



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DIRECTORATE GENERAL III
INDUSTRY

Directorate B: legislation and standardization; telematics networks
Unit III/B-2: standardization

M/072

STUDY MANDATE TO CEN FOR A PROPOSAL REGARDING INCLUSION OF ORGANO-MINERAL FERTILISERS INTO ANNEXES OF DIRECTIVE 76/116/EEC

I. MOTIVATION.

The fertiliser field encompasses not only mineral fertilisers based on nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium of strictly origin produced in large works and designated "chemical" fertilisers but also fertilisers in which nitrogen and other nutrient elements originate from organic products.

The CEN, taking into account the existence and sale of these organic products in all european countries, has initiated a study of the existing and proposed to have either a definition/specification standard or that these products be incorporated into an EEC directive.

Since it is a longstanding proposal of the Commission to consider the "organics" part of the fertiliser trade and its possible developments, the subject has been put last year on the agenda of the Working Party "Chemical fertilisers, elimination of barriers to trade" established to adapt directive 76/116/EEC to technical progress, and is being actively progressed on the basis of the CEN study.

The logical follow-up of the work now underway in Working Party "Chemical fertilisers, elimination of barriers to trade" concerning "organic" fertilisers is to consider the possible combination of "mineral" and "organic" fertilisers to obtain "organo-mineral" fertilisers. These exist and are already regulated in European Countries, on national level, under the generic name of "organo-minerals".

The present study mandate is therefore designed to obtain a written proposal from CEN regarding "organo-mineral" fertilisers, structured along the existing lines of directive 76/116/EEC, to be considered by the Working Party "Chemical fertilisers, elimination of barriers to trade" for inclusion into the annexes of the directive.

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE MANDATED WORK.

CEN is requested to provide a technical report on organo-mineral fertilisers taking into account existing national regulations and the "Guide to drawing up a technical dossier for applications for registration of new fertilisers".

This report will contain :

- a proposal for individual products to be included into directive 76/116/EEC annexes, in the form of existing directive 76/116/EEC annexes
- a general note concerning parameters relevant to the choice of different items proposed stressing efficiency and innocuity/safety
- a summary of problems encountered, which should be considered during discussions in the Working Party "fertilisers".

III. EXECUTION OF THE MANDATE.

CEN shall involve the services of the Commission, and other interested parties, in all aspects of the execution of the work.

The final report will be given to the Commission 12 months after acceptance of the mandate.