Basic information

1999/0205(COD) COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Beef: identification and registration of animals and labelling of beef and beef products **Subject** 3.10.05.01 Meat 4.60.02 Consumer information, advertising, labelling	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	PAPAYANNAKIS Mihail (GUE/NGL)	24/11/1999

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	KINDERMANN Heinz (PSE)	19/10/1999

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2218	1999-11-15

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Agriculture and Rural Development	FISCHER BOEL Mariann

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
13/10/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0487	Summary
15/11/1999	Debate in Council		
15/11/1999	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
13/12/1999	Vote in committee, 1st reading		

13/12/1999	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A5-0101/1999	
15/12/1999	Debate in Parliament		
16/12/1999	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T5-0174/1999	Summary
13/03/2008	Proposal withdrawn by Commission		
13/03/2008	Additional information		Summary

Technical information

Procedure reference	1999/0205(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 152 Rules of Procedure EP 050
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure lapsed or withdrawn
Committee dossier	ENVI/5/12193

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0101/1999 OJ C 296 18.10.2000, p. 0018	13/12/1999	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0174/1999 OJ C 296 18.10.2000, p. 0133-0182	16/12/1999	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1999)0487	13/10/1999	Summary

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES1136/1999 OJ C 051 23.02.2000, p. 0095	08/12/1999	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date

Beef: identification and registration of animals and labelling of beef and beef products

1999/0205(COD) - 16/12/1999 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

In adopting the report by Mr. Mihail PAPAYANNAKIS (UEG/NGL GR), the European Parliament called for the system for the labelling of beef and beef products to be implemented and be compulsory in all the Member States starting from the 01.09.2000. The optional labelling system shall apply until 31.08.2000. Furthermore, the Parliament believes that the elements of information such as the code, the reference digits (which may be the identification number of the animal concerned) as well as the place of slaughter should be compulsory from 01.01.2000. The Parliament asks the Member States who have a sufficiently developed identification and registration system for bovine animals to be able to introduce this system in the form of a compulsory labelling system, from before 01.09.2000, i.e. a compulsory labelling system of bovine meat coming from animals born, fed and slaughtered on their territory. Lastly, the European Parliament considers that Article 152 of the EC Treaty (public health protection) is the appropriate legal base for this Regulation.

Beef: identification and registration of animals and labelling of beef and beef products

1999/0205(COD) - 13/10/1999 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: To amend the system for identifying and registering bovine animals and the labelling of beef products.

PROPOSED ACT: European Parliament and Council Regulation.

CONTENT: Regulation 820/97 states that the Commission must present proposals for the “general rules” governing beef labelling by 1 January 2000. This proposal is, therefore, being presented to the European Parliament and the Council in tandem with an accompanying proposal laying down the general rules for a compulsory beef labelling system. (Please refer to 1999/0204(COD)). In summary, the proposed Regulation on beef labelling, 1999 /0204, establishes a compulsory system of beef labelling whereby operators and organisations marketing beef must provide certain information on labels attached to beef products. Information should include certain characteristics of the beef such as the beef's origin, where it was born, reared and slaughtered etc. Compulsory labelling should be enforced by 1 January 2003. This proposal, when adopted, repeals Regulation 820/97.

The purpose of this proposal, 1999/0205, is to amend Regulation 820/97 by prolonging the existing provisions for labelling to take account of the time needed for the new proposal to be adopted under the co-decision procedure. Given that adoption of the first proposal is expected to take no longer than 14 months, the Commission proposes that the temporary prolongation should not run beyond 1 January 2001. Failure to adopt the amendment would result in a situation whereby the compulsory labelling system, based on Regulation 820/97, would come into force on 1 January 2000 with no general rules to guide it. Further, in prolonging the existing provisions set out in Regulation 820/97, an unsatisfactory and uncertain situation for beef consumers and beef operators would be avoided.

However, should the Council and Parliament fail to come to a decision before 31 December 1999, the Commission reserves the right to present to the Council an urgent proposal to be adopted by the end of 1999. Such a proposal would be made in order to avoid a legal void through the automatic lapse in the voluntary system.

Another feature of the proposal is that the Commission is proposing to change the legal basis of the proposal from Article 43 of the TEU to Article 153 of the new Treaty given that this Article has, as its objective, the protection of public health.