Bananas: common organisation of the market COM (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 404/93). Recommendation for a decision included

1998/0013(CNS) - 03/06/1998

The Committee has adopted the report by David THOMAS (PES, UK), thereby endorsing the Commission's proposals for a reform of the common organisation of the market (COM) in bananas. The report was adopted by 35 votes to 1, with 3 abstentions. The committee's aim was to find a compromise which would be compatible with the rules of the World Trade Organisation (WTO), preserve the ACP preferences laid down by the Lomé Convention, protect EU producers and guarantee consumers a supply of bananas at a reasonable price. The Commission has proposed making changes to the COM to bring it into line with WTO rules. Following the case brought by the USA, Guatemala, Honduras, Ecuador and Mexico, the WTO warned the EU to amend its arrangements for the banana sector.