Decentralized Community agencies: setting-up of a European Agency for veterinary and phytosanitory inspection

1996/0143(CNS) - 18/11/1996

The Council studied the proposal for a regulation that had been put forward by the Commission and, following the debate, decided to adopt the following conclusions: ‘The Council 1) takes note of the assurance given by the Commission that the relocation of the OVPIC to Ireland, in accordance with the Council decision of 29 October 1993, will be completed as soon as possible. It also notes that the premises required for this relocation will be provided by the Irish Government in agreement with the Commission and under a leasing contract. In the event that an agency is set up, the lease shall be transferred to this body; 2) resolves that all necessary steps shall be taken to ensure the smooth operation of the OVPIC during the relocation phase; 3) resolves that the proposal for establishing an agency shall be reviewed when Parliament’s opinion is known, without prejudging the position of the Member States; 4) takes note of the current situation in respect of the staff of the Commission’s veterinary service and calls on the Commission to take the steps that are needed to ensure that an adequate workforce is in place to enable the Office to carry out its tasks in an efficient manner, so that the Community is able to perform its inspection work.’ The Commission indicated that it could not fully support these conclusions. Questions to do with the funding of the Office, and if need be of the Agency, had been referred back to the Permanent Representatives Committee for re-examination.