COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 02.10.1996 COM(96) 460 final

96/0228 (CNS) 96/0229 (CNS)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

regarding the labelling of beef and beef products

(presented by the Commission)



EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Introduction

The decline in consumer confidence in the beef market resulting from the BSE crisis has highlighted deficiencies in the provisions relating to the presentation for sale of beef and beef products as well as for the traceability of animals. It is clear that the labelling of beef and beef products needs to be developed in order to reassure consumers of their quality.

In order that consumers can have confidence in the information contained on labels it is necessary to establish a reliable system for the identification and registration of bovine animals.

A regulation is proposed concerning the identification and registration of bovine animals and another concerning the labelling of beef and beef products.

There are no financial implications for the Community budget of either Regulation.

1.Identification and Registration of Bovine animals

Council Directive 92/102/EEC, on the identification and registration of animals (1), introduced arrangements to identify and register bovine, ovine caprine, and porcine animals. Experience has shown that the implementation of this Directive has not been satisfactory. The BSE crisis in particular has demonstrated that the identification and registration systems of bovine animals are in need of improvement. The main weaknesses which have been identified concern the lack of traceability of animals due the absence of movement records in a centralized data base and deficiencies in accompanying documents.

(1) OJ No L 355, 5. 12. 1992, p. 32.

Directive 92/102/EEC has two basic objectives:

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- the tracing of animals for veterinary purposes, which is of crucial importance for the control of contagious diseases. It must be possible to determine rapidly and conveniently the place of origin of an animal or carcase and its movements throughout the Community. The purpose of this being to prevent the further spread of diseases;
- the management and supervision of livestock premiums as part of the reform of agricultural policy.

In the interest of a well-managed system of livestock premiums, monitoring of the payment of such premiums, control of contagious diseases, the rapid tracing of animals in the event of an outbreak of a contagious disease and fraud prevention, productive livestock must be adequately identified and registered according to the same requirements in all Member States.

It is proposed to introduce a Regulation for the identification and registration of bovine animals which will reinforce the provisions of the current Directive, in particular with regard to the introduction in each Member State of a computerized data base and a passport for each animal, for the purpose of tracing animals for health reasons and the control of Community aid schemes.

The proposed Regulation provides for minimum requirements, which means that the Member States may extend the rules.

The proposed identification and registration system provides for eartags to identify bovine animals individually, a central computerized data base, a passport for each bovine animal and registers of animals on each holding.

Bovine animals must be identified by an eartag to be applied in each ear, at least one of the eartag shall be of a plastic material. In the case of animals which has become illegibly or has been lost, a new mark must be applied, however the replacement tag shall bear the same code as the original eartag.

In the light of problems encountered with regard to identification, the Commission, with the technical support of the JRC, is launching a large scale field trial, called the IDEA project, to examine the feasibility of using electronic identification systems as a means of increasing the reliability of animal identification. The trial, which will last three years. will involve the use of electronic transponders which may be either inserted in the animal or contained in an eartag. It is intended that this project shall start at the beginning of 1997 and cover a million animals across the Community. On the basis of the conclusions of this trial the Commission may submit proposals to amend the provisions concerning eartags.

For the purpose of efficient and rapid tracing of animals and for the control of Community aid schemes, it is proposed that the computerized data base shall record details of all holdings on the territory of the Member State, the identity of the bovine animals and their movements. In order to do this bovine animals must, throughout any movement, be identified by an eartag and accompanied by a passport.

The proposed Regulation on the establishment of an identification and registration system for bovine animals provides for the Commission in management committee procedure to adopt detailed rules concerning the requirements for the eartags, the passport and the register on the holding.

2. Labelling of beef and beef products

The provisions concerning the labelling of meat also need to be reinforced to improve their effectiveness. The proposed Regulation regarding the labelling of beef and beef products states that each operator or organization in the beef trade should submit a specification indicating the information to be included on the label and measures to be taken to ensure its accuracy. The specification must also describe the control system to be applied as well as measures to be taken in relation to operators who do not comply with its provisions.

The specification must establish the link between the identification of the carcase and cuts of meat or meat products with the identification of the individual animal from which it came.

The proposed Regulation also mentions the information which may be included on the label. This includes information concerning the animal, including the method of fattening and other information in relation to feeding.

PROPOSAL

FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

36/0558 (CMS)

establishing a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION;

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission (1),

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament (2),

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee (3),

Whereas Article 3 (1) (c) of Council Directive 90/425/EEC of 26 June 1990 concerning veterinary and zootechnical checks applicable in intra-Community trade in certain live animals and products with a view to the completion of the internal market (4), states that animals for intra-Community trade must be identified in accordance with the requirements of Community rules and be registered in such a way that the original or transit holding, centre or organisation can be traced, and that before 1 January 1993 these identification and registration systems are to be extended to the movements of animals with the territory of each Member State;

Whereas Article 14 of Council Directive 91/496/EEC of 15 July 1991 laying down the principles governing the organisation of veterinary checks on animals entering the Community from third countries and amending Directives 89/662/EEC, 90/425/EEC, 90/675/EEC (5), states that the identification and registration as provided for in Article 3 (1) (c) of Directive 90/425/EEC of such animals must, except in the case of animals for slaughter and registered equidae, be carried out after the said checks have been made;

Whereas the management of certain Community aid schemes in the field of agriculture requires the individual identification of certain types of livestock; whereas the identification and registration systems must, therefore, be suitable for the application and control of such measures;

- (1) OJ No C
- (2) OJ No C
- (3) OJ No C
- (4) OJ No L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 29. Directive as last amended by Directive 92/118/EEC.(OJ No L 62, 15. 3. 1992, p. 49).
- (5) OJ L No 268, 24. 9. 1991, p. 56. Directive as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden.

Whereas it is necessary to ensure the rapid and efficient exchange of information between Member States for the correct application of this Directive; whereas Community provisions have been established by Council Regulation (EEC) No 1468/81 of 19 May 1981 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the Member States and the co-operation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of the law on customs or agriculture matters (6) and by Council Directive 89/608/EEC of 21 November 1989 on mutual assistance between the administrative authorities of the Member States and co-operation between the latter and the Commission to ensure the correct application of legislation on veterinary and zootechnical matters (7);

Whereas the current rules concerning the identification and the registration of bovine animals have been laid down in Council Directive 92/102/EEC on the identification and registration of animals (8); whereas experience has shown that the implementation of this Directive for bovine animals has not been satisfactory and needs improvement; whereas it is therefore necessary to adopt a Regulation for bovine animals in order to reinforce the provisions of the Directive;

Whereas for the purpose of rapid and accurate tracing of animals for health reasons and the control of Community aid schemes each Member State should create a computerised data base which shall record the identity of the animal, all holdings on their territory and the movements of the animals;

Whereas in order to permit movements of bovine animals to be traced animals must be identified by an eartag applied in each ear and accompanied by a passport throughout any movement; whereas the form and content of the mark and the requirements of the passport must be determined on a Community basis; whereas a passport must be issued for each animal to which a eartag has been allocated;

Whereas in the case of animals in which the eartag has become illegible or been lost a new mark must be applied; whereas a replacement tag shall bear the same code as the original eartag;

Whereas the Commission is examining on the basis of work performed by the JRC the feasibility of using electronic means for the identification of animals.

Whereas the keeper of animals must maintain an up-to-date register of the animals on their holdings; whereas the requirements of the register must be determined on Community basis; whereas persons involved in the commerce of animals must keep records of their dealings; whereas the competent authority must have access to these records on request;

- (6) OJ L No 144, 2. 6. 1981, p. 1. Amended by Regulation (EEC) No 945/87 (OJ No L 90, 2. 4. 1987, p. 3.).
- (7) OJ No L 351, 2. 12. 1989, p. 34.
- (8) OJ No L 355, 5. 12. 1992, p. 32.

Whereas this Regulation must not affect specific requirements contained in Commission Decision 89/153/ EEC of 13 February 1989, concerning the correlation of samples taken for residue examination with animals and their farms of origin (9), or any relevant application rules established in accordance with Directive 91/496/EEC;

Whereas it is necessary to amend Regulation (EEC) No 3508/92 establishing an integrated administration and control system for certain Community aid schemes(10);

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

- 1. Each Member State shall establish a system for the identification and registration of bovine animals (hereinafter referred to as "animals"), as defined in Article 2 of Directive 64/432/EEC on animal health problems affecting intra-Community trade in bovine animals and swine(11), in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation.
- 2. The provisions of this Regulation shall apply without prejudice to any Community rules which may be established for disease eradication or control purposes and without prejudice to Directive 91/496/EEC and Regulation (EEC) No 3508/92. However, the provisions of Directive 92/102/EEC shall no longer apply, in so far as they relate specifically to bovine animals.

Article 2

For the purpose of this Regulation:

- holding shall mean any establishment, construction or any place in which animals covered by this Regulation are held, kept or handled, situated within the territory of the same Member State;
- keeper shall mean any natural or legal person responsible for animals, whether on a
 permanent or on a temporary basis, including during transportation or at a market;
- competent authority shall mean the authority in a Member State responsible for carrying out veterinary checks; for implementing this Regulation; or for implementing Regulation (EEC) No 3508/92;
- (9) OJ No L 59, 2. 3. 1989, p. 33.
- (10) OJ NoL 355, 5.12.92 p.1
- (11) OJ No 121, 29.7.1964, p.1977

The system for the identification and registration of bovine animals shall comprise the following elements:

- (a) eartags to identify animals individually;
- (b) computerized data bases;
- (c) animal passports;
- (d) individual registers kept on each holding.

The Commission and the competent authority of the Member State concerned shall have access to all information under this Regulation. They shall take the measures necessary to ensure appropriate accessibility to this data for all parties concerned, in particular to consumer organizations having a particular interest recognized by the Member State, as well as the protection of its confidentiality.

Article 4

- 1. All animals on a holding shall be identified by an eartag applied in each ear approved by the competent authority. The eartags shall bear the same unique identification code. The first two positions shall identify the Member State of the holding where the animal is first identified in accordance with the alpha-2 country code set down in Decision 93/317/EEC, followed by a numeric code which shall not exceed 12 characters, and which makes it possible to identify each animal individually together with the holding on which it was born.
- 2. The eartag shall be applied within 14 days following the birth of the animal and in any case before the animal leaves the holding on which it was born.

No animal may be moved from a holding unless it is identified in accordance with this Article.

3. Any animal imported from a third country which has passed the checks laid down by Directive 91/496/EEC and which remains within Community territory shall be identified on the holding of destination by an eartag complying with the provisions of this Article, within 14 days of undergoing the aforesaid checks, and, in any event, before leaving the holding. However, it is not necessary to identify the animal if the holding of destination is a slaughterhouse situated in the Member State where such checks are carried out and the animal is actually slaughtered within that 14 day period.

The original identification established by the third country shall be recorded in the computerized data base provided for in Article 6 together with the identification code allocated to it by the Member State of destination.

- 4. Any animal from another Member State shall retain its original eartag.
- 5. No eartag may be removed or replaced without the permission of the competent authority. Where an eartag has become illegible or has been lost, a replacement tag bearing the same code shall be applied in accordance with this Article.
- 6. The eartags are allocated to the holding, distributed and applied to the animals in a manner determined by the competent authority.
- 7. Eartags which do not comply with the requirements as laid down in this Article, shall be replaced on 31.12.1997 at the latest.
- 8. Not later than 31 December 2000, acting on the basis of a report from the Commission, accompanied by any proposals, the Council shall decide on the possibility of introducing electronic identification arrangements in the light of progress achieved in this field.

The competent authority shall create a computerized data base, which shall record at least:

- 1. For each animal:
 - the identification code;
 - the date of birth
 - the sex;
 - the breed;
 - the identification code of its mother;
 - the holding number of birth;
 - identification numbers of all holdings where the animal has been kept;
 - dates of movements;
 - date of death or slaughter.
- 2. For each holding:
 - the identification number consisting of a code not exceeding 12 characters;
 - the name and address of the keeper.

- 3. The data base shall have the following information available, at any time:
 - a list of all animals present on a holding at any time,
 - a list of all the movements of each animal commencing from the holding of birth.

The information shall be kept in the data base until 3 consecutive years have elapsed after the death of the animal.

The data base shall be fully operational and contain all relevant data on 31.12.1997 at the latest.

Article 6

- 1. The competent authority shall issue a passport for each animal to which an eartag has been allocated within 7 days following the notification of its birth, or, in the case of animals imported from third countries, of the notification of its reidentification by the Member State concerned, as provided for under Article 4 paragraph 3. The competent authority may issue a passport to animals from another Member State under the same conditions. In such cases, the passport accompanying the animal on its arrival shall be surrendered to the competent authority which shall return it to the issuing Member State.
- 2. Whenever an animal is moved it shall be accompanied by its passport.
- 3. In the case of the death of an animal, the passport shall be returned by the keeper to the competent authority within 3 working days after the death of the animal. If the animal is sent to a slaughterhouse, the operator of the slaughterhouse shall be responsible for returning the passport to the competent authority.
- 4. In the case of animals exported to third countries the passport shall be surrendered by the last keeper to the competent authority at the place where the animal is exported.

Article 7

- 1. Each keeper of animals shall:
 - keep an up-to-date register,

- report to the competent authority all movements to and from the holding and all births and deaths of animals on the holding, along with the dates of these events within 3 working days of the event occuring;
- complete the passport immediately on arrival and prior to departure of each animal from the holding and ensure that the passport accompanies the animal.
- 2. Each keeper shall supply the competent authority, upon request, with all information concerning the origin, identification and where appropriate, the destination of animals which he has owned, kept, transported, marketed or slaughtered.
- 3. The register shall be in a format approved by the competent authority and be available on the holding and to the competent authority, upon request, for a minimum period to be determined by the competent authority but which may not be less than 3 years.

Member States shall designate the competent authority responsible for ensuring compliance with this Regulation. They shall inform each other and the Commission of the identity of this authority.

Article 9

The Commission shall adopt detailed rules for the application of this Regulation in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70. These detailed rules shall cover in particular:

- (a) requirements for eartags;
- (b) requirements for the passport;
- (c) requirements for the register;
- (d) minimum level of controls to be carried out;
- (e) application of penalties;
- (f) transitional provisions for the start-up period of the system.

Member States shall take all the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Regulation. These controls shall be without prejudice to any controls which the Commission may carry out by analogy with Article 9 of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95.

Any penalties imposed by the Member State on keepers shall be proportionate to the gravity of the breach. The penalties may involve, where justified, a restriction on movement of the animals to or from the keeper concerned.

Article 11

Article 5 of Regulation(EEC) No 3508/92 is completed by the following text:

"....and Regulation(EC) No......"

Article 12

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

It shall be applicable as from 1 January 1997.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

Proposal for a

96/0229 (CIUS)

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No /96

of

regarding the labelling of beef and beef products

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION.

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission¹,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament²,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee³,

Whereas in order to improve the information to consumers about consumer relevant aspects of beef and beef products, a specific labelling system should be set up in the beef sector; whereas beef and beef products shall be taken to mean certain products referred to in Article 1 (1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in beef and veal⁴; whereas Member States may decide to extend the labelling system to other processed goods containing beef;

Whereas such a labelling system should be facultative to operators and organizations marketing beef and beef products in the sense that operators and organizations wishing to label their beef and beef products shall do so in accordance with this regulation;

Whereas the provisions of this regulation should not undermine existing Community legislation in the fields of labelling and control of foodstuffs, protection of geographical indications and designations of origin, measures to promote and market quality beef and veal and rules governing health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat and meat products;

Whereas an efficient labelling system depends on the possibility to trace back any labelled beef or beef products to the animal or animals of origin; whereas the labelling arrangements of an operator or organization shall only be accepted once a specification has been submitted to and approved by the competent authority;

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⁴ OJ No L 148, 28.6 1968, p. 24. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1357/96, OJ No L 175, 13.7 1996, p. 9

Whereas in order to properly identify the person responsible for the information indicated on the label, operators and organizations shall only be entitled to label beef and beef products provided that the label contains its name and logo; whereas it shall be specified what kind of information the label may contain;

Whereas operators and organizations importing beef and beef products from third countries into the Community may also wish to label their products according to this regulation; whereas provisions should thus be made for imported beef to be included in the labelling system; whereas these provisions must ensure that labelling arrangements relating to imported beef and beef products be of equivalent reliability as those set up for Community beef;

Whereas with a view to guarantee the reliability of the labelling arrangements in place, it is necessary to oblige the Member States to carry out adequate and efficient control measures; whereas these controls shall be without prejudice to any controls which the Commission may carry out by analogy with Article 9 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2988/95 of 18 December 1995 on the protection of the European Communities financial interests⁵; whereas the competent authorities of the Member States shall be authorized to withdraw their approval of any specification in the event of irregularities;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

- 1. If an operator or an organisation, as defined in Article 2, wishes to label beef or beef products in a detailed manner at the point of sale, it shall do so in accordance with this Regulation.
- 2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1, the following shall continue to apply:
 - Council Regulation No 26 of 4 April 1962 applying certain rules of competition to production of and trade in agricultural products⁶
 - Council Directive 64/433/EEC of 26 June 1964 on health condition for the production and marketing of fresh meat⁷
 - Council Directive 77/99/EEC of 21 December 1976 on health problems affecting intra-Community trade in meat products⁸
 - Council Directive 79/112/EEC of 18 December 1978 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the labelling, presentation and advertising of foodstuffs for sale to the ultimate consumer⁹

⁵ OJ No L 312, 23.12. 1995, p. 1

⁶OJ No 30, 20.4. 1962, p. 993. Regulation as last amended by Regulation No 49, OJ No 53, 1.7. 1962, p. 1571

¹⁷ OJ No 121, 29.7. 1964, p. 2012

⁸ OJ No L 26, 31.1, 1977, p. 85

⁹ OJ No L 33, 8.2, 1979, p. 1

- Council Directive 93/99/EEC of 29 October 1992 on additional measures concerning the official control of foodstuffs¹⁰
- Council Directive 94/65/EEC of 14 December 1994 laying down the requirements for the production and placing on the market of minced meat and meat preparations¹¹
- Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1208/81 on carcase classification of 28 April 1981¹²
- Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1186/90 on carcase classification of 7 May 1990¹³
- Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2081/92 of 14 July 1992 on protection of geographical indications and designations of origin¹⁴
- Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2082/92 of 14 July 1992 on certificates of specific character for agricultural products and foodstuffs¹⁵
- Council Regulation (EEC) No. 2067/92 of 30 June 1992 on the measures to promote and market quality beef and veal. 16

For the purposes of this Regulation the following definitions shall apply:

- "beef and beef products" means the products referred to in Article 1(1) of Regulation (EEC) No. 805/68 other than CN codes 0102 90 05 to 0102 90 79 and 0102 10
- "label" means a label attached to an individual piece or pieces of meat or to their packaging material, or information provided to the consumer at the point of sale
- "organisation" means a group of operators from the same or different parts of the beef trade.

Member States may decide to extend this system to processed goods containing products referred to in the first indent, including cosmetic and pharmaceutical products.

Article 3

- 1. Each operator or organisation shall submit a specification for approval to the competent authority of each Member State in which production or sale of the beef or beef products in question takes place. Such specification shall indicate:
 - the information to be included on the label
 - the measures to be taken to ensure the accuracy of this information

¹⁰ OJ No L 290, 24.1. 1993, p. 14

¹¹ OJ No L 368, 31.12. 1994, p. 10

¹² OJ No L 123, 7.5. 1981, p. 3

¹³ OJ No L 119, 11.5. 1990, p. 32

¹⁴ OJ No L 208, 24.7. 1992, p. 1

¹⁵ OJ No L 208, 24.7. 1992, p. 9

¹⁶ Ol No L 215, 30.7, 1992, p. 57

- the control system which will be applied at all stages of production and sale, including controls to be carried out by an independent body to be nominated by the operator or the organisation
- in the case of an organisation, the measures which would be taken in relation to any member which failed to comply with the specification.
- 2. The approval of any specification shall be subject to the assurance of the competent authority, obtained on the basis of a thorough examination of its components as referred to in paragraph 1, of the proper and reliable functioning of the labelling system envisaged and, in particular, of its control system. Any specification which does not ensure a link being made between identification of the carcase, quarter, pieces of meat and meat products and the individual animal, or in the case of pieces of meat and meat products the animals concerned, shall be refused.
- 3. Where the production and/or sale of beef or beef products takes place in two or more Member States, the competent authorities of the Member States concerned shall examine and approve the specifications submitted insofar as the elements contained therein relate to operations taking place within their respective territory. In this event, every Member State concerned shall recognize the approvals granted by any other Member State concerned.
- 4. Where the competent authorities of all the Member States concerned approve the specification submitted, the operator or organisation concerned shall be entitled to label beef and beef products, provided that the label contains its name or logo.

Any entitlement shall apply without prejudice to the respect of Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No. 2081/92 and of Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No. 2082/92.

Article 4

- 1. Where, in full or in part, the production of beef or beef products takes place in a third country, operators and organisations shall only be entitled to label beef and beef products according to this Regulation, if, in addition to the observance of the requirements set out in Article 3, they have obtained approval of their specifications by the competent authority designated to this end by each third countries concerned.
- 2. The validity within the Community of any approval granted by a third country shall be subject to prior notification by the third country to the Commission:
 - of the competent authority which is designated
 - of the procedures and criteria to be followed by the competent authority when examining the specification
 - of each operator and organisation to which the competent authority has granted approval of their specification.

The Commission shall transmit these notifications to the Member States.

Where, on the basis of the above notifications, the Commission arrives at the conclusion that the procedures and/or criteria applied in a third country are not equivalent to the standards set out in this Regulation, the Commission shall, after consultation with the third country concerned, decide that approvals granted by the third country concerned shall not be valid within the Community.

Article 5

- 1. A label shall not contain any information relating to the animal from which the beef or beef products originate other than that which appears in the following list:
 - Member State, region of a Member State or third country of birth, the sex of the animal
 - method of fattening
 - other information in relation to feeding
 - Member states, regions of Member States or third countries where all, or at least 80 %, of the fattening took place
 - information on the slaughtering, like the Member State or region of a Member State or third country where slaughter took place, the age at slaughter and the date of slaughter or the period during which the beef was hung
 - information on methods of boning and cutting like mechanical recovery, types of meat and the content
 - any other information the operator or the organisation wishes to indicate and agreed by the competent authority concerned.
- Where beef and beef products contain meat from different animals is mixed, the label shall only contain information in accordance with paragraph 1 which is common to all such meat.

Article 6

Member States shall take all the necessary administrative and control measures to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Regulation. These measures shall be without prejudice to any controls which the Commission shall be authorized to carry out by analogy with Article 9 of Regulation (EC, Euratom) No. 2988/95.

Article 7

Where it is shown that an operator or organisation has failed to comply with the specification referred to in Article 3(1), the Member State may withdraw its approval under Article 3(3) or impose supplementary conditions to be respected in the case of maintenance of its approval.

The Commission shall adopt detailed rules for the application of this Regulation in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 27 of Regulation (EEC) No. 805/68. The detailed rules may cover, in particular, the information which may be contained on labels under Article 5.

Article 9

The Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

It shall be applicable as from 1 January 1997.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

ISSN 0254-1475

COM(96) 460 final

DOCUMENTS

EN 03 10

Catalogue number: CB-CO-96-471-EN-C

ISBN 92-78-09058-1

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities
L-2985 Luxembourg