

REGULATION No 24

on the progressive establishment of a common organisation of the market in wine

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY,

Having regard to the provisions of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas the operation and development of the common market in agricultural products must be accompanied by the establishment of a common agricultural policy to include in particular a common organisation of agricultural markets established product by product;

Whereas there are appreciable divergencies in the wine-growing policies pursued by different Member States at national level, and whereas, irrespective of the policy followed, surpluses of a permanent nature give rise to serious difficulties in the wine-growing economy of certain producer countries;

Whereas wine production constitutes an important item in agricultural income, and whereas the common organisation must aim at stabilising markets and prices by adjusting supplies to requirements, such adjustment being directed in particular towards quality production;

Whereas the necessary steps to bring about this adjustment require that the potential output be known and that the quantity of must and wine available be assessed each year;

Whereas the preparation of a viticultural land register, the introduction of a system of harvest and stock declarations and the compilation of an annual forward estimate should make it possible to obtain the statistical information essential for a knowledge of the market;

Whereas the manner of implementing these measures must be such that the information obtained is comparable at Community level while taking account of the situation peculiar to each Member State;

Whereas it accords with the policy of encouraging quality production that the required characteristics of a quality wine produced in specified regions should be defined;

Whereas, in order to facilitate implementation of the proposed measures, a procedure should be provided for establishing close co-operation between Member States and the Commission within a Management Committee;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Member States shall, not later than 30 June 1963, prepare a viticultural land register which shall thereafter be kept up to date.

This register, based on the general vineyard census, shall include the following minimum information:

- (a) the total area under vines;
- (b) the area under vines subdivided according to type of production;
- (c) the method of management of plantations;
- (d) the classification of vine plantations according to surface area;
- (e) the classification of areas under vines according to age of vine-stocks;
- (f) classification of vine varieties according to year of planting.

Article 2

1. Each year beginning in 1962,
 - (a) producers of must and wine shall declare the quantities they have produced during the year;
 - (b) producers of must and wine, and merchants other than retailers, shall declare their stocks of must and wine, whether from the current year's harvest or from the harvest of preceding years. Must and wine imported from third countries shall be stated separately.
2. So long as the development of the common wine-growing policy does not require stock declarations to be made before the harvest on a date fixed in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 7, the harvest and stock declarations shall be made simultaneously not later than 31 December in each Member State.
3. This provision shall not affect the maintenance in certain States of two different dates, one for stock declarations and the other for harvest declarations, provided that the information collected is adjusted in such a way that its use at Community level remains possible.

Article 3

At the beginning of each year the Commission shall draw up a forward estimate in order to determine the resources and assess the requirements of the Community, including foreseeable imports from and exports to third countries.

Article 4

1. Not later than 31 December 1962 the Council, acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 43 (2) of the Treaty, shall adopt Community rules regarding quality wines produced in specified regions.
2. These Community rules, which should take into account traditional conditions of production so far as these are not such as to prejudice the policy of encouraging quality production and the creation of a single market, shall be based on the following factors:
 - (a) demarcation of the area of production;
 - (b) vine varieties;
 - (c) cultivation methods;
 - (d) wine-making methods;
 - (e) minimum natural alcoholic strength;

- (f) yield per hectare;
- (g) analysis and assessment of organoleptic characteristics.

3. In addition to the above factors, Member States may take into account fair and traditional customs, determine such other conditions of production and characteristics as shall be obligatory for quality wines produced in specified regions.

Article 5

Detailed rules for the application of Articles 1, 2 and 3 shall be adopted, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 7, within six months from the entry into force of this Regulation.

Article 6

1. A Management Committee for Wine (hereinafter called the 'Committee') shall be established, consisting of representatives of Member States and presided over by a representative of the Commission.
2. Within the Committee the votes of Member States shall be weighted in accordance with Article 148 (2) of the Treaty. The Chairman shall not vote.

Article 7

1. Where this Regulation expressly provides for the application of the procedure laid down in this Article, the Chairman shall refer the matter to the Committee either on his own initiative or at the request of the representative of a Member State.
2. The representative of the Commission shall submit a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall deliver its Opinion on such measures within a time limit to be set by the Chairman according to the urgency of the questions under consideration. An Opinion shall be adopted by a majority of twelve votes.
3. The Commission shall adopt measures which shall apply immediately. However, if these measures are not in accordance with the Opinion of the Committee, they shall forthwith be communicated by the Commission to the Council. In that event the Commission may defer application of the measures which it has adopted for not more than one month from the date of such communication.

The Council, acting by a qualified majority, may take a different decision within one month.

Article 8

The Committee may consider any other question referred to it by its Chairman either on his own initiative or at the request of the representative of a Member State.

Article 9

At the end of the transitional period, the Council, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, shall decide in the light of experience whether to retain or amend the provisions of Article 7.

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

Done at Brussels, 4 April 1962.

For the Council

The President

M. COUVE de MURVILLE
