COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(92) 384 final

Brussels, 11 September 1992

Proposal for a

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands)

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Pursuant to Council Directive 88/403/EEC,[1] 48 217 ha, or 1.4% of the area of the Netherlands, is classified under Article 3(5) of Council Directive 75/268/EEC[2] as less-favoured agricultural areas affected by specific handicaps.

This application concerns a further 62 698 ha, which will increase the classified area to 110 915 ha, or 3.3% of the national territory.

Introduction of a compensatory allowance in the new areas will increase expenditure from the EAGGF Guidance Section by ECU 1.24 million per year (see details in annexed financial statement).

Most of the 6 877 holdings in these areas produce milk so that classification can be expected to reduce revenue from the co-responsibility levy by ECU 760 000 only for the milkyear 1992.

1 OJ No L 195, 23.7.1988, p. 72.
2 OJ No L 128, 19.5.1975, p. 1.

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 1992

amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Decision 75/268/EEC of 28 April 1975 on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas[1], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2328/91,[2] and in particular Article 2(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission[3],

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament[4],

Whereas Directive 75/275/EEC[5], as last amended by Commission Decision 88/403/EEC,[6] specifies the areas in the Netherlands which appear in the Community list of less-favoured areas within the meaning of Article 3(5) of Directive 75/268/EEC;

Whereas the Netherlands Government has requested, pursuant to Article 2(1) of Directive 75/268/EEC, an amendment to the list annexed to Directive 75/275/EEC in accordance with the annex to this Directive;

(1) OJ No L 128, 19.5.1975, p.1.
(2) OJ No L 218, 6.8.1991, p.1.
(3) OJ
(4) OJ
(5) OJ No L 273, 24.9.1986, p.04.
(6) OJ No L 195, 23.7.1988, p.72.

Whereas the new areas to appear in the list comply with the criteria and the figures applied pursuant to Directive 75/275/EEC for the purposes of determining the areas concerned within the meaning of Article 3(5) of Directive 75/268/EEC;

Whereas, for the definition of the areas affected by specific handicaps referred to in Article 3(5) of Directive 75/268/EEC, the criteria for island areas were the existence of unfavourable natural conditions (high winds, excessive local salinity, low potential and poor drainage) and constraints arising from the need to preserve landscapes and maintain the rural environment and the tourist nature of the area in question;

Whereas the aggregate total area concerned does not exceed 4% of the entire area of the Netherlands,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The Annex to Directive 75/275/EEC is hereby replaced by the Annex attached hereto.

Article 2

This Directive is addressed to the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

ANNEX

Less-favoured areas within the meaning of Article 3(5) of Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands)

Province	No of areas	Area (UAA)
Groningen	13	3 883
Friesland	39	18 901
Drenthe	21	6 810
Overijssel	30	11 534
Gelderland	32	25 353
Flevoland	-	-
Utrecht	23	5 983
Noord-Holland	24	9 253
Zuid-Holland	20	9 154
Zeeland	16	2 484
Noord-Brabant	23	9 367
Limburg	11	8.193
TOTAL	252	110 915

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
concerning

Proposal for a Council Directive amending Directive 75/275/EEC concerning the Community list of less-favoured farming areas within the meaning of Directive 75/268/EEC (Netherlands)

1. Budget heading (1992 nomenclature)

B2-1012: Objective 5(a) (differentiated appropriations).

2. Legal basis: Article 43 of the Treaty.

3. Description of the measure:

Increase in less-favoured areas by applying appropriate current criteria.
The population concerned by this increase is the rural population of these areas.

4. Classification of expenditure: Non-compulsory

5. Nature of expenditure: Part-financing of eligible expenditure at the rate of 25% on the basis of current rules.

6. Financial impact on appropriations for assistance

6.1 Method of calculation of total cost

The increase in the areas will increase the number of LU's receiving a premium and hence expenditure under the compensatory allowance calculated as follows: 62 000 LU x ECU 80/LU x 25% = ECU 1.24 million per year.

6.2 Indicative schedule of commitment and payment appropriations

Year	Commitment and payment appropriations (ECU million)
1992	-
1993	1.24
1994	1.24
1995	1.24
1996	1.24
1997	1.24
Total 1993-97	6.20

COST/EFFECTIVENESS ANALYSIS

Objectives and purpose of the measure

The areas which it is intended to classify as less-favoured and mountain and hill areas have been selected on the basis of the criteria currently in force under Directive 75/275/EEC.

The request by the Netherlands does not alter these criteria but proposes classification of the areas concerned.

The Commission is required to consider this request in the light of the criteria and forward it to the Council. There is no alternative course of action and it is not strictly speaking a new measure.

Consistency with financial programming

In 1993 the measure can be financed from appropriations in the 1993 preliminary draft budget.

In future years the expenditure will have to be taken into consideration in the new framework to be adopted for 1994-97.

Monitoring and assessment of the measure

Since the measure involves structural assistance, Articles 25 and 26 of Regulation (EEC) No 4235/88 apply.

ISSN 0254-1475

COM(92) 384 final

DOCUMENTS

EN **03**

Catalogue number : CB-CO-92-404-EN-C

ISBN 92-77-47528-5

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities
L-2985 Luxembourg