

COUNCIL OF THE THE EUROPEAN UNION

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ADDENDUM TO THE "I/A" ITEM NOTE

from: General Secretariat of the Council

to: SCA / COUNCIL

No. Cion prop.: 17672/10 AGRI 543 CODEC 1492

Subject: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on

agricultural product quality schemes (first reading)

- Adoption of the legislative act (LA + S)

=Statements

COMMON GUIDELINES

Consultation deadline: 5.11.2012

Council statement

The Council has noted the importance the European Parliament attaches to the extension of the system for management of production of PDO and PGI cheese to other PDO and PGI products.

The Council commits itself to discuss the issue of the management of the supply of PDO and PGI products in the context of its negotiations with the European Parliament on the Commission CAP reform proposal on the Single CMO which includes provision for instruments to regulate supply on agricultural markets.

Statement by the German delegation

Germany endorses and supports the proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council on quality schemes for agricultural products. In this regard, Germany also welcomes, in principle, the schemes regarding the introduction of a label "mountain product".

In Germany, the processing of mountain products is, as a rule, conducted outside of the defined mountain areas. The reason for this is the better location along the transport routes in the regions concerned. This allows the processing establishments to process the products manufactured by several mountain farmers. This results in cost advantages for the processing establishments that, with a view to promoting the production of quality products in mountain areas, allows the disbursement of higher producer prices to mountain farmers.

Against this backdrop, Germany underlines the authorisation of the European Commission provided for in Art. 31 (3) of the Regulation to grant exemptions for the processing of products in mountain areas through a delegated act in duly justified cases and so as to take account of natural constraints.

Germany requests the European Commission to make use of this authorisation.

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