Foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses

2004/0090(COD) - 22/04/2004 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to codify legislation on foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses. PROPOSED ACT : Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council. CONTENT : in the context of a people's Europe, the Commission attaches great importance to simplifying and clarifying Community law so as to make it clearer and more accessible to the ordinary citizen, thus giving them new opportunities and the chance to make use of the specific rights it gives him. This aim cannot be achieved so long as numerous provisions that have been amended several times, often quite substantially, remain scattered, so that they must be sought partly in the original instrument and partly in later amending ones. For this reason a codification of rules that have frequently been amended is also essential if Community law is to be clear and transparent. In 1987 the Commission instructed its staff that all legislative measures should be codified after no more than ten amendments, stressing that this was a minimum requirement and that departments should endeavour to codify at even shorter intervals the texts for which they are responsible, to ensure that the Community rules were clear and readily understandable. Given that no changes of substance may be made to the instruments affected by codification, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission have agreed, by an interinstitutional agreement dated 20 December 1994, that an accelerated procedure may be used for the fast track adoption of codification instruments. The purpose of this proposal is to undertake a codification Council Directive 89/398/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to foodstuffs intended for particular nutritional uses. The new Directive will supersede the various acts incorporated in it; this proposal fully preserves the content of the acts being codified and hence does no more than bring them together with only such formal amendments as are required by the codification exercise itself. The codification proposal was drawn up on the basis of a preliminary consolidation, in all official languages, of Directive 89/398/EEC and the instruments amending it, carried out by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, by means of a data-processing system. Where the Articles have been given new numbers, the correlation between the old and the new numbers is shown in a table contained in Annex III to the codified Directive.