




Basic information	
1996/0080(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Bananas: common organisation of the market COM Subject 3.10.06.01 Fruit, citrus fruits	

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		SANTINI Giacomo (UPE)	16/04/1996
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets			
	DEVE Development and Cooperation		FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN Fernando (PPE)	25/04/1996
Council of the European Union				

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
06/03/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0082 	Summary
18/04/1996	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
29/10/1996	Vote in committee		Summary
29/10/1996	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0337/1996	
13/12/1996	Debate in Parliament		
03/02/1997	Vote in committee		Summary
17/12/1998	End of procedure in Parliament		
17/12/1998	Additional information		Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/0080(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 043
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	AGRI/4/07791

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0337/1996 OJ C 362 02.12.1996, p. 0005	29/10/1996	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading /single reading		T4-0704/1996 OJ C 020 20.01.1997, p. 0368-0393	13/12/1996	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0037/1997 OJ C 085 17.03.1997, p. 0019-0032	18/02/1997	Summary
European Commission				
Document type		Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal		COM(1996)0082  OJ C 121 25.04.1996, p. 0015	06/03/1996	Summary
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES0704/1996 OJ C 212 22.07.1996, p. 0074	30/05/1996	Summary

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

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1996/0080(CNS) - 18/02/1997 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted this proposal for a regulation with the amendments adopted at the sitting of 13 December 1996 and the compromise amendments drawn up by the rapporteur, Mr Giacomo SANTINI (UPE, I), following his meetings with Commissioner Franz FISCHLER. It should be noted that during the plenary sitting of 13 December 1996 the legislative resolution was not put to the vote because of the refusal of Commissioner FISCHLER to accept the European Parliament's amendments. The report was therefore referred back to committee. Parliament proposed a tariff quota of 2 300 000 tonnes of bananas from third country and non-traditional ACP countries in order to meet demand following the accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden (the Commission provided for a total volume of 2 553 000 tonnes) and maintained the current division of this quota between operators who marketed third country and/or non traditional ACP bananas (66.5%), operators who marketed Community and traditional ACP bananas (30%) and new operators (3.5%). It also called for (compromise amendment) the establishment of a mechanism to remedy loss suffered by an operator (e.g. reduction of his reference quantity) in the event of force majeure and not because of exceptional circumstances (the concept of force majeure is understood as serious internal political, economic, social or institutional crisis, endemic civil war and/or the lack of a government). One amendment also stressed that small producers who operate under conditions constituting an outstanding model from the ecological and social point of view (fair trade producers) should be given greater access to the Union market by means of appropriate information and promotion measures (compromise amendment).

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1996/0080(CNS) - 30/05/1996 - Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report

The Committee considers that the Commission has made a considerable effort to accommodate all interests in the Community banana regime, but thinks this should not jeopardize the system's effectiveness in achieving its fundamental objectives. It welcomes certain provisions, but considers that the Commission should encourage the adoption of appropriate provisions to take account of the special case of production in Somalia and review the increase of 353,000 tonnes in the tariff quota intended to take account of consumption in the three new Member States. It also regards the reduction in the tariff quota allocated to Category B operators as unjustified.

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1996/0080(CNS) - 13/12/1996 - Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading

Parliament decided to refer back to the Committee on Agriculture the report by Mr Giacomo SANTINI (UPE, I) concerning the amendment to the common organization of the market in bananas, following the refusal by the Commission to agree to reduce the tariff quota for imports of third-country bananas from 2 553 000 tonnes to 2 300 000 tonnes while maintaining the current allocation of 66.5% for third countries and 30% for operators marketing Community bananas and/or importing traditional ACP bananas. Parliament also called on the Commission to ensure by appropriate measures (preferably by opening a specific quota) that small-scale producers who behave in an exemplary fashion from the ecological and social point of view (fair trade producers) obtain improved access to the European market.

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1996/0080(CNS) - 06/03/1996 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: modification of the common organization of the market in bananas (Regulation 404/93/EEC) in order to create a sustainable equilibrium between the different interests involved, notably as regards tariff quotas for the importation of bananas, whilst maintaining the principle objectives of the regime. SUBSTANCE: Regulation 404/93/EEC on the common organization of the market in bananas provides for a share out of the tariff quota opened in each year for the importation of third-country and non-traditional ACP bananas in 3 categories (A, B and C). The implementation of the arrangements provided for in the regulation for the importation of non-traditional ACP bananas (90 000 tonnes of bananas imported duty free) creates a relative disadvantage for the latter with regard to third-country imports (both categories are governed by the same rules, including the requirement for operators to present a tariff quota import licence). As a result, the proposal provides for separate treatment of non-traditional ACP imports and imports from third countries, whilst maintaining the distinction between traditional and non-traditional ACP quantities. At the same time, in order to take account of enlargement and of the consequent modification to the supply to the three new Member States (which to date obtained their supplies exclusively from the dollar zone), the proposal raises the quota tariff provided for in the regulation whilst maintaining the same level of protection and advantages to ACP and Community suppliers of bananas. The proposed text thus provides for a readjustment of the quota shareout among operators of each category in order to maintain the equilibrium between the three categories of operators: 70.5% for category A operator and 26% for category B, leaving the 3.5% for category C unchanged. However, as far as the last category is concerned, past experience has shown that the current system (quota allocations based on past trade) limited the scope for the development of trade. The proposal therefore includes the creation of a mechanism whereby those category C operators who have traded for a minimum of 3 years, and who fulfil appropriate criteria (including having marketed a minimum volume of bananas) can transfer to category A. Finally, in order to alleviate the hardship suffered in certain cases where, due to exceptional circumstances, an operator may have been subject to genuine difficulties in marketing bananas, the proposal contains a provision to permit the extension of an operator's reference period backwards by 2 years if his reference quantity falls significantly below its habitual level.