

**Proposal for a Council Decision on the application of aerial-survey and remote-sensing techniques to the agricultural statistics for 1999-2003**

(98/C 372/08)

COM(1998) 601 final — 98/0296(CNS)

(Submitted by the Commission on 11 November 1998)

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,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas Council Decision 94/753/EC of 14 November 1994 on the continued application of remote sensing to agricultural statistics during the period 1994 to 1998 will lapse on 31 December 1998;

Whereas there is an especially felt need to have adequate information on land use and on the condition of crops in the context of new developments in the common agricultural policy and with a view to Union enlargement;

Whereas the detailed rules for implementing the measures contained in Council Decision 94/753/EC should be adjusted and reorganised in the light of the experience gained and the results achieved;

Whereas, in cooperation with the interested Member States, an aerial-survey system should be introduced to collect the necessary data on land use and other variables of interest;

Whereas the agro-meteorological system for forecasting yields and monitoring crop condition is now at the operational stage and should therefore be separated from those measures requiring further research;

Whereas the remote-sensing activities requiring further research and development in the period 1999-2003 are covered by the Fifth Framework Programme in the field of research and development;

Whereas provision should already be made to incorporate where appropriate the developments in methodology that may result from this research into the operational activities covered by this Decision;

Whereas the Commission should be able to delegate, under its supervision, the implementation of these measures to national or Community bodies responsible for the production of agricultural statistics, or bodies recognised by them;

Whereas the statistical measures employing remote-sensing and aerial-survey techniques comply with the principle of subsidiarity and ensure that the Member States and the Commission of the European Communities share responsibility for them and execute them in accordance with criteria of efficiency and feasibility;

Whereas these measures can contribute to improving the Community's statistical tools for conceiving, managing and monitoring the common agricultural policy,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

*Article 1*

The Commission is hereby authorised to apply remote-sensing and aerial-survey techniques to agricultural statistics over a five-year period starting on 1 January 1999. These techniques shall aim in particular to:

- create the tools for collecting data on land use and the other relevant variables needed to implement and monitor the common agricultural policy and analyse the interactions with other Community policies,
- provide acceptable estimates of the areas under the principal crops and their potential production both at European level and in regions of interest to the Community,
- ensure that the condition of crops during the growing period is monitored so that the potential impact on yields and agricultural production can be estimated.

*Article 2*

The Commission shall implement these measures within available funding limits, either directly or in cooperation with the national Community bodies responsible for the production of agricultural statistics or with bodies

recognised by them. In accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 3, the Commission shall report annually to the Member States on the implementing arrangements, the methods used, the utilisation of appropriations, the evaluation of the results and on the way that the work should be conducted in the following year.

### Article 3

1. Where reference to the procedure laid down in this Article is made, the Standing Committee for Agricultural Statistics, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, shall be consulted, either at the initiative of its chairman or at the request of a representative of a Member State.

2. The Commission representative shall present to the Committee a draft of the measures to be taken. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on the draft within a time limit which the chairman may lay down according to the urgency of the matter. Where appropriate, a vote shall be taken.

3. The opinion shall be entered in the summary record. Each Member State shall also have the right to have its individual position entered in the record.

4. The Commission shall take full account of the Committee's opinion. It shall inform the Committee of the way in which it has done so.

### Article 4

By 31 July 2003 at the latest, the Commission shall present a report to Parliament and the Council on the implementation of these measures, including in it any proposals on how remote-sensing and aerial-survey techniques may continue to be used for agricultural statistics.

### Article 5

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

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## Amended proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision amending Decision No 2085/97/EC establishing a programme of support, including translation, in the field of books and reading (Ariane programme) <sup>(1)</sup>

(98/C 372/09)

(Text with EEA relevance)

COM(1998) 608 final — 98/0282(COD)

(Submitted by the Commission pursuant to Article 189a(2) of the EC Treaty on 28 October 1998)

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 319, 16.10.1998, p. 13.

#### ORIGINAL PROPOSAL

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 128 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 189b of the Treaty,

#### AMENDED PROPOSAL

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 128 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 189b of the Treaty,