Protection of biotechnological inventions

1988/0159(COD) - 16/12/1992 - Modified legislative proposal

The amended proposal took account of Parliament's debates and amendments, which sought to supplement the provisions on public policy and morality, to give more precise guidance to national patent offices and courts in determining what was or was not patentable: certain practices were deemed to be not patentable (the human body or parts of the human body as such, processes for modifying the genetic identity of the human body which had a non-therapeutic purpose and which were contrary to the dignity of man, processes for modifying the genetic identity of animals which were likely to cause them suffering or physical handicaps without any substantial benefit to man or animal). The amendment establishing the farmer's privilege was also incorporated.