Basic information

2005/0279(CNS) CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	Procedure completed
Organic food and farming: imports of organic products from third countries (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91) **Subject** 3.10.09.04 Organic farming 3.70.17 European ecolabel and ecolabelling, ecodesign	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development	GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF Friedrich-Wilhelm (Verts/ALE)	26/01/2006

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	09/02/2006
IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Agriculture and Fisheries	2774	2006-12-21
Agriculture and Fisheries	2703	2006-01-23

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Agriculture and Rural Development	FISCHER BOEL Mariann

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2005)0671	Summary

21/12/2005	Legislative proposal published		
23/01/2006	Debate in Council		
02/02/2006	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/07/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
19/07/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A6-0253/2006	
27/09/2006	Debate in Parliament		
28/09/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0384/2006	Summary
28/09/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
21/12/2006	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
21/12/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		
02/02/2007	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2005/0279(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 037
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AGRI/6/32940

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE370.162	07/06/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE370.325	26/06/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A6-0253/2006	19/07/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T6-0384/2006	28/09/2006	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(2005)0671	21/12/2005	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	SEC(2006)1108	01/09/2006	Summary

Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2006)4772	19/10/2006	

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Regulation 2006/1991 OJ L 027 02.02.2007, p. 0005	Summary

Organic food and farming: imports of organic products from third countries (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91)

2005/0279(CNS) - 01/09/2006 - Document attached to the procedure

The proposal for a Regulation on organic production (COM/2005/671) requires the Member States to include controls on organic operators in line with Regulation 882/2004/EC on official food and feed controls (referred to as OFFC). The scope of OFFC covers controls on organic production.

The Commission is of the view that the OFFC represents an important reinforcement of the food/feed controls conducted at a Community-wide level. Its control methodology is modern and includes risk-based action. Further, the OFFC requires the Member States to integrate all controls on food and feed into control planning. The distribution of responsibilities, as regards reporting and transparency, are clearly laid out in the OFFC.

As such, the Commission does not, in its new proposal, intend to dismantle the current control system as laid down in Regulation 2092/91/EC. The existing rules are tailor-made and have been designed based on extensive experience pertaining to the organic Regulation.

The Commission is of the opinion, therefore, that in terms of structure, the current organic rules are compatible with the OFFC. Thus, control provisions, enshrined in Article 8 and 9 are reflected in the proposal in so far as the OFFC is concerned.

Organic food and farming: imports of organic products from third countries (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91)

2005/0279(CNS) - 21/12/2005 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to amend Regulation 2092/91/EEC on organic production of agricultural products so as to allowa replacement of the current import scheme by a new import scheme from 1 January 2001.

PROPOSED ACT : Council Regulation.

CONTENT : Council Regulation 2092/91/EC will be repealed on 1 January 2009 and replaced by new Council Regulation on organic production and labelling of organic products. (For details of the proposal, please see CNS/2005/0278). Under the new scheme established by the new Regulation for imports of organic produce from third countries, organic products imported into the Community will be allowed to be placed on the Community market labelled as organic, where they have been produced in accordance with production rules and subject to control arrangements that are in compliance with or equivalent to Community legislation. The equivalency assessments for the purpose of import will be based on the international standard (Codex Alimentarius) or on the Community regulation.

To this end, third countries whose production standards and control arrangements are equivalent to those applied in the Community will be recognised and a list published. The control bodies competent to carry out control in countries which are not on the list of recognised third countries will also be recognised and listed. Third country operators who produce in direct compliance with Community rules will be allowed to choose to submit their activities to the competent authorities and control bodies designated by the Member States.

Article 11 of Regulation 2092/91/EEC provides for the possibility for Member States to grant until 31 December 2006 import authorisations for individual products under certain conditions. The proposal deals with amending that Article, so as to allow for a replacement of the current import scheme by the new import scheme as from that date. The new import scheme should thus apply as from 1 January 2007. However, this will leave little time for its implementation, in particular as regards the recognition of control bodies competent to carry out control in those countries which are not on

the list of recognised third countries. In order not to disrupt international trade, the proposal is to extend the possibility for Member States to continue to grant import authorisations for individual products until the measures necessary for the functioning of the new import scheme have been put in place.

Organic food and farming: imports of organic products from third countries (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91)

2005/0279(CNS) - 28/09/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution drafted by Friedrich-Wilhelm **GRAEFE ZU BARINGDORF** (Greens/EFA, DE) and made some amendments to the proposal.(Please see the summary of 12/07/2006.)

Organic food and farming: imports of organic products from third countries (amend. Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91)

2005/0279(CNS) - 21/12/2006 - Final act

PURPOSE: to amend Regulation 2092/91/EEC on organic production of agricultural products so as to allow a replacement of the current import scheme by a new import scheme.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Regulation (EC) No 1991/2006 amending Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 on organic production of agricultural products and indications referring thereto on agricultural products and foodstuffs.

CONTENT : the Council adopted a regulation introducing interim import rules pending application of the new legislation on organic products, as certain import provisions of the current legislation expire on 31December 2006.

In order not to disrupt international trade, the Regulation will extend the possibility for Member States to grant import authorisations for individual products until the new regime has been put in place. The Regulation also includes new rules on imports (‘direct access’ and ‘equivalency’), in the same form as in a proposal on the labelling of organic products. (Please see CNS/2005/0278.)

Council Regulation 2092/91/EC will be repealed on 1 January 2009 and replaced by new Council Regulation on organic production and labelling of organic products. Under the new scheme established by the new Regulation for imports of organic produce from third countries, organic products imported into the Community will be allowed to be placed on the Community market labelled as organic, where they have been produced in accordance with production rules and subject to control arrangements that are in compliance with or equivalent to Community legislation. The equivalency assessments for the purpose of import will be based on the international standard (Codex Alimentarius) or on the Community regulation.

To this end, third countries whose production standards and control arrangements are equivalent to those applied in the Community will be recognised and a list published. The control bodies competent to carry out control in countries which are not on the list of recognised third countries will also be recognised and listed. Third country operators who produce in direct compliance with Community rules will be allowed to choose to submit their activities to the competent authorities and control bodies designated by the Member States.

Article 11 of Regulation 2092/91/EEC provides for the possibility for Member States to grant until 31 December 2006 import authorisations for individual products under certain conditions. This Regulation deals with amending that Article, so as to allow for a replacement of the current import scheme by the new import scheme as from that date. The new import scheme should thus apply as from 1 January 2007. However, this will leave little time for its implementation, in particular as regards the recognition of control bodies competent to carry out control in those countries which are not on the list of recognised third countries. In order not to disrupt international trade, the Regulation extends the possibility for Member States to continue to grant import authorisations for individual products until the measures necessary for the functioning of the new import scheme have been put in place.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 09/02/2007.

APPLICATION : 01/01/2007.