OPINION

of the Committee on Regional Development

for the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development


Rapporteur: Elie Hoarau
SHORT JUSTIFICATION

It took 30 years for the concept of the 'outermost regions' to emerge and become established in the European Community; the key stages in that process were the European Court of Justice’s 1978 Hansen judgment, Parliament’s 1987 Ligios report and the various standpoints adopted by the European Council and the Commission. 1989 was thus the starting point in the process of taking proper account of the specific characteristics of the outermost regions (OR), through the establishment of an appropriate legal framework for the adoption of measures designed to integrate the OR into the European Community, more completely and on a fairer basis. The Treaty of Amsterdam consolidated the legal basis for specific measures to support the OR. The Lisbon Treaty confirmed that the OR are characterised by their remoteness from the main Community market and by permanent constraints, factors which confer on the OR special status within the EU justifying the implementation of tailored measures.

1989, the year in which the specific characteristics of the OR began to be recognised in the EU, is thus a key year for POSEI, the first programme established by the EU to take account of those specific characteristics.

This confirms the idea that Article 349 TFEU (formerly Article 299(2) TEC), in conjunction with Articles 42, first subparagraph, and 43(2), must remain the legal basis for the POSEI regulation.

Article 349 TFEU gives the Committee on Regional Development a specific, pre-eminent role when it comes to considering any document or regulation relating to POSEI. This is why the history of this regulation and its substance are so important to the members of the Committee on Regional Development.

Why specific support for agriculture in the OR?

In the OR, agriculture is a strategic economic sector in two respects. Firstly, it is one of the most important sources of jobs and economic growth in these regions – a large proportion of the active population work in agriculture. Secondly, agriculture and its diversification are bound up with the concept of food security, one which is all the more important for the OR because they are isolated island regions remote from the European continent.

Objectives

Increasing their degree of food self-sufficiency – leading to a reduction in imports of agricultural products and, at the same time, an increase in local agricultural production - is a key issue for the OR and one which is central to their development strategies.

However, it must be clearly understood that this challenge cannot be met simply by replacing traditional products (bananas, sugar, rum) with new ones. Agricultural diversification works well when traditional sectors are doing well. Supporting traditional sectors is all the more important because it enables them to maintain their position on the European market in the face of competition from Latin American and ACP countries. The latter countries have much lower production and wage costs and can achieve economies of scale which are denied to the
OR by virtue of their geography (islands), their remoteness from the main European market and their administrative status as regions. The revenue generated by the products and by-products of traditional sectors must, however, be shared fairly amongst farmers, processors and distributors, so that each enjoys a decent livelihood.

Assessment and reforms

The previous POSEI programme (2006-2011) can be counted a success, as evidenced by the report of the European Court of Auditors and that drawn up on behalf of the Commission and published in 2010. The arrangements it introduced should therefore be retained and placed on a permanent footing, as should the flexible management approach which has been central to their success. In that connection, your rapporteur is keen to stress the need for the Commission to carry out impact assessments every time an international trade agreement is signed which might pose a threat to the sectors supported by POSEI.

However, the objectives pursued by POSEI must be more clearly defined and tailored to the challenges facing the OR. With that aim in view, a separate objective, focusing on the development of local agriculture and the reduction of imports, must be incorporated into POSEI.

The implementation of research and training programmes which can contribute to the emergence and development of sustainable, high value-added forms of agricultural production must also be a new POSEI objective. In that connection, steps must be taken to ensure that the POSEI programme is consistent with the Commission’s 2008 communication on the new strategy for the OR.

It is essential, particularly in France, that the elected leaders of the local authorities with responsibility for agriculture in the OR should be involved as far as possible in the implementation of the POSEI programme. POSEI is a quintessentially local programme, and local elected representatives must assume their share of responsibility for its implementation.

Finally, the POSEI programmes must undergo regular assessments by the Commission in order to ensure that genuine, effective efforts are being made to achieve the objectives set.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Regional Development calls on the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1
Proposal for a regulation
Citation 1

PE462.637v03-00 4/29 AD\872439EN.doc
Text proposed by the Commission

– having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 42 and Article 43(2) thereof,

Amendment

– having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular Article 349, the first subparagraph of Article 42 and Article 43(2) thereof,

Justification

The legal basis for the regulation needs to be expanded to include Article 349 TFEU, which refers specifically to the Union’s outermost regions.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) In order to achieve the objectives of the scheme promoting the Union’s outermost regions more effectively, the POSEI programmes must include measures which ensure the supply of agricultural products and the preservation and development of local agricultural production. The level of programming for the regions concerned needs to be harmonised and the policy of partnership between the Commission and the Member States needs to become more systematic.

Amendment

(4) In order to achieve the objectives of the scheme promoting the Union’s outermost regions more effectively, the POSEI programmes must include measures which ensure the supply of agricultural products and the preservation and development of high-quality local agricultural production, taking imperatives linked to the fight against climate change into account. The level of programming for the regions concerned needs to be harmonised and the policy of partnership between the Commission, the Member States and the elected departmental or regional authorities in the outermost regions needs to become more systematic.

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(4a) In order not to undermine the efforts
to achieve the POSEI objectives, the Commission should carry out impact assessments or prior evaluations of the possible consequences (using the criteria laid down by the UN) each time an international trade agreement is negotiated which may pose a threat to the sectors supported under POSEI. Once these impact assessments or prior evaluations have been carried out, the Commission should forward the results to the European Parliament, the Council and the elected departmental or regional authorities in the outermost regions before the international agreements in question are concluded.

Amendment 4
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

\textit{Text proposed by the Commission}

(6) In order to ensure the supply of essential agricultural products to the outermost regions and to compensate for the additional costs caused by their extreme remoteness, \textit{it is appropriate to introduce a specific supply arrangement}. In fact, the exceptional geographical situation of the outermost regions imposes additional transport costs in supplying products which are essential for human consumption, for processing or as agricultural inputs. In addition, other objective factors linked to these regions’ extreme remoteness, namely their insularity and small surface areas, lead to further constraints on economic operators and producers in the outermost regions that severely handicap their activities. These handicaps can be alleviated by lowering the price of these essential products.

(6) \textbf{Without prejudicing local production and its development, it is appropriate to introduce a specific supply arrangement} in order to ensure the supply of essential agricultural products to the outermost regions and to compensate for the additional costs caused by their extreme remoteness. In fact, the exceptional geographical situation of the outermost regions imposes additional transport costs in supplying products which are essential for human consumption, for processing or as agricultural inputs. In addition, other objective factors linked to these regions’ extreme remoteness, namely their insularity and small surface areas, lead to further constraints on economic operators and producers in the outermost regions that severely handicap their activities. These handicaps can be alleviated by lowering the price of these essential products.
Amendment 5
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) In order to achieve in an effective manner the lowering of prices in the outermost regions and mitigating the additional costs of their extreme remoteness, all the while maintaining the competitiveness of EU products, aid should be granted for the supply of Community products to the outermost regions. Such aid should take account of the additional cost of transport to these regions and the cost of exports to third countries and, in the case of agricultural inputs and products intended for processing, the additional costs of their extreme remoteness, specifically insularity and small surface areas.

Amendment

(8) In order to achieve in an effective manner the lowering of prices in the outermost regions by mitigating the additional costs of their extreme remoteness, all the while maintaining the competitiveness of their agricultural products, aid should be granted for the supply of Community products to the outermost regions. Such aid should take account of the additional cost linked to the transport of the products in question to these regions and the cost of exports to third countries and, in the case of agricultural inputs and products intended for processing, the additional costs of their extreme remoteness, specifically insularity and small surface areas.

Amendment 6
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 8 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

(8a) Support for traditional sectors is all the more necessary because it enables them to maintain the quality of their products and to remain competitive on the EU market in the face of competition from third countries, and because new trade agreements posing a threat to these sectors have just been signed with Latin American countries and within the WTO. However, the Commission and the Member States should ensure that the support granted to so-called traditional sectors does not hamper the development of livestock and crop diversification.
Amendment 7
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) However, appropriate measures should be taken to allow for the necessary restructuring of the sugar processing sector in the Azores. These measures should take into account that in order for the sugar sector on the Azores to be viable, a certain level of production and processing needs to be ensured. Against this background, dispatches of sugar from the Azores to the rest of the Union should be allowed exceptionally to exceed traditional flows for a limited period of five years, subject to progressively reduced annual limits. Given that the quantities that may be re-dispatched will be proportional and limited to the extent strictly necessary for ensuring the viability of local sugar production and processing, such temporary dispatching of sugar from the Azores will not adversely affect the internal market of the Union.

Amendment

(14) However, appropriate measures should be taken to allow for the necessary restructuring of the sugar processing sector in the Azores. These measures should take into account that in order for the sugar sector on the Azores to be viable, a certain level of production and processing needs to be ensured. Against this background, dispatches of sugar from the Azores to the rest of the Union must be allowed to exceed traditional flows. Given that the quantities that may be re-dispatched will be limited to the extent strictly necessary for ensuring the viability of local sugar production and processing, such dispatching of sugar from the Azores will not adversely affect the internal market of the Union.

Amendment 8
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) Given that rice constitutes a staple of the diet of Réunion, and since the island does not produce sufficient quantities to meet local requirements, the import of this product to the island should continue to be exempt from any form of import tax.

Amendment

(17) Given that rice constitutes a staple of the diet of Réunion and that rice processing and polishing industries have been established there for many years, and since the island does not produce sufficient quantities of rice to meet local
requirements, the import of this product to the island should continue to be exempt from any form of import tax.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) Farmers in the outermost regions should be encouraged to supply quality products and the marketing of these should be assisted. Use of the logo introduced by the Union may be useful to this end.

Amendment

(22) Farmers in the outermost regions should be encouraged to continue to supply high-quality products and to prioritise their marketing. Use of the logo introduced by the Union may be useful to this end. The use of quality indicators, such as labels or protected designations of origin, should also be encouraged in order to promote the products of the outermost regions.

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission

(27) The plant health of agricultural crops in the outermost regions is subject to particular problems associated with the climate and the inadequacy of the control measures hitherto applied there. Programmes should therefore be implemented to combat harmful organisms, including by organic methods. The Union’s financial contribution towards such programmes should be defined.

Amendment

(27) The plant health of agricultural crops in the outermost regions is subject to particular problems associated with the climate and the inadequacy of the control measures hitherto applied there. Research and training programmes based primarily on the use of organic, environmentally sound methods should therefore be implemented to combat harmful organisms. The Union’s financial contribution towards such programmes should be defined.

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 28
(28) The maintenance of vineyards, which are the most widespread type of cultivation in the regions of Madeira and the Canary Islands and a very important one for the Azores, is an economic and environmental imperative. To help support production, neither the abandonment premiums nor the market mechanisms provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 should be applicable in these regions, but nonetheless, in the Canary Islands, it should be possible to apply crisis distillation measures in the event of exceptional market disturbance arising from quality problems. Similarly, technical and socio-economic difficulties have prevented complete conversion, within the time limits established, of the areas in the regions of Madeira and the Azores under vines of hybrid varieties prohibited by Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007. The wine produced by such vineyards is intended solely for traditional local consumption.

Amendment 12
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 30

(30) Support for the production of cow’s milk in Madeira and Réunion has not been sufficient to maintain the balance between domestic and external supply, chiefly because of the serious structural difficulties affecting the sector and its poor capacity to adapt to new economic environments. Consequently, authorisation to produce UHT milk reconstituted from milk powder of EU origin should continue, in order to cover local consumption more fully. In order to inform the consumer correctly, it
should be made compulsory to indicate the method by which UHT milk is reconstituted using milk powder on the sales labelling.

provided that this does not pose an obstacle to the collection and marketing of all locally produced milk, or hamper the efforts to promote the expansion of local production, the medium-term aim being to secure, for Réunion, self-sufficiency in milk. In order to inform the consumer correctly, it should be made compulsory to indicate the method by which UHT milk is reconstituted using milk powder on the sales labelling. This provision should also be applicable in Martinique, French Guiana and Guadeloupe, should France make such a request citing the wish of local stakeholders to be covered by it and their ability to develop the milk sector.

Amendment 13
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 35

Text proposed by the Commission

(35) Implementation of this Regulation must not jeopardise the level of special support from which the outermost regions have benefited up to now. For that reason, so that they can implement the appropriate measures, the Member States should have at their disposal sums equivalent to the support already granted by the Community under Regulation (EC) No 247/2006.

Amendment

(35) In order to ensure that the objectives of this Regulation, in particular the safeguarding and development of agricultural activities in the outermost regions, are met, the sums equivalent to the support already granted by the Union to the outermost regions under Regulation (EC) No 247/2006 should be reviewed.

Amendment 14
Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission

(36) Since 2006, requirements in essential products have increased in some outermost regions, particularly in the Azores and in

Amendment

(36) Since 2006, requirements in essential products have increased in some outermost regions, particularly in the Azores and in
the French overseas departments, as a result of the increasing livestock population and demographic pressure. The proportion of the budget which Member States may use for the specific supply arrangements for the regions concerned should therefore be increased.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) guaranteed supply to the outermost regions of products essential for human consumption or for processing and as agricultural inputs by mitigating the additional costs due to extreme remoteness;

Amendment

(a) guaranteed supply to the outermost regions of products essential for human consumption or for processing and as agricultural inputs by mitigating the additional costs due to extreme remoteness, without harming local production and the growth thereof;

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) preservation and development of agricultural activities in the outermost regions, including the production, processing and the sale of local products.

Amendment

(b) securing the long-term future and development of the so-called livestock and crop diversification sectors in the outermost regions, including the production, processing and the sale of local products, thereby significantly improving the local population’s degree of self-sufficiency by increasing domestic production and reducing imports;
Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ba) maintaining the development and strengthening the competitiveness of traditional agricultural activities in the outermost regions, including the production, processing and marketing of local crops and products, whilst ensuring that the revenue generated by the products and by-products of traditional agricultural sectors is shared fairly between producers, processors and distributors;

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point b b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(bb) fostering research and innovation, in particular with a view to developing sustainable, high value-added agricultural production.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. The objectives set out in paragraph 1 must be achieved by taking a holistic approach to sustainable development which seeks both to safeguard the environment and guarantee producers and farmers a decent income. This must also involve measures to provide farmers and processors with ongoing training in
order to foster the development of high-quality, productive and sustainable agricultural sectors.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) specific measures to assist local agricultural production as provided for in Chapter IV.

Amendment

(b) specific measures to assist local agricultural production, as referred to in Chapter IV and in accordance with the objectives set out in Article 2.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Ia. A single POSEI programme may be submitted by each Member State in respect of its outermost regions.

Amendment

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The POSEI programme shall be established at the geographical level which the Member State concerned deems most appropriate. It shall be prepared by the competent authorities designated by the said Member State, which shall submit it to the Commission for approval in accordance with Article 6 after the competent authorities and organisations at the appropriate regional level have

Amendment

2. The POSEI programmes shall be established by the authority or authorities designated by the Member State concerned at the geographical level deemed most appropriate.
been consulted.

Amendment 23
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment
2a. At the geographical level deemed most appropriate, the competent departmental or regional authorities, relevant organisations and the representative and/or professional organisations involved must be consulted on the draft POSEI programmes before they are submitted to the Commission for approval.

Amendment 24
Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment
3. A single POSEI programme may be submitted for each Member State in respect of its outermost regions.

3. The Member States shall submit to the Commission and to all the organisations concerned by POSEI a clear organisational chart relating to the process of drawing up POSEI programmes.

Amendment 25
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission
Amendment
1. Measures taken under POSEI programmes must comply with European Union law and be consistent with other EU policies and with the measures taken under such policies, without prejudice to Article
such policies.

349 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which grants the outermost regions special status with a view to fostering their development and their integration on a fair basis into the Union through the implementation of specific programmes and instruments tailored to their situation.

Amendment 26
Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 - paragraph 2 - point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) support for research projects, measures to support research projects or measures eligible for European Union financing under Council Decision 2009/470/EC;

Amendment

deleted


Amendment 27
Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) the steps taken to ensure the programmes are implemented effectively and appropriately, including the arrangements for publicity, monitoring and evaluation, and a specified set of quantified indicators for use in programme evaluation.

Amendment

(c) the steps taken to ensure the programmes are implemented effectively and appropriately, including the arrangements for publicity, monitoring and evaluation, and a specified set of quantified indicators for use in programme evaluation; those steps shall include, inter alia, the creation of a committee to monitor and evaluate actions in support of local production;

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EN
Amendment 28
Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission
(d) the designation of the competent authorities and bodies responsible for implementing the programme and the designation at the appropriate levels of authorities, or associated bodies and socio-economic partners, and the results of consultations held.

Amendment
(d) the designation of the competent authorities and bodies responsible for implementing the programme and the designation at the appropriate levels of authorities, competent departmental or regional authorities, associated bodies and socio-economic partners, and the results of consultations held.

Amendment 29
Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 1 - subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission
1. Member States shall submit a draft POSEI programme to the Commission in the light of the financial allocation referred to in Article 29(2) and (3).

Amendment
1. Member States shall submit a draft POSEI programme to the Commission in the light of the financial allocation referred to in Article 29(2) and (3). The draft programme shall be deemed admissible by the Commission only if it has been notified to the leaders of the elected departmental or regional authorities.

Amendment 30
Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission
2. Depending on the annual evaluation of the implementation of measures included in the POSEI programmes, the Member States may submit to the Commission proposals for amendments thereto within the context of the financial allocation referred to in Article 29(2) and (3).

Amendment
2. Depending on the annual evaluation of the implementation of measures included in the POSEI programmes, the Member States may, after consulting the elected departmental or regional authorities, submit to the Commission proposals for amendments thereto within the context of
them more into line with the requirements of the outermost regions and the strategy proposed. The Commission shall adopt by means of an implementing act the uniform measures for the submission of proposals for amendments to the programme.

Amendment 31
Proposal for a regulation
Article 9 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. No aid shall be granted for the supply of products which have already benefited from the specific supply arrangements in another outermost region.

Amendment

3. No aid shall be granted for the supply of products which have already benefited from the specific supply arrangements in another outermost region, in accordance with Article 12, which deals with the impact of the advantage.

Amendment 32
Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 - paragraph 1 – subparagraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The first subparagraph above shall not apply to trade flows between French overseas departments.

Amendment

3. The first subparagraph above shall not apply to trade flows between French overseas departments and between French overseas departments and overseas territories. However, in the case of trade between French overseas departments the provisions on the impact of advantage laid down in Article 12 shall apply.

Amendment 33
Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 2 – point a
Text proposed by the Commission

(a) exported to third countries or dispatched to the rest of the Union within the limits of traditional exports and traditional dispatches. These amounts are established by the Commission by means of an implementing act on the basis of dispatches or export average figures during 1989, 1990 and 1991;

Amendment

(a) exported to third countries or dispatched to the rest of the Union within the limits laid down for traditional exports and traditional dispatches. These amounts are established by the Commission by means of an implementing act on the basis of dispatches or export average figures, taking as the point of reference the verified average for the three best years between 1989 and 2010;

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 - paragraph 2 - point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) exported to third countries as part of regional trade in accordance with the destinations and conditions determined by the Commission by means of an implementing act;

Amendment

(b) exported to third countries as part of regional trade;

Justification

The Commission’s proposed wording would place considerable restrictions on growth in the agri-industrial sector in the outermost regions, imposing obsolete amounts and export destinations which no longer in any way reflect reality.

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) dispatched from the Azores to Madeira or vice versa;

Amendment

deleted

Amendment 36
Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) dispatched between the regions of the Azores, Madeira and the Canary Islands;

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 - paragraph 2 - point d

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d) dispatched from Madeira to the Canary Islands or vice versa;

deleted

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3. For the purposes of this chapter, ‘regional trade’ shall be understood as trade, for each French overseas department, with the Azores and Madeira and the Canary Islands, with third countries established by the Commission by means of an implementing act.

3. For the purposes of this chapter, ‘regional trade’ shall be understood as trade, for each French overseas department, with the Azores and Madeira and the Canary Islands, with third countries belonging to the same geographical and ocean areas as those regions and with third countries with which they have historical links.

Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 5 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5. By way of derogation from paragraph 2, first subparagraph, point (a), the following maximum quantities of sugar (CN code

5. By way of derogation from paragraph 2, first subparagraph, point (a), a maximum quantity of 3000 tonnes of sugar (CN code
1701) may be dispatched annually from the Azores to the rest of the Union for a five-year period:

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The part of the programme which includes measures to assist local agricultural production shall comprise at least the following elements:

Amendment

2. The parts of the programme which include measures to assist local agricultural production and which correspond to the objectives set out in Article 2 shall comprise at least the following elements:

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 - paragraph 2 - point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) a description of the strategy proposed, the priorities selected, its quantified general and operational objectives, and an appraisal showing the expected economic, environmental and social impact, including employment effects;

Amendment

(b) a description of the strategy proposed, the priorities selected, its quantified general and operational objectives, and an appraisal showing the expected economic, environmental and social impact, including employment effects and the effects on the quality of local products;

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 2 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) the aid amount established for each measure or action in order to achieve one or more objectives for the programme.

Amendment

(f) the aid amount established for each measure and the provisional amount for each action in order to achieve one or more objectives for the programme.
Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4a. Once the beneficiaries’ projects have been approved, the Member States may issue an attestation to make it easier for them to obtain prefinancing from a bank.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2. The conditions for using the logo referred to in paragraph 1 shall be proposed by the trade organisations concerned. The national authorities shall forward such proposals, with their opinion, to the Commission.

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation
Article 21 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. Notwithstanding Article 39(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005, the maximum annual amounts eligible for European Union aid, as set out in Annex I to that Regulation, may be increased up to twofold in the case of the measure to protect lakes in the Azores and the measure to preserve the landscape and traditional features of agricultural land and the conservation of stone walls supporting...
terraces in Madeira and the Canary Islands.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation
Article 25 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Notwithstanding Article 114(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007, the production in Madeira and in the French overseas department of Réunion of UHT milk reconstituted from milk powder originating in the Union shall be authorised within the limits of local consumption requirements, in so far as this measure does not hinder that locally produced milk is collected and finds outlets. This product shall be used for local consumption only.

Amendment

Notwithstanding Article 114(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007, the production in Madeira and in the French overseas department of Réunion of UHT milk reconstituted from milk powder originating in the Union shall be authorised within the limits of local consumption requirements, in so far as this measure does not hinder that locally produced milk is collected and finds outlets. Should the Member State in question demonstrate the expediency of such a measure for the French overseas departments of Martinique and Guadeloupe, the Commission shall be empowered, in accordance with Article 33, to adopt the necessary delegated acts in order to extend this measure to the aforementioned departments. This product shall be used for local consumption only.

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 2 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

In respect of each financial year, the Union shall finance the measures provided for in Chapters III and IV, up to an annual sum equivalent to:

Amendment

In respect of each financial year, the Union shall finance the measures provided for in Chapters III and IV, up to a minimum annual sum equivalent to:
Amendment 48
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 2 – column 2 – row 1

Text proposed by the Commission Amendment

EUR 278,41 million EUR 306,41 million

Amendment 49
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 2 – column 2 – row 2

Text proposed by the Commission Amendment

EUR 106,21 million EUR 117,21 million

Amendment 50
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 2 – column 2 – row 3

Text proposed by the Commission Amendment

EUR 268,42 million EUR 295,42 million

Amendment 51
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission Amendment

2a. In respect of each financial year, the Union shall finance the measures provided for in Chapters III and IV, which should also include the real increases of 20% under the Special Supply Regime, which are considered necessary for Portugal and France.
Amendment 52
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 3 – column 2 – row 1

Text proposed by the Commission

EUR 24,8 million

Amendment

EUR 28,6 million

Amendment 53
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

3a. Once the territory of Mayotte has acquired outermost region status, the Commission shall put forward a new proposal which seeks to increase proportionally the budget earmarked for the overseas departments, in order to take account of Mayotte’s new status, and to incorporate specific provisions concerning Mayotte.

Amendment 54
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 3 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

The Commission shall ensure that the allocation of aid among the outermost regions of a single Member State does not excessively disadvantage one or more of those regions.
Amendment 55
Proposal for a regulation
Article 29 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

4. In order to ensure a reasonable and proportional allocation of the finance measures with regard to studies, demonstration projects, training and technical assistance measures, the Commission shall establish by delegated act an annual maximum amount which may be allocated to these measures.

Amendment

4. In order to ensure a reasonable and proportional allocation of the finance measures with regard to studies, research and innovation programmes, demonstration projects, training and technical assistance measures, the Commission shall establish by delegated act an annual maximum amount which may be allocated to these measures.

Amendment 56
Proposal for a regulation
Rule 31 – title

Text proposed by the Commission

Communications and reports

Amendment

Communications, reports and impact assessments

Amendment 57
Proposal for a regulation
Article 31 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Member States shall submit to the Commission, not later than 31 July each year, a report on the implementation of the measures provided for in this Regulation over the previous year.

Amendment

2. Member States shall submit to the Commission, not later than 30 September each year, a report on the implementation of the measures provided for in this Regulation over the previous year.

Amendment 58
Proposal for a regulation
Article 31 – paragraph 3
3. Not later than 30 June 2015, and thereafter every five years, the Commission shall submit a general report to the European Parliament and the Council showing the impact of the action taken under this Regulation, including in the banana sector, accompanied if applicable by appropriate proposals.

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation
Article 31 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

3a. If the Union opens trade negotiations with third countries, regional organisations in third countries or international organisations which may affect agricultural sectors supported under POSEI, and if significant changes to the common agricultural policy are envisaged, impact assessments or prior evaluations of the possible consequences for agriculture in the outermost regions must be carried out. The Commission shall base these assessments or evaluations on the relevant criteria laid down by the UN.

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation
Article 31 – paragraph 3 b (new)
3b. Following the impact studies referred to in paragraph 3a, if necessary modifications should be proposed with a view to adapting agriculture in the outermost regions more effectively to new circumstances.
## PROCEDURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Specific measures for agriculture in the outermost regions of the Union</th>
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<tr>
<td>Committee responsible</td>
<td>AGRI</td>
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<td>Date announced in plenary</td>
<td>7.10.2010</td>
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<td>Committee(s) asked for opinion(s)</td>
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<td>Date announced in plenary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapporteur(s)</td>
<td>Elie Hoarau</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date appointed</td>
<td>28.10.2010</td>
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<td>Rule 51 – joint committee meetings</td>
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<td>Discussed in committee</td>
<td>12.4.2011</td>
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<td>Date adopted</td>
<td>26.5.2011</td>
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<td>Result of final vote</td>
<td>+: 30</td>
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<td>-: 1</td>
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<td>Members present for the final vote</td>
<td>François Alfonsi, Zuzana Brzobohatá, John Bufton, Alain Cadec, Salvatore Caronna, Tamás Deutsch, Elie Hoarau, Danuta Maria Hübner, Juozas Imbrasas, Séan Kelly, Mojca Kleva, Constanze Angela Krehl, Petru Constantin Luhana, Ramona Nicole Mănescu, Iosif Matula, Erminia Mazzoni, Jan Olbrycht, Wojciech Michal Olejniczak, Markus Pieper, Nuno Teixeira, Michail Tremopoulos, Lambert van Nistelrooij, Kerstin Westphal</td>
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<td>Substitute(s) present for the final vote</td>
<td>Karima Delli, Cornelia Ernst, Karin Kadenbach, James Nicholson, Maurice Ponga, Elisabeth Schroedter, László Surján, Patrice Tirolien, Derek Vaughan</td>
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