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COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 1615/89
of 29 May 1989
establishing a European Forestry Information and Communication System (Efics)

(OJ L 165, 15.6.1989, p. 12)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
►**M1**	Council Regulation (EC) No 400/94 of 21 February 1994	L 54	5	25.2.1994
►**M2**	Council Regulation (EC) No 1100/98 of 25 May 1998	L 157	10	30.5.1998

NB: This consolidated version contains references to the European unit of account and/or the ecu, which from 1 January 1999 should be understood as references to the euro — Council Regulation (EEC) No 3308/80 (OJ L 345, 20.12.1980, p. 1) and Council Regulation (EC) No 1103/97 (OJ L 162, 19.6.1997, p. 1).

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COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 1615/89

of 29 May 1989

establishing a European Forestry Information and Communication System (Efics)

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 213 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission [1],

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament [2],

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee [3],

Whereas the implementation and monitoring of Regulations (EEC) No 1609/89, (EEC) No 1610/89, (EEC) No 1611/89 and (EEC) No 1612/89, of Decision 89/367/EEC and of Regulations (EEC) No 1613/89 and (EEC) No 1614/89 [4] on measures relating to the forestry sector call for detailed, consistent and comparable information on the situation of and developments in that sector in the Community;

Whereas the forestry data available at Community level is incomplete and covers only part of the information necessary for taking consistent forestry measures; whereas, however, a considerable amount of information already exists in many Member States and this should be collected and made comparable; whereas to that end there should be an appropriate system for the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of the information;

Whereas such data must cover not only the present situation of woodlands and their structure and the production and consumption of wood but also developments in the afforestation of agricultural land, the forestry situation in the various regions of the Community and a description of the exploitation, processing and marketing of forestry products;

Whereas it is necessary to grant assistance to certain Member States or regions to help them to compile data or improve the availability of comparable data which can be used at Community level;

Whereas the setting-up of this system require close cooperation between the Commission and the Member States, and in particular assistance from the relevant bodies within the Member States, in order to facilitate access to the data;

Whereas in addition to meeting the Community's requirements the system should facilitate the implementation of decisions taken at national and regional level concerning the forestry sector and thereby improve knowledge of that sector at all levels;

Whereas the system must be set up taking account of existing information systems at Community level in order to ensure complementarity and achieve consistency and comparability in data collected in the Member States.

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(1) OJ No C 312, 7. 12. 1988, p. 14.
(2) Opinion delivered on 26 May 1989 (not yet published in the Official Journal).
(3) OJ No C 139, 5. 6. 1989, p. 15.
(4) See pages 1, 3, 5, 6, 14, 8 and 10 respectively, of this Official Journal.

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HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

▼M2

Article 1

In order to collect and provide objective, reliable, comparable and pertinent information on the structure and operation of the forestry sector in the Community, and thus:

— improve consideration of the interests of the forestry sector in international discussions,

— facilitate the implementation of measures in favour of the forestry sector under existing Community policies,

— facilitate implementation of Member States' policies relating to forestry or having an impact on the forestry sector,

— permit access by the general public to information on the European forestry sector,

a European forestry information and communication system (EFICS), hereinafter called 'the System', is hereby set up, the objective of which is to collect, coordinate, standardise, process and disseminate information concerning the forestry sector and its development.

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Article 2

The System shall take account of existing data, and in particular statistics compiled by the Statistical Office of the European Communities, and shall make use of information available in the Member States, in particular data contained in national forestry inventories, and of any database accessible at Community and international level.

The data collected shall be published subject to its conformity with the rules of the Commission and the Member States governing information disclosure, specifically with regard to the confidentiality of statistics.

▼M2

Article 3

The Commission shall set up the System in close cooperation with the Member States and international bodies active in the field of European forestry statistics during a period commencing 1 January 1989 and ending on 31 December 2002.

To improve the comparability and completeness of the data at the European level, implementation of the System may require that Member States, after obtaining the opinion of the Standing Forestry Committee set up by Decision 89/367/EEC [1], adjust or supplement their procedures for the collection of data, in particular where the evaluation of forestry resources and the monitoring of the timber and forestry products market are concerned.

The Commission shall, where appropriate, support measures undertaken by Member States and international organisations such as the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and the Economic Commission for Europe and intended to meet the specific requirements for setting up the System.

Article 3a

1. The Commission shall present to the Standing Forestry Committee a work-programme detailing the measures which shall be taken by Member States and the Commission with a view to establishing the System.

2. The Committee shall deliver its opinion on the work-programme within a time limit to be fixed by its chairman on the basis of the urgency of the matter in question. The opinion shall be by a majority as

[1] OJ L 165, 15. 6. 1989, p. 14.

▼**M2**

provided for in Article 148(2) of the Treaty for the adoption of decisions which the Council is requested to take on a proposal from the Commission. Member States' votes in the Committee shall be weighted as set out in the said Article. The chairman shall not have a vote.

3. (a) The Commission shall adopt the envisaged measures where they are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee.

(b) Where the envisaged measures are not in accordance with the opinion of the Committee, or in the absence of an opinion, the Commission shall present the Council without delay with a proposal on the measures to be taken. The Council shall decide on the proposal by qualified majority.

If the Council has failed to adopt the measures within a period of three months of being asked to do so, the Commission shall adopt the proposed measures and implement them immediately.

Article 4

The financial reference amount for implementing the System shall be ECU 3 900 000 for the period 1989 to 2002.

The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the available budget.

Article 5

The Commission shall report to the Council, before 1 January 2003, with an assessment of the implementation of the System and the results obtained. In the light of that report it shall, where necessary, make proposals to the Council on the future organisation and operation of the System.

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Article 6

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

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