Denmark: list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Regulation 950/97/EC

1997/0308(CNS) - 11/11/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: to adopt the list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Article 25 of Regulation (EC) No 950/97 in Denmark. SUBSTANCE: In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 950/97, the Danish Government communicated to the Commission the list of islands eligible for inclusion in the Community list of less-favoured farming areas and the information on the features of these areas. They are areas which, in particular, meet the criteria laid down in Article 25 of Regulation (EC) No 950/97, under which areas with specific handicaps, particularly island regions where it is necessary for farming to continue in order to preserve the countryside, may be deemed less-favoured areas. The areas selected are all islands with an area of less than 600 km2 where farm incomes are 87% to 90% of the national average. Thirty Danish islands satisfy the twofold requirement of remoteness and low farm incomes; the combined area of farmland which they represent is around 23 350 ha. The application of these indices produces a cover of 0.84% of the utilized agricultural area of Denmark. A breakdown of the areas listed is given in an annex to the Directive. The total surface area does not exceed 4% of the surface area of the country concerned (in fact it is around 1.1%). The Community contribution towards expenditure on compensatory allowances to be granted to farmers in these areas (estimated at ECU 0.25 m per annum) will be taken into consideration as part of the overall amount provided for in respect of Objective 5(a) of the Structural Funds.