The simplification of the common organisation of the market COM in fruit and vegetables

2004/2193(INI) - 10/08/2004 - Non-legislative basic document

PURPOSE : to present the Commission's actions on the simplification of the common market organisation in fruit and vegetables.

CONTENT : the present document aims to describe how the Commission managed to follow, in the years 2002, 2003 and 2004, the Council requests to act on certain areas of shortcomings identified in the functioning of the fruit and vegetables common market organisation (CMO).

It is also intended to stimulate a debate in the Council, in the European Parliament and within the sector1. Depending on the outcome of this debate, the report could be followed by legislative proposals in due course.

In order to stimulate and focus the debate on possible improvements that could be introduced in due time into the basic regulation to make it operate more effectively, this reports aims also to raise some strategic questions: Is there a need to reform the basics of the CMO as established by the 1996 reform? What can be done in order to simplify the implementation of the CMO for Pos and make POs services more attractive for producers? What can be done to improve the grouping of supply in regions where the organisation is weak, in particular in the new Member States? Should the specific cross-compliance for fruit and vegetables be maintained or integrated in the new cross compliance framework developed in the CAP reform? What can be done to improve the supply of quality products and/or products obtained under environmentally friendly conditions? What can be done to ensure a better crisis management? Is there a need to introduce radical changes in the specific aid schemes for processed products and citrus? How can the coherence of the fruit and vegetables regime and the Rural Development regulation be improved? How can a better use of the current budget be ensured?

This document will be followed by a working document of the Commission services presenting: an analysis of the principal figures of the sector (trends on world and EU supply and demand, on world and EU trade as well as on production structure and income situation in EU); an analysis of the implementation of one of the CMO's pillars, the producer organisations (POs) and the related Operational Funds; an analysis of budgetary issues in the recent years.