

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(78) 654 final.

Brussels, 28 November 1978

Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
amending Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 on the common
organization of the market in hops

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(78) 654 final.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Council Regulation (EEC) n° 1696/71 of 26 July 1971 on the common organization of the market in hops lays down in Article 5 that the Commission must recognize the equivalence of attestations accompanying hops and hop products from non-member countries issued by the authorities of the country origin before 31 December 1978, in accordance with the Management Committee procedure.

The experience gained with the procedure for recognizing attestations issued by the authorities of the first countries to have requested this recognition of equivalence shows, however, that for some countries the establishment of the administrative systems and controls necessary to ensure that the required marketing standards are met can take quite a long time.

On the other hand, the development in the world market for hops shows that, in the more or less long-term, new producer and exporter countries are likely to appear. It is probably not in the Community's interest to be unable to recognize the equivalence of attestations from these new countries, as necessary, after 31 December 1978.

This is why the Commission is proposing that the Council remove the date limit ~~for~~ for recognition (31 December, 1978) thereby keeping open the possibility of importing hops from non-member countries which in the future undertake to respect the required marketing standards.

PROPOSAL FOR
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 on the common
organization of the market in hops

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and
in particular Articles 43 and 235 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71¹, as last amended by Regulation
(EEC) No 1170/77², provides that the equivalence to Community certificates of
attestations accompanying hops imported from non-member countries issued by
the authorities of the country of origin must be recognized before 31 December 1978 ;

Whereas at present only a limited number of non-member countries have undertaken
to ensure that the hops they export to the Community are of the required quality
standards and have appointed bodies to issue attestations ; whereas the equiv-
alence of such attestations to Community certificates has been recognized ;

Whereas some non-member countries apparently require more time to set up the
administrative procedures and checks necessary to ensure that the required
standards are met ;

Whereas, moreover, the trend on the world market for hops suggests that new
producer countries will enter the market in the relatively near future ;

¹ OJ No L 175, 4.8.1971, p. 1

² OJ No L 137, 3.6.1977, p. 7

whereas it accordingly seems advisable for the Community to keep open the possibility of recognizing the equivalence of any attestations accompanying products exported by such countries to the Community ; whereas a final date for recognition of the equivalence of attestations should therefore no longer be set,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The last sentence of Article 5 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1696/71 is hereby amended to read as follows :

"The equivalence of such attestations shall be recognized in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 20."

Article 2

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

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

Done at

For the Council

