

Common organisation of agricultural markets (CMO): amendments in the sugar, fruit and vegetables, processed fruit and vegetables, seeds, beef and milk and milk products sectors

2007/0290(CNS) - 20/12/2007 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to amend Regulation (EC) No 1234/2007 establishing a common organization of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products ("Single CMO Regulation").

PROPOSED ACT: Council Regulation.

CONTENT: This proposal is an essential component in the Commission's plans to streamline and simplify the common agricultural policy (CAP). The key issues of the Commission's approach have been set out in its 2005 Communication on "Simplification and Better Regulation for the Common Agricultural Policy" (see [INI/2006/2006](#)). In this document, the Commission underlined that "reducing red tape in the farm sector by making rules more transparent, easier to understand and less burdensome will reduce costs for businesses and ensure that European citizens receive value for money".

As regards the common market organisations (CMOs) for sugar, seeds and milk and milk products, the Single CMO Regulation has already created the new legal framework and will repeal the existing sector specific CMO-Regulations as of the moment when the Single CMO Regulation starts to apply in each of these sectors, that is 1 July 2008 in respect of seeds and milk and milk products and 1 October 2008 in respect of sugar.

As regards the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables, the respective CMOs continue to exist alongside the Single CMO Regulation and will be repealed by the present proposal and their substance be fully incorporated into the Single CMO Regulation.

As concerns the CMO for beef and veal, the respective CMO has already fully been incorporated into the Single CMO Regulation and the new rules on the marketing contained in Regulation (EC) No 700/2007 now constitute the only rules that have not yet been submitted to the new horizontal legal framework.

Interested parties were consulted as part of the preparations for the Single CMO Regulation which has, in general, been seen as a positive step, making the law applicable in the area of CAP-market policy more transparent and more easily accessible.

Since submission of the proposal for the Single CMO Regulation, the previous CMOs in the sugar, seeds and milk and milk products sectors have been subject to substantive amendments. Those amendments have not yet been taken on board in the Single CMO Regulation. They have to be incorporated now to avoid that with the start of the application of the Single CMO Regulation the old legislation would be re-introduced.

Moreover, the Single CMO Regulation did not yet take on board the fruit and vegetables, processed fruit and vegetables and wine sectors (with regard to these sectors, the Single CMO Regulation only foresees the applicability of the Management Committee procedure) because those sectors are or have been subject to a general policy reform. In recital 8 of the Single CMO Regulation it is spelled out that those sectors will have to be incorporated to their full extent once the policy reforms have been enacted. This is the case

in respect of the fruit and vegetables and processed fruit and vegetables sectors which have been amended substantially by Council Regulation (EC) No 1182/2007 of 26 September 2007 laying down specific rules as regards the fruit and vegetable sector, amending Directives 2001/112/EC and 2001/113/EC and Regulations (EEC) No 827/68, (EC) No 2200/96, (EC) No 2201/96, (EC) No 2826/2000, (EC) No 1782/2003 and (EC) No 318/2006 and repealing Regulation (EC) No 2202/96.

Lastly, by adoption of Regulation (EC) No 700/2007 of 11 June 2007, the Council adopted rules concerning the marketing of the meat of bovine animals aged 12 months or less. Given the general aim of the Single CMO Regulation to create one single horizontal legal framework for all market related rules of the CAP, these provisions should now also be taken on board.