



ADOPTED TEXT No. **823**
Provisional Act

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

CONSTITUTION OF 4 OCTOBER 1958

FIFTEENTH LEGISLATURE

2021-2022 ORDINARY SESSION

9 April 2022

EUROPEAN RESOLUTION

*aimed at protecting the French
aromatic and medicinal plants sector.*

*Is considered a final, pursuant to Article 151-7 of the Rules of
Procedure, the resolution which reads as follows:*

See numbers: **1485**.

Single article

The National Assembly,

Having regard to Article 88-4 of the Constitution,

Having regard to Article 151-5 of the Rules of Procedure of the National Assembly,

Having regard to Article 38 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No. 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No. 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on the classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No. 1907/2006,

Having regard to the European Green Deal,

Having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on a Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability “Towards a toxic free environment” (COM[2020] 667 final),

Having regard to the conclusions of the Council of the European Union of 15 March 2021 on “The chemicals strategy for sustainability: time to act”,

Considering the contribution of lavender and lavender essential oil production and, beyond that, that of all aromatic and medicinal plants, to the local economy in terms of employment and growth;

Considering the heritage character and the tourist attraction of lavender growing in Provence;

Considering that the essential oils sector in France is mainly composed of small and medium-sized companies that cannot assume the costs of adapting to a new regulation on their own;

Considering that French lavender growing, which is known for the quality of its products, is facing increasing international competition;

Considering that essential lavender oil, like other essential oils, has found its place and adapted to the REACH regulation with the support of the public authorities;

Considering that for the majority of essential oil producers, the application of the REACH regulation to their production dates from 2018 and the next revision would take effect in 2025, less than ten years later;

Considering that the adaptation of the essential oils sector to the REACH regulation has cost 1.2 million euros and could only be achieved with the support of the public authorities;

Considering that essential oils are a natural product whose coverage by the REACH regulation is justified in view of the complexity of these substances and their many possible uses;

Considering that the average production volume of the farms does not exceed one ton and that the production of essential oils below one ton is not subject to the REACH regulation;

Considering the risks for the production sector that could result from an increase in regulatory constraints on the production of essential lavender oil;

1. Welcomes the adoption of the European Green Deal and the European Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability to improve the safety of chemicals for consumers and the environment;

2. Welcomes the Government's decision to create an interministerial committee for the protection of essential oils, which brings together the stakeholders in this field and should make it possible to clarify their expectations with a view to the future revision of the REACH regulation;

3. Invites the European Commission and national governments to inform professional groups as soon as possible when revisions to European regulations are likely to give rise to costs that could destabilize a production sector;

4. Suggests that, in the context of the revision of Regulation (EC) No. 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 referred to above, the non-labelling of bottles of essential oil sold at retail level should be guaranteed;

5. Suggests that the exemption from the REACH regulation for production of less than one ton per legal entity should be preserved;

6. Calls on the European Union not to call into question in the REACH Regulation the existence of a special production category of one to ten tons per legal entity and, under this condition, not to exclude essential oils from the application of the REACH Regulation;

7. Invites the European Union, under these circumstances, to maintain the existence of two separate categories for productions of one to ten tons, and from ten to one hundred tons;

8. Requests that producers belonging to the category of production of one to ten tons of essential oil per legal entity be exempted from the new requirements planned under the revision of the REACH Regulation;

9. Calls on the EU to clarify the levels of requirements imposed on the three substance sub-categories of low concern, medium concern, and high concern that would be created under the revision of the REACH Regulation;

10. Invites the European Union and the French Government to put in place transitional measures, staggered and adapted to the French essential oils sector in the context of a revision of the REACH and CLP regulations.

Paris, 9 April 2022.

President,
Signed: RICHARD FERRAND

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