



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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COMPET 334

NOTE

from :	Presidency
to :	Council (Competitiveness)
Subject :	Better Regulation - Progress report

Following negotiations in the Permanent Representatives Committee on 9 November 2007, the Presidency herewith submits in the Annex to this Note a progress report on Better Regulation.

The Council (Competitiveness) is invited to take note of this progress report and to hold an exchange of views at its forthcoming session on 22-23 November 2007.

**Progress Report on Better Regulation
Presented by the Portuguese Presidency**

Introduction

1. In the framework of the relaunched Lisbon Strategy, the Better Regulation agenda aims at strengthening competitiveness by ensuring that the EU regulatory framework contributes to achieving growth and jobs, to the benefit of citizens and enterprises, *inter alia* through simplification while respecting the *acquis communautaire*. The 8-9 March 2007 European Council underlined the need to enhance the Better Regulation agenda to create a more dynamic business environment.
2. Furthermore, Better Regulation is a priority of the three Presidencies programme endorsed by Germany, Portugal and Slovenia, and should play a significant role in the context of the Lisbon Strategy new cycle for 2008-2010, as well as in the forthcoming Single Market Review.
3. The Portuguese Presidency welcomes the Commission's intention to present, in view of the 13- 14 March 2008 European Council, a Second Strategic Review of Better Regulation that will include the Commission's review of impact assessment, implementation of the Action Programme for the Reduction of Administrative Burdens, the state of play of simplification and codification rolling programmes and the withdrawal of pending proposals.
4. The Presidency hopes that this Second Strategic Review will consider the appropriate initiatives needed to further improve the Better Regulation agenda as a whole. In this regard, the Presidency takes note of the European Parliament resolutions on Better Regulation and the "resolution on the Single Market Review: tackling barriers and inefficiencies through better implementation and enforcement" adopted in September 2007.

5. Since the presentation of the last progress report in May 2007¹, the principles of Better Regulation have been steadily implemented in the EU's law-making process. The most relevant developments in the main three areas, i.e. reduction of administrative burdens, impact assessment and simplification, are listed below.

Administrative Burdens

6. The Commission's Action Programme for Reducing Administrative Burdens in the European Union was endorsed by the 8-9 March 2007 European Council. The European Council specifically agreed to the joint reduction target of 25% of burdens by 2012 stemming from EU legislation and its transposition into national law. The European Council also encouraged Member States to set national targets of comparable ambition by 2008, taking into account the different starting points and traditions. The 9 October 2007 Council (Ecofin) Conclusions on the reduction of administrative burdens recalled this mandate and, in particular, underlined the importance of ensuring that the needs of SMEs and newly created enterprises are fully considered in this context.
7. The Action Programme focuses on mapping, measuring and removing information obligations imposed on businesses that have proven to be obsolete, redundant or repetitive. Its aim is to improve the effectiveness of legislation in 13 priority areas without jeopardizing its basic objectives. Work started in July 2007 and the mapping phase is planned to be completed by the end of 2007 and the measurement finalised during the course of 2008. The Action Programme will also examine how EU Information Obligations have been transposed into national legislation. To validate the findings, a series of stakeholders consultations will be launched to assess the cost for businesses in meeting EU and national information requirements. The status of progress in the Action Programme will provide input to the Second Strategic Review. A High Level Group of Independent Stakeholders on Administrative Burdens has been established in August 2007 by the Commission, to provide advice on the implementation of the Action Programme for Reducing Administrative

¹ doc. 9164/07.

Burdens, as supported by the 2007 Spring European Council. Furthermore, to ensure that stakeholders are closely involved in the administrative burden reduction project, the Commission launched an “On-line consultation tool on the Administrative Burden Reduction Programme” on 21 September 2007 (<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/admin-burdens-reduction/>).

8. On 10 July 2007, the Commission presented a Communication on a simplified business environment for companies in the areas of company law, accounting and auditing. The Communication offers several options to reduce burdens on enterprises, including the possible repeal of a number of Company Law Directives.
9. The Presidency welcomes the fact that five of the initial ten fast-track actions of the Action Programme have already been adopted. The other five are under progress and a quick adoption is expected (see table in Annex I). Together, these proposals are expected to reduce costs for businesses by 1,3 billion euros. The Commission intends to present the next batch of fast-track actions together with the early 2008 Strategic Review. On 9 October 2007, the Council (Ecofin) invited the Commission to communicate to Member States the method and criteria used to identify priority actions and fast-track procedures. The Presidency notes that the Commission stated that it had based its selection on the findings of the most burdensome policy areas identified by the Member States that have already completed similar measurement exercises, further completed by a series of ad hoc stakeholders' consultations.
10. The Presidency notes that progress has been made at Member State level and, to date, ten Member States have already set national reduction targets¹.
11. The Presidency considers that the need for an adequate balance between costs and benefits should be taken into account in the overall effort of measuring and reducing administrative burdens.

¹ AT, DE, DK, ES, IT, NL, SE and UK with a 25% target and FR and CZ with a 20% target. BE notes it has reduced its administrative charges by 30% in the last 6 years.

Impact Assessments

12. During the Portuguese Presidency, 20 legislative proposals and other major Commission initiatives have been adopted by the Commission that were accompanied by impact assessments which included the opinions of the Impact Assessment Board .
13. The Commission's independent “Impact Assessment Board” (IAB) established in November 2006 has contributed to improve the quality of the Commission's impact assessments. During the Portuguese Presidency, the IAB has scrutinised 40 impact assessments and issued opinions on their quality and, in all cases, recommendations on how this could be improved. Twenty opinions have been published alongside the impact assessment after Commission adoption of the related proposal and the rest will be published when the relevant proposals are adopted.
14. The Presidency welcomes the independent evaluation of the Commission’s impact assessment system published in May 2007 and looks forward to the conclusions that the Commission will draw, in the forthcoming strategic review, from the findings and suggestions in the evaluation, in particular with regard to the work of the IAB, measures for further improving the quality of impact assessments (namely in reviewing its scope of application), interinstitutional cooperation, better consultation, more thorough consideration of administrative burdens and SMEs and improved quantification. The Presidency invites the Commission to take Member States' specificities into account when reviewing its impact assessment system.
15. The Presidency notes that the European Parliament has called on the Commission to incorporate an "Internal Market Test" into the Better Regulation mechanisms, to ensure that regulators always take into account the implications of their actions on the four freedoms of the Internal Market, alongside other aspects that they are required to consider, notably sustainability and employment.

16. With respect to the Council, around thirty Commission IAs have been examined by 1 November during the Portuguese Presidency. The indicative guidance endorsed by Coreper under the Austrian Presidency¹ has proved to be a useful tool for the consideration of the Commission's impact assessments in the Council. The first impact assessment training for officials of the Council Secretariat took place on 8-9 October 2007.

Simplification

17. The Presidency notes that, for the second consecutive year, the Commission included the simplification initiatives in its Legislative and Work Programme (CLWP) adopted on 23 October². The 2008 CLWP includes 45 simplification initiatives, of which some 15 new initiatives strengthen the Simplification Rolling Programme, and lists the Commission's intention to withdraw 31 proposals pending before the legislators.
18. The Presidency welcomes the fact that, in total, 71 simplification initiatives have been completed since the launch of the 2005-2009 simplification rolling programme in 2005. As far as the year 2007 is concerned, the Presidency notes that 29 simplification initiatives have been presented by the Commission, 25 are confirmed for presentation by the end of 2007, 6 are postponed to 2008 and one is cancelled. On the inter-institutional level, 13 initiatives have been adopted, whilst 37 are currently pending for adoption before the co-legislators (see table in Annex II). The Presidency stresses the importance of adopting simplification proposals at the earliest stage possible, while complying with the institutional procedures established by the Treaty.
19. Since the relaunch of the Commission's codification programme in October 2006, 14 new legislative acts have been adopted by the Council while 18 autonomous codification acts have been adopted by the Commission. During the same period, the Commission has presented 26 other codification proposals and around 30 new codification acts have been foreseen for 2007. At present, 45 codification proposals are pending before the co-legislators. The Presidency looks forward to the achievement of the ambitious objective of codifying the *acquis* by the end of 2008.

¹ doc. 9382/06.

² COM(2007) 640 final.

Future work

20. The Presidency looks forward to the presentation of the Second Strategic Review of Better Regulation in early 2008. The Review will be a useful and significant basis for discussion at the 25-26 February Competitiveness Council and at the 13-14 March 2008 European Council of how Better Regulation tools are effectively applied by the Commission, the Council and Member States, and whether further action is needed. It will help prepare the review of the Interinstitutional Common Approach to Impact Assessment in 2008.

FAST-TRACK PROPOSALS OF THE PROGRAMME FOR THE REDUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS

- STATE OF PLAY ON 1 NOVEMBER 2007 -

INITIATIVES	CHANGE	PROPOSAL	FINAL AGREEMENT
Commission measures			
Energy crops Commission regulation 1973/2004.	Reduce reporting obligation for farmers and allow replacing obligatory lodging of a security by the operators by another system without endangering good financial control.		Agreed in comitology. Reg.(EC) No 270/2007 of 13/3/2007
Export Refunds for agricultural products Commission regulation 800/1999.	Ease the requirements concerning the documentary proof to be delivered by operators in order to receive export refunds for exporting certain agricultural produce.		Agreed in comitology. 31/8/2007
Statistics on the information society Commission regulation re. reg. 808/2004	Simplify ordinary and sector questionnaire in annual Commission Regulation, thus easing the administrative burdens for respondents.		Agreed in comitology. Reg.(EC) 847/2007 of 18/7/2007
Hygiene on fishing vessels Regulation 853/2004.	Remove unnecessary requirements for small fishing vessels.		Agreed with MS in comitology.
Collective ("omnibus") proposal			
Company law Directives 78/855, 82/891. Art. 54 (3) (g) EEC (Art.44 EC) Co-decision art. 251 EC Qualified majority	Remove the requirement of drawing up an independent expert report in the case of a merger or a division if all shareholders renounce to it. It aligns the provisions of the 3rd and the 6th directive to the 10th directive.	Proposal adopted on 7/3. COM (2007) 91.	Plenary: 11 July: adopted Adopted in Council on 22/10/2007.
Transport documents Regulation no. 11. Art. 79 (3) EEC (Art. 75 EC) Co-decision art. 251 EC, QMV	Remove obligation to provide information on tariffs, agreements, price deals and transport. The proposal will remove outdated requirements (from 1960) for documentation on a series of issues when transporting goods across national borders within the EU.	Proposal adopted on 7/3. COM (2007) 90.	EP: TRAN (+ ENVI). First debate in Nov. Rapporteur: Costa (ALDE). Council WP: 23/4; ready for adoption by Council.
HACCP , food hygiene Regulation 852/2004. Art. 95 + 152 (4) (b) EC Co-decision art. 251 EC, QMV	Exempt micro-enterprises from certain HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point) requirements, thereby not imposing the same burdens on small bakers, grocery shops, market stalls etc. as on large supermarkets.	Proposal adopted on 7/3. COM (2007) 90. (Same as below).	EP: ENVI. First debate in January 2008. Rapporteur: Schnellhardt (EPP-DE) Council WP: 13/4, 9/5, 21/5,28/6, 13/9,10/10, 29/10

Stand-alone proposals			
Statistics on farmers Directives 93/23+24+25. Co-decision	Reduce frequency of agri stats. to once a year for surveys in MS with pig populations < 3 million head and cattle population <1.5 million heads. + Simpler surveys. Regulation merging 3 directives.	Proposal adopted on 22/3 COM(2007) 129	Presented to EP 7/5. Presented to Council 15/5 and 11/7. Agreement expected in 2007.
Road haulage Directive 96/26. Co-decision Pending simplification proposal.	Among others, it will introduce electronic register to enhance exchange of data and a simplified and standardized format for the Community licence, certified copies and the driver attestation.	Proposal adopted on 23/5. COM (2007) 263 and COM (2007) 265	In 1st reading. EP rapporteur: Grosch Vote plenary: Jan. 08
Dangerous goods Directive 96/35. Co-decision Pending simplification proposal.	Simplify the administrative procedures both for public authorities (EU or national) and for private bodies. Repeal.	Proposal adopted. COM (2006) 852	EP acceptance in Sept. (few changes). Council WP accepted changes in Oct.; awaiting jurist/ linguists in Dec. Coreper + Council in Dec./Jan. 2008

Proposals included in the 2005 Simplification Rolling Programme

Pending before the co legislators – state of play at Council / EP (1 November 2007)

Regulatory area	Legal act(s)	Commission	State of play at Council
1. Free movement of workers	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems	31/01/2006 COM(2006)16 2006/0006/COD	1 st reading still ongoing: partial general approaches at EPSCO Councils on 1/2 June 2006, 1 December 2006 and 30/31 May 2007. Further partial general approach expected December 2007.
2. Public procurement	Proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Directives 89/665/EEC and 92/13/EEC with regard to improving the effectiveness of review procedures concerning the award of public contracts	14 June 2006 COM (2006) 195 2006/0066/COD	- 1 st reading agreement with EP reached in June 2007 - final adoption by Council expected on 15 November 2007
3. Waste	Revision of the waste Directives (replaces and repeals Directives 75/439/EEC, 75/442/EEC and 91/689/EEC)	21 December 2005 COM(2005) 667 ¹ 2005/0281/COD	Political agreement on the common position 28 June 2007 / 1 st reading Adoption of common position expected end of 2007.
4. Business statistics	Streamlining of the structural business statistics (Council Regulation (EC / Euratom) N°58/97)	20 February 2006 COM(2006) 66 2006/0020/COD	EP 1st reading opinion on 29 March 2007, Council in January 2008 .

¹ Action identified by the Council in its priority list adopted on 25 November 2004

5. Payment services	Revised regime on payment services (Revision of Directive 97/5/EC)	1 December 2005 COM(2005) 603 2005/0245/COD	Agreed. Signature expected on 13 November.
6. Customs Union	Modernisation of the Community Customs Code	30 November 2005 COM(2005)608 2005/0246/COD	EP 1 st reading on 12 December 2006 – Csl: Political agreement on the 1 st reading on 25 June 2007; EP second reading pending
7. Rail safety – competence of Railway Agency	Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Directive 2004/49/EC on safety on the Community's railways Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the interoperability of the Community rail system Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending Regulation (EC) No 881/2004 establishing a European Railway Agency	13 December 2006 COM(2006)782-783-784-785 2006/0272-0273-274/COD SEC(2006)1640-2	Interoperability: poss. 1st reading agreement with EP Safety and ERA: political agreement TTE Council 29/30 Nov.
8. Transport of dangerous goods	Proposal for a DIRECTIVE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on the inland transport of dangerous goods	22 December 2006 COM(2006)852 2006/0278/COD SEC(2006)1725-6	1st reading agreement with EP
9. Maritime Transport	Recast of the regime on port State control (Council Directive 95/21/EC)	23 November 2005 COM(2005) 588 2005/0238/COD	Political agreement on the common position 7 June 2007 - EP 1 st reading in April 2007

10. Maritime Transport	Recast of the regime for ship inspections and survey organisations (Directive 94/57/EC)	23 November 2005 COM(2005) 587 2005/0237/COD	EP opinion in April 2007. 1 st reading ongoing. poss. political agreement TTE Council 29/30 Nov.
11. Air Transport	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on common rules for the operation of air transport services in the Community (recast)	18/07/2006 COM(2006)396 2006/0130/COD	EP 1 st reading on 11 July 2007 1st reading agreement with EP
12. Plant Protection products	Proposal for a Regulation on the placing of plant protection products on the market	COM(2006)388 12 July 2006 2006/0136/COD	1 st reading ongoing.
13. Foodstuffs	RECAST, MODERNISATION AND SIMPLIFICATION Legislative package for four regulations on " food improvement agents "		
	Proposal for a regulation on food additives	28 July 2006 COM(2006) 428 2006/145/COD	EP 1 st reading opinion on 10 July 2007 Council political agreement expected by the end of 2007.
	Proposal for a Regulation on food enzymes	28 July 2006 COM(2006)425 2006/0144 (COD)	EP 1 st reading opinion on 10 July 2007 Council political agreement expected by the end of 2007.
	Proposal for a Regulation establishing a common authorisation procedure for food additives, food enzymes and food flavourings	28 July 2006 COM(2006)423 2006/0143 (COD)	EP 1 st reading opinion on 10 July 2007 Council political agreement expected by the end of 2007.
	Proposal for a Regulation on flavourings and certain food ingredients with flavourings properties for use in and on food	28 July 2006 COM(2006) 427 2006/0147 (COD)	EP 1 st reading opinion on 10 July 2007 Council political agreement / partial political agreement expected by the end of 2007.

14. Energy-efficiency labelling programme for office equipment	Proposal for a Regulation on a Community energy-efficiency labelling programme for office equipment (Recast)	COM (2006) 576 10 October 2006 2006/0187/COD	EP 1 st reading on 10 July 2007 First reading agreement; adoption planned for December 2007; signature January 2008
15. Taxation	Council Directive 69/335/EEC of 17 July 1969 concerning indirect taxes on the raising of capital	COM(2006)760 4 December 2006 2006/0253/CNS	1 st reading ongoing.
16. Trade of dual use items	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION setting up a Community regime for the control of exports of dual-use items and technology	COM(2006)829 18 December 2006 2006/0266/ACC SEC(2006)1696	1 st reading ongoing.
17. Social affairs Health and safety	Proposal of Council Directive concerning the minimum safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work (second individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Directive 89/391/EEC) (codified version)	COM(2006)652 3 November 2006 2006/0214/COD	Accelerated procedure (codification). 1 st reading on 19 June 2007. Awaiting amended proposal (there's been an amendment in the meantime: Directive 2007/30/EC)
18. Employment Social affairs	Proposal of Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the protection of employees in the event of the insolvency of their employer (codified version)	COM(2006)657 6 November 2006 2006/0220/COD	Accelerated procedure (codification). 1 st reading on 19 June 2007. Ready for finalisation at JL meeting.
19. Social affairs Health and safety	Proposal of Council Directive on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to asbestos at work (second individual Directive within the meaning of Article 8 of Directive 80/1107/EEC) (codified version)	COM(2006)664 10 November 2006 2006/0222/COD	Accelerated procedure (codification). 1 st reading on 19 June 2007. Awaiting amended proposal (there's been an amendment in the meantime: Directive 2007/30/EC)

20. Trade mark	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION on the Community trade mark (Codified version)	COM(2006)830 16 December 2006 2006/0267/CNS	Accelerated procedure (codification). 1 st reading ongoing. Ready for finalisation at JL meeting (as soon as BG, RO available)
21. Fruit plants propagating material	Recasting of Council Directive 92/34/EEC on the Marketing of fruit plants propagating material	COM(2007)31 29 January 2007	1 st reading ongoing.
22. Euratom Supply Agency	Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION establishing Statutes for the Euratom Supply Agency <i>(nb technical proposal- simplification measures unclear in the explanatory memorandum)</i>	COM(2007)119- COM(2007)108 16 March 2007 2007/0043/CNS, 2007/0042/CNS	Political agreement envisaged for December 2007; adoption probably beginning of 2008
23. Residue limits of veterinary medicinal products.	Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down Community procedures for the establishment of residue limits of pharmacologically active substances in foodstuffs of animal origin , and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2377/90	COM(2007)194 17 April 2007 2007/0064 (COD) SEC(2007)484- SEC(2007)485)	1 st reading ongoing. General approach foreseen for December 2007
24. Information and promotion for agricultural products	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION on information provision and promotion measures for agricultural products on the internal market and in third countries	COM(2007)268 23 May 2007 2007/0095(CNS)	Adoption foreseen 17 December 2007.
25. Admission to the occupation of transport operators	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing common rules concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the occupation of road transport operator	COM(2007)263 23 May 2007 20070097(COD) SEC(2007)635-636	1 st reading starting.
26. Access to road transport market	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on common rules for the international carriage of passengers by coach and bus (recast)	COM(2007)264 23 May 2007 20070098(COD) SEC(2007)635-636	1 st reading starting.

27. Access to the market in the carriage of goods by road	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on access to the market in the carriage of goods by road within the Community to or from the territory of a Member State or passing across the territory of one or more Member States	COM(2007)265 23 May 2007 20070099(COD) SEC(2007)635-636	1 st reading starting.
28. Radiation protection	Codification of Regulation 1990R0737 on the conditions governing imports of agricultural products originating in third countries following the accident at Chernobyl nuclear power-station (codified version)	COM (2007) 291 2006/SJ+/107 2007/0101ACC	Accelerated procedure (codification). Ready for finalisation at JL meeting
29. Radiation protection	Codification of Regulation (Euratom) 1987R3954 laying down maximum permitted levels of radioactive contamination of foodstuffs and of feeding stuffs following a nuclear accident (codified version)	COM(2007)302 2006/SJ+/106 2007/0103CNS	Accelerated procedure (codification) Ready for finalisation at JL meeting.
30. Consumer Protection acquis	Review of the Timeshare Directive (94/47/EC)	COM(2007)303 7 June 2007 2007/0113COD	1 st reading ongoing.
31. Authorisations for fishing activities	Proposal for a Council regulation concerning authorisations for fishing activities of Community fishing vessels outside Community waters and the access of third country vessels to Community waters	COM(2007)330 18 June 2007	Examined in Working Party Awaiting revised text from COM.
32. Common organisation of the market in wine	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION on the common organisation of the market in wine and amending certain Regulations	COM(2007)372 04 July 2007	1 st reading starting.
33. Coordination of social security systems	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION extending the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 and Regulation (EC) No [...] to nationals of third countries who are not already covered by these provisions solely on the ground of their nationality	COM (2007) 439 23 July 2007	1 st reading starting.
34. Coordination of social security systems	Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL amending the annexes to Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems	COM (2007) 376 03 July 2007	1 st reading starting.

35. Financial services - Insurance	Recast of the directive on the solvency of insurance companies (Solvency II)	COM(2007)361 10 July 2007	1 st reading starting.
36. Public pan-European cellular digital land-based mobile communications	Repeal of Council Directive 87/372/EEC on the frequency bands to be reserved for the coordinated introduction of public pan-European cellular digital land-based mobile communications in the Community (GSM Directive)	COM (2007) 367 25 July 2007	1 st reading starting.
37. Veterinary medical devices	Repeal of the Directive on electro-medical equipments used in veterinary medicine	COM(2007)465 7 August 2007	1st reading ongoing.

Proposals included in the 2005 Simplification Rolling Programme

Adopted by Council or co-legislators

Regulatory area	Legal act(s)	Adoption by the Commission	Adoption by the co legislators
1. Quality policy	Simplified regime for the protection of geographical indications and designations of origin for agricultural products and foodstuffs	23 December 2005 COM(2005) 698	Adopted by Council on 20 March 2006 Regulation (EC) No 510/2006 (O.J. L 93 of 31.03.2006, p12)
2. Quality policy	Simplified regime for certificates of specific character for agricultural products and foodstuffs	23 December 2005 COM(2005) 694 2005/0270(CNS	Adopted by Council on 20 March 2006 Regulation (EC) No 509/2006 (O.J. L 93 of 31.03.2006, p1)
3. Marketing standards for eggs	Simplified marketing standards for eggs (revision of Council Regulation No 2771/75 of 29 October 1975)	28 February 2006 COM (2006) 89	Adopted by Council on 19 June 2006 Regulation (EC) No 1028/2006 (O.J. L 186 of 07.07.2006, p1)
4. Sugar Reform - CMO Regulation + Single Payment Regulation	COUNCIL REGULATION on the common organisation of the markets in the sugar sector Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION amending Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION establishing a temporary scheme for the restructuring of the sugar industry in the European Community and amending Regulation (EC) No 1258/ on the financing of the common agricultural policy	COM(2005)263 - 1/2/3; SEC(2005)810; SEC(2005)808	Adopted by Council on 20 Feb.2006 Regulation (EC) No 318/2006 Regulation (EC) No 319/2006 Regulation (EC) No320/2006 (O.J. L 58 of 28.02.2006)

	COUNCIL REGULATION amending Regulation (EC) No 320/2006 establishing a temporary scheme for the restructuring of the sugar industry in the Community COUNCIL REGULATION amending Regulation (EC) No 318/2006 on the common organisation of the markets in the sugar sector	COM(2007) 227	Adopted by Council on 9 October 2007 Regulation (EC) 1261/2007 Regulation (EC) 1260/2007 (OJ L 283 of 27.10.2007)
5. Report and proposal for a Council Regulation on the energy crops scheme	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION amending and correcting Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers and amending Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)	COM(2006) 500; SEC(2006)1167	Adopted by Council on 19 Dec. 2006 Regulation (EC) No 2012/2006 (O.J. L 384 of 29.12.2006, p8)
	Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers and Regulation (EC) No 1698/2005 on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) (<i>cross compliance</i>)	COM(2007) 484	Under examination by the Council. Adoption by the Council envisaged before end 2007.
6. Internal market	Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Directive 71/304/EEC of 26 July 1971 concerning the abolition of restrictions on freedom to provide services in respect of public work contracts and of the award of public works contracts to contractors acting through agencies or branches	COM(2006)748 30 November 2006 2006/0249 (COD)	Adopted by Council on 16 April 2007 Directive 2007/24/EC (O.J. L154 of 14.06.2007, p22)
7. Health and safety at work	Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament Directive on protection of the health and safety of workers at work with a view to simplifying and rationalising the reports on practical implementation	14/07/2006 COM(2006)390 2006/0127/COD	Adopted by Council on 30 May 2007. Directive 2007/30/EC (O.J. L165 of 27.06.2007, p21)
8. Wood in the rough	Proposal for repealing Council Directive 68/89/EEC on classification of wood in the rough	COM(2006)557 29 September 2006 2006/0178/COD	Adopted by Council in 1 st reading on 21 May 2007 Decision No 714/2007/EC (OJ L 163 of 23.06.2007, p16)

9. Common organisation of agricultural markets	Proposal for a COUNCIL REGULATION establishing a common organisation of agricultural markets and on specific provisions for certain agricultural products	18 December 2006 COM(2006)822 2006/0269/CNS	Political agreement by the Council 11/06/2007 Adopted by Council on 22 October 2007. (to be published in O.J. 16/11/2007)
10. Organic farming	Simplified regime for organic production of agricultural products and indications referring thereto on agricultural products and foodstuffs (revision of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 of 24 June 1991	COM(2005) 671 2005/0278/CNS 21 December 2005	(a) Adopted by Council on 21 Dec. 2006 Regulation (EC) No 1991/2006 (O.J. L27 of 02.02.2007, p18) (b) Adopted by Council on 28 June 2007 Regulation (EC) No 834/2007 (O.J L189 of 20.07.2007, p1)
11. Fruit and vegetable	Revision of 1 Regulation to improve competitiveness in the Fruit & vegetable sector.	COM(2007)17 24 January 2007 2007/0012/CNS	Political agreement reached on 11-12 June 2007 Adopted by Council on 26 September 2007 (OJ L 273 of 17.10.2007, p.1)
12. Support schemes under the common agricultural policy	REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL on the application of the system of cross-compliance (under Article 8 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1782/2003 establishing common rules for direct support schemes under the common agricultural policy and establishing certain support schemes for farmers)	COM(2007)147 29 March 2007	Council Conclusions on the application of cross compliance adopted on 11-12 June 2007

13. Trans-European transport and energy networks	Amended proposal for a Regulation for the granting of Community financial aid in the field of trans-European transport and energy networks and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 2236/95	COM(2006)245 24 May 2006 2004/0154/COD	Adopted by the co-legislator on June 2007 Regulation (EC) No 680/2007 (O.J. L162 of 22 June 2007, p1)
Pre-packaging *	Repeal of pre-packaging requirements.	25 October 2004 COM (2004) 708 2004/0248/COD	Adopted at 2 nd reading by Council on 16 July 2007 (OJ L247of 21 Sept 2007, p17)
Automotives *	Simplified regime for type approval of motor vehicles and their trailers (modification of Directive 70/156/CEE)	14 July 2003 COM(2003) 418 2003/0153/COD	Adopted at 2 nd reading by the Council on 23 July 2007 (not yet published in O.J.)

* *Initiatives belonging to the 2003 simplification programme*