

WRITTEN QUESTION E-0429/00

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to the Commission

Subject: Funding of agricultural development in Greece

Agricultural development now constitutes the second pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy and its legal basis is Regulation 1257/1999 of 17 May¹.

The Commission is currently negotiating the third Community Support Framework with the Member States.

In the case of Greece which has a particularly large agricultural population - it accounts for some 20% of the total population of the country - agricultural development is a particularly important sector which requires special attention.

However, for the third Community Support Framework (CSF) the Greek authorities have proposed a mere 11.87% which covers both agriculture and fisheries, compared to 36.7% for transport. The amount allocated under the first CSF was 12.9% - and at the time there was no special regulation covering agricultural development - and the amount under the second was 13.7%. The amount proposed for the third CSF thus represents a significant reduction.

Will the Commission say what measures it intends to take to prevail upon the Greek authorities to attach due importance to the countryside and the Greek farming community?

¹ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p.80