

Proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) amending Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products

(2000/C 89 E/07)

COM(1999) 608 final — 1999/0246(CNS)

(Submitted by the Commission on 10 December 1999)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Articles 36 and 37 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

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

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

Whereas:

- (1) Article 14 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 ⁽¹⁾ on the common organisation of the market in the milk and milk products sector provides for Community aid for supplying certain milk and milk products to pupils in educational establishments, the stated objective of which is to stimulate the consumption of milk by young people. An evaluation of this measure has shown that the school milk scheme has an impact, albeit limited, on the dairy market balance. The evaluation further underlines that if the measure were withdrawn and the onus for providing subsidised milk to schoolchildren consequently placed on Member States, availability and, thus, consumption of milk products in schools would decrease further. It is therefore in line with the objectives of the common agriculture policy to continue the measure, although with a reduced level of Community aid;
- (2) Moreover, the evaluation mentioned above demonstrates that, besides its impact on the dairy market balance, the measure also plays a role within broader general and health or nutritional objectives. It is therefore appropriate that Member States participate in the financial burden of the measure and that their participation is at least equal to the

amounts borne by the Community. Member States should further have the possibility to finance their part of the measure through a contribution charged against the dairy sector on their territory;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 is replaced by the following:

'Article 14

1. Aid shall be granted for supplying to pupils in educational establishments certain processed milk products falling within CN codes 0401, 0403, 0404 90, 0406 and 2202 90 at a maximum quantity of 0,25 litre of milk equivalent per pupil and per day.
2. In the case of whole milk, the Community's contribution to financing the aid shall be equal to 50% of the target price for milk. In the case of other milk products, it shall be determined taking into account the milk components of the products concerned.
3. Payment of the Community's contribution shall be conditional on Member States making a contribution of an amount at least equal to that of the Community. Member States may finance all or part of their contribution from amounts collected from the dairy sector on their territory.'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh day following that of 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.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.