000) 77⁷),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty (C5-0125/2000),
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets(A5-0115/2000),
1. Approves the Commission proposal;
 2. Calls on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty;
 3. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament should it intend to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
 4. Asks to be consulted again if the Council intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
 5. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

⁷ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 11.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSAL

- 6. Proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2759/75 on the common organisation of the market in pigmeat (COM(2000) 77– C5-0126/2000 – 2000/0050(CNS))**

The proposal is approved.

DRAFT LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

6. European Parliament legislative resolution on the proposal for a Council regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2759/75 on the common organisation of the market in pigmeat (COM(2000) 77– C5-0126/2000 – 2000/0050(CNS))

(Consultation procedure)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to the Council (COM (2000) 77⁸),
 - having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 37 of the EC Treaty (C5-0126/2000),
 - having regard to Rule 67 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the opinion of the Committee on Budgets (A5-0115/2000),
1. Approves the Commission proposal;
 2. Calls on the Commission to alter its proposal accordingly, pursuant to Article 250(2) of the EC Treaty;
 3. Calls on the Council to notify Parliament should it intend to depart from the text approved by Parliament;
 4. Asks to be consulted again if the Council intends to amend the Commission proposal substantially;
 5. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council and Commission.

⁸ OJ C 086 of 24.3.2000, p. 14.

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

The Commission proposal concerns only a few sectors, since the decisions of Agenda 2000 in May 1999 have fixed the majority of prices, and flax and hemp are covered by a separate recent proposal. The proposals therefore cover only cereals, rice, sugar, silkworms, sheepmeat, pigmeat. They also make provision for adapting the intervention period for Sweden, which is anomalous and administratively complicated, and similarly make a change concerning cereal and rice relating to the financing of the French overseas departments, which are no longer required.

Within this limited sector, the proposals have two purposes

- to fix the prices for these few products for 2000-1. The Commission proposes to reduce the monthly increments for cereals by 7.5% in the coming year. For all other products, prices and monthly increases will be maintained at the existing level in the coming year.
- to ensure that they are fixed permanently thereafter, with the exception of sugar, where the present system expires at the end of 2000-01 and new reform proposals will be made. The monthly increases for cereals will be reduced by a further 7.5% and fixed at that level, but all other prices will be frozen.

These price proposals will therefore fix the price levels for the products concerned both for the coming year, and thereafter (except sugar). In institutional terms, the effect of these proposals is that, if adopted by the Council, there will be no more annual price proposals. Prices will be fixed unless specific circumstances change.

The rapporteur accepts the spirit of these proposals, which are in line with the reforms of Agenda 2000, and supports the principle of fixed multi-annual proposals, which are better adapted to providing farmers with a stable framework in which to plan their production.

However, with regard to the proposal to reduce the monthly increments for cereals, the rapporteur believes that they should be maintained at current levels in the coming year and thereafter. Farmers incomes have been severely hit by recent developments, and interest rates have shown a tendency to rise in some Member States. A commitment to the continuation of monthly increments at their present level was made at the Berlin European Council. The rapporteur believes that it is therefore opportune to maintain the monthly increments at the same level as in the year 1999-2000 and to fix them at this level thereafter.

Amendments are also proposed related to the continued derogation concerning the maximum moisture content in cereal. This provision is of importance to a number of Member States.

The proposal to find 300 million Euro for Kosovo will add further pressure to farmers' incomes. It would appear that the Commission intends to find this money from market management economies in the sugar sector, but the rapporteur stresses that these additional costs of European foreign policy should not be borne by the sugar regime alone.

11 April 2000

Opinion of the Committee on Budgets

for the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development

on the Commission proposals on the prices for agricultural products (COM(2000) 77 – C5-0121/2000 to C5-0126/2000 – 2000/0045(CNS) - 2000/0046(CNS) - 2000/0047(CNS) 2000/0048(CNS) - 2000/0049(CNS) - 2000/0050(CNS))

Draftsman: Jan Mulder

PROCEDURE

The Committee on Budgets appointed Jan Mulder draftsman at its meeting of 21-22 September 1999.

It considered the draft opinion at its meeting of 11 April 2000.

At this meeting it adopted the amendments unanimously.

The following were present for the vote: Terence Wynn chairman; Jan Mulder draftsman; Kathalijne Maria Buitenweg, Joan Colom i Naval, Den Dover, Salvador Garriga Polledo, Neena Gill, Catherine Guy-Quint, Jutta D. Haug, Ulpu Iivari (for Constanze Angela Krehl), Wolfgang Ilgenfritz, Anne Elisabet Jensen, Wilfried Kuckelkorn, Gérard Onesta, Encarnación Redondo Jiménez (Armin Laschet), Esko Olavi Seppänen (Chantal Cauquil), Ioannis Soulidakis (Giovanni Saverio Pittella), Per Stenmarck, Alejo Vidal-Quadras Roca, Kyösti Tapio Virrankoski, Ralf Walter and Brigitte Wenzel-Perillo.

COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL

The Commission has presented a set of proposals in order to fix institutional prices and amounts for marketing year 2000/01 in the following agricultural sectors: monthly increments (amount, number and timing) for cereals and rice, prices and amounts in the sugar sector, aid for silkworms, as well as basic prices for sheepmeat and pigmeat.

As a result of the decisions taken in May 1999 on Agenda 2000 and the reforms of common market organisations since 1992, the Commission suggests to continue a multiannual approach so as to provide farmers with a stable framework in which to plan their long-term production. The proposals maintain the prices for sugar, pigmeat and sheepmeat and the aid for silkworms at their present levels. Except for sugar, the prices and amounts proposed for 2000/01 (2001/02 for monthly increments for cereals) would remain in force thereafter. In the case of sugar, the present production quota regime will expire at the end of the 2000/01 marketing year.

The proposals would have only minor financial implications for the EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure and agricultural own resources:

Impact in EUR million	2000	2001	2002
EAGGF Guarantee Section expenditure	p.m.	-8	-17
Own resources	p.m.	-2	-5

CURRENT ESTIMATES FOR 2000 EAGGF EXPENDITURE

In order to have an idea of the current situation concerning EAGGF expenditure for titles B1-1 to B1-3 of the EAGGF Guarantee Section, it may be useful to have a look at the market evolution and its consequences on Budget 2000. In January 2000, the Commission estimated appropriation requirements to stand at EUR 37.471 million, compared to EUR 36.889 million approved in Budget 2000. Requirements were raised for a number of chapters: for beef and veal, the increased requirements (+EUR 61 million) were above all due to lower expected receipts from sales out of public stock and higher expenditure for exceptional support measures. For sugar and fibre plants, higher requirements (+EUR 30 million and +EUR 22 million, correspondingly) were a reflection of downward revisions to world market prices. In addition, a relatively small increase (+EUR 10 million) was forecasted in the arable crops sector. On the other hand, requirements for sheepmeat and goatmeat were revised downwards (-EUR 99 million), due to an upward adjustment in market prices for 1999 and 2000. Lower requirements were also forecasted for milk (-EUR 46 million), wine (-EUR 22 million) and olive oil (-EUR 14 million).

The budget situation in 2000 for titles B1-1 to B1-3 can be summarised as follows:

- Budget 2000 appropriations: EUR 36.889 million
- Financial perspectives ceiling: EUR 37.352 million
- Revised estimates for 2000: EUR 37.471 million
- Overrun of the ceiling: EUR 119 million
- Overrun of budget appropriations: EUR 582 million

According to the financial regulation, the Commission has to apply the average EUR/US\$

exchange rate of the first three months preceding the budgetary year. At the time of drawing up Budget 2000, the Commission used an exchange rate of EUR 1 = \$ 1,12. The Commission's new estimates are based on the same exchange rate as in Budget 2000. However, the average real value of the dollar for the period August 1999 to January 2000 was at EUR 1 = \$ 1,04. If the exchange rate remains at this level, it would mean savings of the order of EUR 400 million, out of which EUR 200 could be retained by the EAGGF Guarantee Section. This would bring the forecasted appropriation requirements to EUR 37.271 million, EUR 81 million under the current financial perspectives ceiling.

APPRAISAL AND CONCLUSIONS

The rapporteur supports the Commission's approach. At this stage, the budgetary authority should respect the principles set at the Berlin summit in May 1999. On the other hand, there are a number of uncertainties caused by the current EUR/US\$ exchange rate, which has plummeted since the preliminary draft budget was submitted in March 1999. The situation envisaged by the Commission may change if the real value of the euro returns to its previous levels.

In addition, new financial needs in the field of external policy may bring an additional burden on the Community's agricultural budget. Pursuant to the 2001 budget guidelines approved by the Committee on Budgets, the rapporteur deems it undesirable that category 1 is used as a primary source to finance additional needs in the field of external policy. These financial consequences should be spread equally over all budgetary categories.

Regarding the reconstruction of Kosovo, the rapporteur considers that the Parliament should wait until the Commission has presented a concrete plan before making any commitments. If a revision of agricultural appropriations proves to be necessary, the Commission and the Council should present ideas on how to modify the current sugar regime before taking a decision on the proposal on commodity prices. The revision of the common market organisation of the sugar sector should take place before marketing year 2001/02.

Furthermore, in view of the absence of any real budget allocations to counter future outbreaks of animal disease, the Commission should present a proposal which could include a compulsory insurance scheme financed by the producers, as present resources are likely to be insufficient.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Budgets calls on the Committee on Committee on Budgets, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

(Amendment 1)

Council Regulation fixing certain sugar prices and
the standard quality of beet for the 2000/01 marketing year (2000/0047 (CNS))
Recital 5 (new)

(5) Whereas the Commission shall present a proposal on the revision of the common market organisation of the sugar sector before the Council takes a decision on the agricultural prices for marketing year 2000/01.

Justification:

The agriculture budget for 2001 will be affected by the Berlin Agreement which was concluded in order to prepare the European Union for enlargement and to increase conformity with the WTO. In order to meet the budgetary requirements, many changes have already been implemented in the field of agriculture. However, a revision of the sugar sector remains to be done. This revision should not be postponed until marketing year 2001/02. The Commission should present a proposal for the revision of the sugar regime before the Council takes a decision on the agricultural price package for 2000/01.

(Amendment 2)

Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2759/75
on the common organisation of the market in pigmeat (2000/0050 (CNS))
Article 20

In order to take account of any restrictions on free circulation imposed in consequence of measures to prevent the spread of animal disease, exceptional measures may be taken under the procedure provided for in Article 24 to support any market affected by such restrictions. Such measures may be taken only to the extent that and for such period as is strictly necessary for the support of that market.

The Commission shall present in the near future a proposal in order to improve the control of animal diseases within the Community.

In order to take account of any restrictions on free circulation imposed in consequence of measures to prevent the spread of animal disease, exceptional measures may be taken under the procedure provided for in Article 24 to support any market affected by such restrictions. Such measures may be taken only to the extent that and for such period as

is strictly necessary for the support of that market.

Justification:

The current budget does not provide sufficient means to counter a possible outbreak of animal disease in the Community. Therefore, the Commission should present a proposal, which could include an obligatory insurance scheme financed by the producers.

(Amendment 3)

Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 2467/98
on the common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat (2000/0049 (CNS))
Article 21

In order to take account of any restrictions on free movement which might result from the application of measures to prevent the spread of animal diseases, exceptional measures to support any market affected by such restrictions may be taken under the procedure laid down in Article 25, but only to the extent that and for such period as is strictly necessary for the support of that market.

The Commission shall present in the near future a proposal in order to improve the control of animal diseases within the Community.

In order to take account of any restrictions on free movement which might result from the application of measures to prevent the spread of animal diseases, exceptional measures to support any market affected by such restrictions may be taken under the procedure laid down in Article 25, but only to the extent that and for such period as is strictly necessary for the support of that market.

Justification:

See justification in amendment 2.