



Basic information	
<b>1999/0284(CNS)</b> CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
Processed agricultural products as goods: trade arrangements, Uruguay round follow-up (amend. Regulation (EC) No 3448/93)  <b>Subject</b>  3.10.03 Marketing and trade of agricultural products and livestock 6.20.01 Agreements and relations in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO)	

Key players				
European Parliament	<b>Committee responsible</b>		<b>Rapporteur</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<b>AGRI</b> Agriculture and Rural Development		SOUCHET Dominique F.C. (UEN)	26/01/2000
	<b>Committee for opinion</b>		<b>Rapporteur for opinion</b>	<b>Appointed</b>
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union	<b>Council configuration</b>		<b>Meetings</b>	<b>Date</b>
	Agriculture and Fisheries		2309	2000-11-20
	Agriculture and Fisheries		2250	2000-03-20
European Commission	<b>Commission DG</b>			<b>Commissioner</b>
	Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
22/12/1999	Legislative proposal published	COM(1999)0717 	Summary
01/03/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
20/03/2000	Debate in Council		Summary
12/09/2000	Vote in committee		Summary

12/09/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A5-0228/2000</a>	
20/09/2000	Debate in Parliament		
21/09/2000	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0400/2000</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>
17/10/2000	Vote in committee		<a href="#">Summary</a>
24/10/2000	Decision by Parliament	<a href="#">T5-0452/2000</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>
20/11/2000	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
20/11/2000	End of procedure in Parliament		
25/11/2000	Final act published in Official Journal		

#### Technical information


<b>Procedure reference</b>	1999/0284(CNS)
<b>Procedure type</b>	CNS - Consultation procedure
<b>Procedure subtype</b>	Legislation
<b>Legislative instrument</b>	Regulation
<b>Legal basis</b>	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
<b>Stage reached in procedure</b>	Procedure completed
<b>Committee dossier</b>	AGRI/5/12561

#### Documentation gateway

##### European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">A5-0228/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 146 17.05.2001, p. 0004</a>	12/09/2000	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading /single reading		<a href="#">T5-0400/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 146 17.05.2001, p. 0019-0090</a>	21/09/2000	<a href="#">Summary</a>
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		<a href="#">T5-0452/2000</a> <a href="#">OJ C 197 12.07.2001, p. 0023-0075</a>	24/10/2000	<a href="#">Summary</a>

##### European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	 COM(1999)0717 <a href="#">OJ C 089 28.03.2000, p. 0081</a>	22/12/1999	<a href="#">Summary</a>

##### Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
	Economic and Social Committee:	<a href="#">CES0241/2000</a>		

EESC	opinion, report	<a href="#">OJ C 117 26.04.2000, p. 0051</a>	02/03/2000	
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Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
<a href="#">Regulation 2000/2580</a> <a href="#">OJ L 298 25.11.2000, p. 0005</a>	<a href="#">Summary</a>

## Processed agricultural products as goods: trade arrangements, Uruguay round follow-up (amend. Regulation (EC) No 3448/93)

1999/0284(CNS) - 24/10/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted the report drafted by Mr Dominique F.C. SOUCHET (UEN, F) on a set of new, compromise amendments to the Commission's proposals to slash export refunds to the EU's processed food and drink industry and offset the cuts with duty-free imports of ingredients bought at world market prices. The compromise amendments ensure that Parliament's concerns will be taken into account as the Commission has undertaken to monitor closely the impact of the new trade arrangements on each common market regime, especially in the milk and sugar sectors, in an interim report to the Parliament at the end of the first year of the new system. In addition, the Parliament has specified that the Commission pay special attention to the situation of small and medium-sized companies in the processing sector, taking due account of the impact of target measures relating to savings on export funds. The amount below which small exporters may be exempted from presentation of certificates under the export refund arrangements shall be set at EUR 50 000 per year. This ceiling may well be adjusted.

## Processed agricultural products as goods: trade arrangements, Uruguay round follow-up (amend. Regulation (EC) No 3448/93)

1999/0284(CNS) - 20/11/2000 - Final act

**PURPOSE :** to amend Regulation 3448/93/EC laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of certain agricultural products. **COMMUNITY MEASURE :** Council Regulation 2580/2000/EC. **CONTENT :** Regulation 3448/93/EC laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products provides that, on exportation of the goods, the agricultural products which have been used may qualify for refunds established pursuant to the regulations on the common organisation of the market in the sectors concerned. This Regulation should be amended to take account of the constraints arising from the agreement on agriculture concluded in the multilateral trade negotiations under the Uruguay Round. In particular, there should be checks on expenditure on the basis of commitments through the issuing of certificates. However, as regards expenditure which has not been covered by obtaining a certificate or certificates, accounting of such expenditure will continue to be carried out on a basis of refund payment, if necessary in the form of an advance. The Commission will take into consideration agricultural products processing enterprises as a whole, and in particular, the situation of SMEs, taking account of the impact of targeted measures relating to savings on export refunds. In view of their specific interests, small exporters should be exempt from submission of certificates under the export refund. Under the agreements concluded in accordance with Article 300 of the Treaty, it is possible that requirements of the processing industries in terms of agricultural raw materials may not be covered completely, under competitive conditions, by Community raw materials. Council Regulation 2913/92/EEC establishing the Community Customs Code admits good under the inward processing arrangements subject to fulfillment of the economic conditions as defined by Commission Regulation 2454/93/EEC. Having regard to the abovementioned agreements, there should also be provision for considering the economic conditions to have been fulfilled for the admission of certain quantities of certain agricultural products under the processing arrangement. In order to safeguard the interests of producers of agricultural raw materials, in successive financial years, the necessary appropriations should be made available so that goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty may benefit fully from maximum use of the current WTO ceiling. There should also be overall checks, though the procedure laid down should be flexible, on the basis of a regularly revised forward estimate, of the quantities admitted under inward processing arrangements not subject to prior individual checks for the economic conditions (excluding those used for processing, the usual forms of handling or the manufacture of goods not eligible for refunds) and in compliance with other general conditions relating to the inward processing arrangements. Finally, account should be taken of the situation on the Community market for the commodities concerned, to ensure prudent management of the said quantities. **ENTRY INTO FORCE :** 02/12/2000.

## **Processed agricultural products as goods: trade arrangements, Uruguay round follow-up (amend. Regulation (EC) No 3448/93)**

1999/0284(CNS) - 20/03/2000

The Council has agreed the proposal concerning the IPT (inward processing traffic) subject to the amendments accepted at the meetings of the Special Committee on Agriculture on 29 February and 13 March 2000. These amendments reflect the Commission's undertaking to use this instrument with caution and flexibility, as a last resort. In this connection, the Commission has expressed support for flexible management of supply balances and the regular updating thereof, whilst also taking account of the availability of commodities for IPT. Furthermore, the Council asks the Commission, in the context of the implementing procedures, to review the threshold of 20 000 euros for small and medium-sized exporters. The Council is waiting for the European Parliament's Opinion in order to take a decision as soon as possible on this proposal. The Council requests the Commission, as it did in December 1999, to monitor closely the development of the export market for the various products exported in the form of non-Annex I goods and the relevant budgetary situation, and where necessary to take appropriate steps without delay. The Council asks the Commission to report to the Council if required before the end of June 2001.

## **Processed agricultural products as goods: trade arrangements, Uruguay round follow-up (amend. Regulation (EC) No 3448/93)**

1999/0284(CNS) - 21/09/2000 - Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a number of amendments to the Commission's proposal, a number of which the Commission refused to take on board. Parliament therefore voted to defer the final vote on the legislation to the October part-session in the hope that a compromise might be reached with the Commission in the interim. Parliament believes that the competitiveness of certain EU food and drinks industries will be undermined by the cuts needed to comply with world trade rules and fears that cheap imports of raw materials will distort trade within the EU. According to the Rapporteur, Dominique SOUCHET (UEN, F), the Commission's proposals can only be a temporary, emergency measure and alternatives need to be explored in order to negotiate a proper, long-term solution with the WTO. Under WTO commitments entered into in the early 1990s, the export refunds budget - intended to compensate manufacturers for the high cost of buying raw materials in the EU compared to world prices because of the subsidies aid to farmers - must be reduced to EUR 475m in 2000 and EUR 415m in 2001. Parliament is demanding measures to cushion the impact of the cuts, particularly on small exporters, an exemption for fresh milk and preference for EU sugar. It also wants export refunds to be financed from producer levies, where possible, to avoid diverting cash from the Community budget, and less red tape for small business.

## **Processed agricultural products as goods: trade arrangements, Uruguay round follow-up (amend. Regulation (EC) No 3448/93)**

1999/0284(CNS) - 22/12/1999 - Legislative proposal

**PURPOSE :** to amend Regulation 3448/93/EC so as to reduce the amount of payments not covered by Annex I to the Treaty. **CONTENT :** under the Uruguay Round, the agreement on agriculture limits the amount of payments in the form of refunds which can be granted to certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty to EUR 475 million for financial year 2000, and EUR 415 million for 2001 and subsequent years. Having regard to firstly Community prices for basic agricultural products and secondly price prospects on the world market, requirements in terms of refunds will exceed budget limits. The inward processing arrangements applied at present already relieve the pressure on spending on refunds. The present arrangements should therefore be maintained, particularly in respect of fulfilling the economic conditions. In addition, given the lack of funds available for refunds each year, a further facility should be created for exports of goods eligible for refunds each year, which would consider the economic conditions to have been fulfilled. However, in order to encourage the use of Community agricultural raw materials, it is necessary to limit this additional facility to the quantities actually required.