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Conformément au règlement (CEE, Euratom) n° 354/83 du Conseil du 1er février 1983 concernant l'ouverture au public des archives historiques de la Communauté économique européenne et de la Communauté européenne de l'énergie atomique (JO L 43 du 15.2.1983, p. 1), tel que modifié par le règlement (CE, Euratom) n° 1700/2003 du 22 septembre 2003 (JO L 243 du 27.9.2003, p. 1), ce dossier est ouvert au public. Le cas échéant, les documents classifiés présents dans ce dossier ont été déclassifiés conformément à l'article 5 dudit règlement.

In accordance with Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1), as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1700/2003 of 22 September 2003 (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 1), this file is open to the public. Where necessary, classified documents in this file have been declassified in conformity with Article 5 of the aforementioned regulation.

In Übereinstimmung mit der Verordnung (EWG, Euratom) Nr. 354/83 des Rates vom 1. Februar 1983 über die Freigabe der historischen Archive der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Europäischen Atomgemeinschaft (ABl. L 43 vom 15.2.1983, S. 1), geändert durch die Verordnung (EG, Euratom) Nr. 1700/2003 vom 22. September 2003 (ABl. L 243 vom 27.9.2003, S. 1), ist diese Datei der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich. Soweit erforderlich, wurden die Verschlussachen in dieser Datei in Übereinstimmung mit Artikel 5 der genannten Verordnung freigegeben.

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

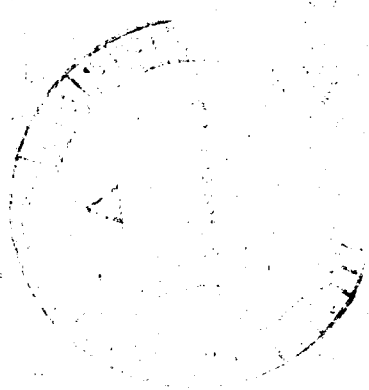
COM(78) 650 final

Brussels, 27 November 1978

Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

extending Council Regulation No 3310/75 on agriculture
in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)



COM(78) 650 final

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. It is laid down in Article 2 of Council Regulation (EEC) N° 541/70¹ of 20 March 1970 on agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg that the provisions of the second subparagraph of Article 1(1) of the Protocol on the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg are to remain applicable until full harmonization of specific duties on wine in the Community is achieved.

The second subparagraph of Article 1(1) of the Protocol referred to above lays down that Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Netherlands should apply the system provided for in the third paragraph of Article 6 of the Convention on the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg of 25 July 1921.

The second paragraph of Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) n° 541/70 lays down that if such harmonization is not achieved, and in any event not later than 31 December 1973, the Council shall, acting by a qualified majority on a proposal from the Commission, decide to what extent these provisions must be retained amended or abolished.

Article 1 of Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3535/73² of 17 December 1973 extends this period until 31.12.1974.

Article 1 of Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3192/74³ of 17 December 1974 extends this period until 31 December 1975.

Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3310/75⁴ of 16 December 1975 extends this period as long as the excise duties charged in the Benelux countries on products falling within sub-headings Nos 22.05 CI or II of the Common Customs Tariff do not exceed the level in force on 1 January 1975, but in any event not later than 31 December 1976.

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¹OJ N° L 68, 25.3.1970 p. 3

²OJ N° L 361, 29.12.1973 p. 1

³OJ N° L 341, 20.12.1974 p. 6

⁴OJ N° L 328, 20.12.1975 p. 14

It provides that, should these excise duties be increased in whatever form it may be in one or another Benelux country, the tax exemption accorded on the market of concerned countries to Luxembourg wines may not exceed the degree of exemption in force on 1 January 1975.

This provision, which is in accordance with the Commission's Recommendation to the Member States¹ on taxation of wine, aims at assuring that the commercial advantage held on 1.1.1975, by Luxembourg wines on the market of the Benelux countries is not increased. An increase of this kind could cause a distortion of competition which would not be compatible with the proper functioning of the common market in agriculture.

Article 1 of Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3166/76² of 21.12.76 retains provisions of Council Reg. (EEC) N° 3310/75 until 31.12.77.

Article 1 of Council Regulation (EEC) N° 2875/77³ of 19.12.77 retains provisions of Council Reg. (EEC) N° 3310/75 until 31.12.78.

¹ OJ N° L 2, 7.01.1976

² OJ N° L 357, 28.12.1976 p. 13

³ OJ N° L 332, 11.12.1977, p. 3

2. With regard to specific duties, the Commission proposed to the Council a directive¹ on the harmonization of the excise duties on wine. The Council has not yet taken a decision on this matter, however.
3. In 1970, The Council adopted Regulation (EEC) N° 816/70² laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine, including a system of intervention for table wines. However the maintenance of the more favourable system on the Benelux market for wine originating in Luxembourg will continue over the next few years to be of benefit to the agricultural income of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in the sector concerned.
This system has not created any appreciable barrier to the free movement of wines of other origins in the Benelux countries. On the contrary, the absorption capacity of those markets is constantly on the increase.
4. Belgium and the Netherlands having put into effect, in 1976, a special excise duty on wine concerned, it is proposed that the exceptional system provided in the second sub-paragraph of Article 1 (1) of the protocol should be extended until 31 December 1979 , while maintaining above mentioned provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3310/75 of 16 December 1975.

¹ OJ N° C 43, 27.04.1972

² OJ N° L 99, 5.05.1970

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
extending Council Regulation N° 3310/75 on
agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community ;

Having regard to the Protocol on the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg ;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) N° 541/70 of 20 March 1970 on
agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg¹ ;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3310/75² of 16 December 1975
on agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg as last amended by Regula-
tion (EEC) N° 2875/77³ and in particular the first paragraph of Article
2 thereof ;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ;

Whereas, under the second subparagraph of Article 1(1) of the Protocol on
the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Belgium and the Netherlands are to apply
the system provided for in the third paragraph of Article 6 of the Conven-
tion on the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxembourg of 25 July 1921 ;
whereas Regulations (EEC) N° 541/70, (EEC) N° 3535/73⁴, (EEC) N° 3192/74⁵,
(EEC) N° 3310/75, (EEC) N° 3166/76⁶ and (EEC) N° 2875/77

provide that such system is to remain applicable until full harmonization
of specific duties on wine in the Community is achieved, but not beyond
31 December 1976 ; whereas, however, the Council has to decide to what
extent these provisions should be retained, amended or discontinued ;

¹OJ N° L 68, 25.03.1970, p. 3

²OJ N° L 328, 20.12.1975, p. 12

³OJ N° L 332, 24.12.1977, p. 3

⁴OJ N° L 361, 29.12.1973, p. 1

⁵OJ N° L 341, 20.12.1974, p. 6

whereas at the present time the harmonization of specific duties on wine in the Community has not been achieved ; whereas the application of the said system in favour of Luxembourg wines will continue to be of benefit to the agricultural income of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in the sector concerned.

Whereas having regard to the other reasons set out in Regulation (EEC) N° 541/70 and 3310/75, this latter Council Regulation should now be extended,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

In the first paragraph of Article 2 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3310/75 of 16 December 1975 on agriculture in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, the date '31 December 1978' is replaced by '31 December 1979'.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1979.

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

Done at Brussels

For the Council

The President