

COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

of 27 November 1989

amending Directive 80/181/EEC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to units of measurement

(89/617/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

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

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾,In cooperation with the European Parliament ⁽²⁾,Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee ⁽³⁾,Whereas Directive 80/181/EEC ⁽⁴⁾, as amended by Directive 85/1/EEC ⁽⁵⁾, provides for a definitive date to be fixed for the use of the legal imperial units of measurement listed in Chapter III of the Annex thereto; whereas, for some imperial units and for specific uses, it has appeared necessary to allow the Member States concerned to fix the appropriate date until which those units are legal units of measurement;

Whereas Article 3 (5) of Directive 80/181/EEC allows new final dates to be set for the use of supplementary indications,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

Article 1

Directive 80/181/EEC is hereby amended as follows:

1. In Article 1, points (b) and (c) shall be replaced by the following:

- '(b) those listed in Chapter II of the Annex only in those Member States where they were authorized on 21 April 1973 and until a date to be fixed by those States;
- (c) those listed in Chapter III of the Annex only in those Member States where they were authorized on 21 April 1973 and until a date to be fixed by those States. This date may not be later than 31 December 1994;
- (d) those listed in Chapter IV of the Annex only in those Member States where they were authorized on 21 April 1973 and until a date to be fixed by those States. This date may not be later than 31 December 1999.'

2. In Article 3:

- in paragraph 2, '31 December 1989' shall be replaced by '31 December 1999';
- paragraph 5 shall be deleted.

3. In Article 5, '1 March 1974' shall be replaced by '15 May 1983'.

4. In Article 6 the second subparagraph shall be deleted.

5. The Annex shall be amended as follows:

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 31, 7. 2. 1989, p. 7.

⁽²⁾ OJ No C 120, 16. 5. 1989, p. 73;
OJ No C 291, 20. 11. 1989.

⁽³⁾ OJ No C 159, 26. 6. 1989, p. 3.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ No L 39, 15. 2. 1980, p. 40.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ No L 2, 3. 1. 1985, p. 11.

- (a) Chapter II shall be replaced by the following :

'CHAPTER II

LEGAL UNITS OF MEASUREMENT REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 1 (b), PERMITTED FOR SPECIFIC USES ONLY

Field of application	Unit		
	Name	Approximate value	Symbol
Road traffic signs, distance and speed measurement	mile	1 mile = 1 609 m	mile
	yard	1 yd = 0,9144 m	yd
	foot	1 ft = 0,3048 m	ft
	inch	1 in = $2,54 \times 10^{-2}$ m	in
Dispense of draught beer and cider ; milk in returnable containers	pint	1 pt = $0,5683 \times 10^{-3}$ m ³	pt
Land registration	acre	1 ac = 4 047 m ²	ac
Transaction in precious metals	troy ounce	1 oz tr = $31,10 \times 10^{-3}$ kg	oz tr

Until the date to be fixed under Article 1 (b), the units listed in this Chapter may be combined with each other or with those in Chapter I to form compound units.'

- (b) the unit 'fathom' shall be deleted from Chapter III.
 (c) The following Chapter shall be added :

CHAPTER IV

LEGAL UNITS OF MEASUREMENT REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 1 (d), PERMITTED IN SPECIALIZED FIELDS ONLY

Field of application	Unit		
	Name	Approximate value	Symbol
Marine navigation	fathom	1 fm = 1,829 m	fm
Beer, cider, waters, lemonades and fruit juices in returnable containers	pint	1 pt = $0,5683 \times 10^{-3}$ m ³	pt
	fluid ounce	1 fl oz = $28,41 \times 10^{-6}$ m ³	fl. oz
Spirit drinks	gill	1 gill = $0,142 \times 10^{-3}$ m ³	gill
Goods sold loose in bulk	ounce (avoir dupois)	1 oz = $28,35 \times 10^{-3}$ kg	oz
	pound	1 lb = 0,4536 kg	lb
Gas supply	therm	1 therm = $105,506 \times 10^6$ J	therm

Until the date to be fixed under Article 1 (d), the units listed in this Chapter may be combined with each other or with those in Chapter I to form compound units.'

Article 2

Member States shall bring into force the laws, regulations and administrative provisions necessary to comply with this Directive within 24 months of its notification at the latest (1).

The shall forthwith inform the Commission thereof.

(1) This Directive was notified to Member States on 30 November 1989.

Article 3

Notwithstanding Directive 80/181/EEC, Member States shall, after 31 December 1989, authorize or continue to permit the use of the supplementary indications referred to in Article 3 of that Directive.

Article 4

This Directive is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 27 November 1989.

For the Council

The President

R. DUMAS
