

Answer given by Mr Papoutsis on behalf of the Commission*(18 September 1997)*

The Commission's initial proposal on rational planning techniques was forwarded to the Council and the Parliament on 14 November 1995. The Commission, on 24 March 1997, submitted an amended proposal ⁽¹⁾, following the opinion of the Parliament adopted on 13 November 1996, which introduced a significant number of amendments proposed by the Parliament.

There was no discussion in the Council on the amended directive under the Dutch presidency. The Luxembourg presidency has, however, included the proposal on the preliminary draft agenda of the Energy Council scheduled for 8 December 1997.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 180, 14.6.1997.

(98/C 82/203)

WRITTEN QUESTION P-2664/97**by Sérgio Ribeiro (GUE/NGL) to the Commission***(25 July 1997)*

Subject: Reform of the CAP and aid to arable crops

According to various reports, the Commission has estimated at ECU 8.5 million the overpayments made to the European Union's cereal sector in the context of compensatory aid based on the reform of the CAP.

Would the Commission clarify the matter by providing the following information:

1. the data used and calculations made to arrive at this figure;
2. the estimated overpayments:
 - by Member State
 - according to size and location of holdings.

Answer given by Mr Fischler on behalf of the Commission*(5 September 1997)*

1. The Commission has forwarded to Parliament the working paper ⁽¹⁾ which estimates the over-compensation paid to cereal producers in relation to the targets of the July 1992 reform at approximately ECU 8 500 million. Since the Commission has opted for a global approach to the matter, this amount should be seen as an order of magnitude rather than a specific figure.

2. The Commission has made an overall analysis for the Community as a whole rather than detailed analyses for the Member States or the different types of holdings.

⁽¹⁾ SEC(97) 1183.

(98/C 82/204)

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2670/97**by Jyrki Otila (PPE) to the Commission***(1 September 1997)*

Subject: Aid to the audiovisual sector

Since 1996, the EU's cultural policy has been based on four main programmes: Kaleidoscope, Ariane, Raphael and Media II. Media II is intended to promote the development of European audiovisual works and their dissemination inside and outside the European Union.

Why are radio programmes excluded from Media II? What will the Commission do to arrange for their inclusion in Media II in accordance with the above heading?