Basic information

2003/0231(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Decision	Procedure completed
Food and Agriculture : plant genetic resources, ratification of the FAO International Treaty, November 2001 **Subject** 3.10.10 Foodstuffs, foodstuffs legislation 4.60.04.04 Food safety	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	JACKSON Caroline (PPE-DE)	27/11/2003

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2542	2003-11-17
Agriculture and Fisheries	2564	2004-02-24

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Health and Food Safety	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
14/10/2003	Legislative proposal published	COM(2003)0602	Summary
05/11/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
17/11/2003	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		
20/01/2004	Vote in committee		Summary
20/01/2004	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A5-0012/2004	

29/01/2004	Decision by Parliament	T5-0040/2004	Summary
24/02/2004	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
24/02/2004	End of procedure in Parliament		
23/12/2004	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2003/0231(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 175-p1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p3-a1 EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	ENVI/5/20206

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A5-0012/2004	20/01/2004	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T5-0040/2004 OJ L 096 21.04.2004, p. 0019-0099 E	29/01/2004	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2003)0602	14/10/2003	Summary
Follow-up document	COM(2025)0564	29/09/2025	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act

Decision 2004/0869
OJ L 378 23.12.2004, p. 0001-0021 Summary

Food and Agriculture : plant genetic resources, ratification of the FAO International Treaty, November 2001

2003/0231(CNS) - 24/02/2004 - Final act

PURPOSE : to conclude, on behalf of' the European Community, of the International Treaty on Plant

Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

LEGISLATIVE ACT : Council Decision 2004/869/EC.

CONTENT : the Council adopted a Decision concerning the conclusion, on behalf of the European Community, of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture.

The objectives of this Treaty are the conservation and sustainable use of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their use, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity, for sustainable agriculture and food security. The Treaty foresees several actions to be undertaken by the contracting parties in order to eliminate threats to plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, such as to survey and inventory plant genetic resources for food and agriculture, and to assist to local farmers and indigenous communities in the conservation of genetic resources and wild crops. The Treaty recognises the sovereign rights of States over their own plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and the necessity, among contracting parties, to share the benefits arising from the utilisation of these resources.

Food and Agriculture : plant genetic resources, ratification of the FAO International Treaty, November 2001

2003/0231(CNS) - 14/10/2003 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to approve, on behalf of the EC, the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture. PRPOSED ACT : Council Decision. CONTENT : In November 1993 the FAO Conference decided to negotiate a legally binding, International Undertaking, in harmony with the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Commission and the Member States participated in the negotiations. They were finalized with a new 'International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture' (International Treaty), formally adopted by the FAO Conference in Rome on 3 November 2001. The Community and the Member States signed the International Treaty on 6 June 2002. The scope of the International Treaty covers 35 food crops and 29 forages. It establishes a legally binding global framework for the sustainable conservation of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture and a multilateral system combining access of all parties to the International Treaty to such resources with the sharing of commercial and other benefits of access thereto. This International Treaty will enter into force ninety days after forty parties have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Its 'Governing Body' will then establish and make crucial decisions extremely difficult to reverse. Only countries that have deposited their instruments of ratification by that time can influence these decisions. The International Treaty is important for agricultural research and breeding in the European Union. Both Community and Member States' competences are concerned. Linked with the principle of unity in the international representation of the Community, joint action by the Community and its Member States for the deposit of the instruments of ratification or approval is required.

Food and Agriculture : plant genetic resources, ratification of the FAO International Treaty, November 2001

2003/0231(CNS) - 29/01/2004 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the report by Caroline JACKSON (EPP-ED, UK), approving the conclusion of the Treaty, subject to one amendment. (Please see the summary of 20/01/04.)