Sugar beet: authorisation for Portugal to grant aid to sugar beet producers to 2001/2002 marketing year

1997/0222(CNS) - 25/07/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: the proposal has two objectives: 1) to authorize Portugal to grant national aid to its sugar beet producers in the marketing years from 1998/99 and 2000/2001; 2) to abolish all such aid in the sugar sector from the 2001/2002 marketing year. CONTENT: the proposal has two distinct elements: 1) authorization for Portugal to grant its sugar beet producers temporary adjustment aid, reducing gradually over a period of 4 marketing years from 1997/98 to 2000/2001 (sugar beet farming in Portugal is hampered by production difficulties, especially during the start-up stage); 2) abolition of all aid to sugar producers as from the 2001/2002 marketing year (aid referred to in Article 46 of Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81). This refers in particular to the following aid: - aid for sugar beet and sugar in the southern region of Italy; - aid for cane sugar produced in Spain; - aid for preferential cane sugar refining in the United Kingdom.