European Commission

Committees

Explanatory Meeting on the Acquis - Chapter 12

These slides accompany the explanation of the acquis to Albania and North Macedonia and can only be used for that purpose. Their content is subject to further development of the acquis and interpretation by the Court of Justice of the European Union

18-22 February 2019

DG SANTE Unit D3

Food Safety

Principles (1)

Under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, primary responsibility for implementing EU law lies with EU countries.

However, where uniform conditions for implementation are needed, the EU act in question will confer implementing powers on the Commission – or, exceptionally, the EU Council.

Principles (2)

Comitology applies when the Commission has been granted implementing powers by a particular EU legal act which has also provided for the Commission to be assisted by a committee.

How does it work ?(1)

The comitology regulation (182/2011) lays down 2 different procedures to be used for the adoption of implementing measures by the Commission:

examination procedure

advisory procedure

How does it work ? (2)

examination procedure – used especially for (i) measures with general scope and (ii) measures with a potentially important impact (e.g. in taxation or EU agricultural policy)

advisory procedure – generally used for all other implementing measures.

How does it work ? (3)

Both procedures require an opinion to be issued by a committee of representatives from every EU country (chaired by the Commission).

The Commission proposes certain measures to implement the legal act in question and the committee issues its opinion, generally by vote.

Committees in chapter 12

- Regulation (EC) No 178/2002: Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed

- Council Decision 1977/505/EEC: Standing Committee on Zootechnics

What do you need to do ?

No immediate decision is necessary.

Decide whether your representatives will attend on a case by case basis

or

Representatives in the Permanent Representation of your country

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