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COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 20 December 1968

making a fourth amendment to the Council Directive on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorised for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption

(68/420/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 100 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas, pursuant to Articles 5 (a) and 11 (2) of the Council Directive of 5 November 1963[1] on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the preservatives authorised for use in foodstuffs intended for human consumption, as last amended by the Council Directive of 27 June 1967,[2] Member States must, not later than four years after notification of that Directive, prohibit the use of certain preservatives; whereas this prohibition must take effect before the end of one further year;

Whereas it has not as yet been possible to terminate scientific and technical research on the above-mentioned preservatives and an additional period is required in order to complete this research;

Whereas it is therefore necessary to authorise the Member States concerned to suspend application of the prohibition on the use of those preservatives so that, in the interim, all the information needed for their assessment may be obtained;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

The following sentence shall be added to Article 11 (2) of the Council Directive of 5 November 1963:

'However, in such case, application of the amended laws may be deferred until 1 January 1972.'

Article 2

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 20 December 1968.

For the Council

The President

V. LATTANZIO

[1] OJ No 12, 27.1.1964, p. 161/64.
[2] OJ No 148, 11.7.1967, p. 1.