

Fruit and vegetables: common organisation of the market COM

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The Council held a policy debate on this matter, on the basis of the intensive work already done by the Special Committee on Agriculture and the Working Party. The major problems considered in the course of the debate were: - the classification of products (quality standards); - the rules proposed for producers' organisations; - the financial aspects and, in particular, the co-financing of contributions to the operational fund; - the new intervention and withdrawal arrangements; - the arrangements laid down for processed products, in particular for tomatoes. In conclusion, and pending delivery of the European Parliament's opinion, the Council instructed the Special Committee on Agriculture to continue the examination of the proposals, taking account of the guidelines laid down by today's discussions, with the aim of reaching political agreement at the December meeting.