II

(Preparatory Acts)

COMMISSION

Proposal for a Council Directive amending for the seventeenth time Directive 64/54/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorized for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption

(Submitted by the Commission to the Council on 3 December 1981)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 100 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,

Whereas Council Directive 64/54/EEC (1), as last amended by Directive 81/214/EEC (2), lays down a list of preservatives authorized for the protection of foodstuffs intended for human consumption against deterioration caused by microorganisms;

Whereas potassium bisulphite has application in wine production as an alternative to other sulphites already permitted by the Directive, and therefore should be added to the list under E 225;

Whereas, without prejudice to future general Community rules on the surface treatment of fruit, in order to remove any uncertainty about the acceptability of thiabendazole (E 233), the deadline for its permitted use should be removed;

Whereas natamycin has proved to have technological advantages in the protection of certain cheeses and sausages against fungi and to assist in the prevention of any potential development of mycotoxins;

Whereas the data on the safety of natamycin permit these restricted food uses and whereas therefore the substance be added to the list under E 235,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The Annex to Directive 64/54/EEC is hereby amended as follows:

1. The following is inserted between the entries relating to E 224 and E 226

EEC No	Name	Conditions of use
E 225	Potassium bisulphite	

2. Under E 233 in the column 'Conditions of use', paragraph (c) is deleted.

3. The following is inserted between the entries relating to E 233 and E 236

(1) OJ No 12, 27. 1. 1964, p. 161/64.
(2) OJ No L 101, 11. 4. 1981, p. 10.

EEC No	Name	Conditions of use
E 235	Natamycin	For the surface treatment of the rind of whole, semi-hard or hard, pressed cheese and for the casings of sausages requiring maturation before marketing provided that the natamycin will not be present in the cheese or sausage at the time of sale at a depth greater than 5 mm and that the residues expressed in relation to the surface area of the rind or casing do not exceed 1 mg/dm^2

Article 2

Member States shall bring into force not later than 31 December 1982 the laws, regulations or administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive and shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

Article 3

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.