Hops: common organisation of the market COM (amend. regul. 1696/71/EEC)

1997/0066(CNS) - 29/05/1997 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee broadly welcomes the proposal to amend the market organization in hops; this proposal retains the principles of market organization followed in the past and is aimed at income and market stability. However, the Committee would also urge that temporary set-aside arrangements be introduced for hop- growing areas. This would play a vital part in ensuring a more flexible adaptation to changing market conditions and in securing European farmers' market share. The Committee feels that, given poor market conditions at the moment, and with forecasts for the next few years less than favourable, a considerable increase in aid levels is essential if producers' income is to be stabilized.