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(Acts adopted pursuant to Title VI of the Treaty on European Union)

JOINT POSITION

of 29 March 1999

defined by the Council on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, on the proposed United Nations convention against organised crime

(1999/235/JHA)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Articles K.3(2) and K.5 thereof,

Recognising the importance of judicial cooperation in criminal matters and of police cooperation for the purposes of preventing and combating all serious forms of international crime, as provided for in Article K.1 of the Treaty,

Whereas the Member States regard the combating of organised crime as a matter of common interest;

Whereas the European Council meeting in Amsterdam in June 1997 approved the Action Plan of the High-Level Group on Organised Crime which contains extensive proposals for strengthening the fight against organised crime;

Whereas account must be taken of the measures that have already been adopted by the European Union or are in the course of preparation or adoption for the purpose of implementing that Action Plan and, in particular, Joint Action 98/733/JHA of 21 December 1998 on making it a criminal offence to participate in a criminal organisation in the Member States of the European Union⁽¹⁾;

Whereas arrangements have been made for the development and negotiation of a United Nations convention to combat organised crime;

Whereas the Council in its Conclusions of 5 October 1998 requested the Presidency to propose one or several Joint Positions, in accordance with Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union, in relation to the draft United Nations convention and its protocols;

Whereas it is desired to contribute as fully as possible to the negotiation of the proposed convention and to avoid incompatibility between the proposed convention and instruments drawn up in the Union,

HAS DEFINED THIS JOINT POSITION:

Article 1

1. Member States shall support the drawing up of the proposed United Nations convention against organised crime and any possible protocols. Member States shall advocate the inclusion in the draft convention of provisions which will facilitate to the maximum extent possible the effective prevention, prosecution and investigation of organised crime.

2. Member States shall ensure that the provisions of the draft convention relating to the obligation to criminalise particular activities are consistent in particular with Articles 1 and 2 of Joint Action 98/733/JHA.

3. Insofar as the other provisions of the draft convention are concerned, it should apply as broadly as possible to the activities of criminal organisations and to international cooperation for combating such organisations. In principle, the relevant provisions of the draft convention should encompass the activities of persons, acting in concert with a view to committing serious crime, involved in any criminal organisation which has a structure and is, or has been, established for a certain period of time. They should not be limited to groups with a highly developed structure or enduring nature, such as mafia type organisations; and the organisations need not necessarily have formally defined roles for their participants or continuity of membership.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 351, 29. 12. 1998, p. 1.

4. The provisions to be included in the draft convention on international cooperation should provide appropriate safeguards for the protection of human rights and facilitate such cooperation. They should apply in a situation where, due to the fact that an investigation is at a preliminary stage, it is not possible for a requested state to establish with certainty that a particular offence is connected to organised crime. It might also be useful if certain criteria were to be specified for the purpose of indicating links with organised crime.

5. Insofar as measures to combat money laundering are concerned, the convention should extend to a broad range of offences and, in particular, should be consistent with the 40 recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force.

6. Any provisions in the draft convention which deal with criminal assets should not be inconsistent with, and should take account of, Joint Action 98/699/JHA of 3 December 1998 on money laundering, the identification, tracing, freezing, seizing and confiscation of instrumentalities and the proceeds from crime⁽¹⁾.

7. The relevant provisions of the draft convention could, as appropriate, be modelled on the 1998 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances. In addition they should take full account of the 1990 Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime.

Article 2

In the negotiations on the proposed United Nations convention and any possible protocols, Member States shall, as far as is practicable, coordinate their positions, at

the Presidency's initiative, and seek to arrive at common standpoints on all issues which have significant implications for the interests of the Union. The Commission shall be fully associated with this work. When necessary, in the light of the manner in which the negotiations develop, consideration shall be given to which further steps need to be taken.

Article 3

Member States shall ensure that the provisions of the proposed United Nations convention and any possible protocols are not inconsistent with instruments drawn up between them.

Article 4

The Council shall endeavour to achieve further Joint Positions, as necessary, in relation to the draft convention and particularly in connection with any possible protocols.

Article 5

This Joint Position shall be published in the Official Journal.

Done at Brussels, 29 March 1999.

For the Council

The President

F. MÜNTEFERING

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 333, 9. 12. 1998, p. 1.

I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 688/1999
of 30 March 1999
establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain
fruit and vegetables

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 of 21 December 1994 on detailed rules for the application of the import arrangements for fruit and vegetables ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1498/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 4 (1) thereof,

Whereas Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in the Annex thereto;

Whereas, in compliance with the above criteria, the standard import values must be fixed at the levels set out in the Annex to this Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The standard import values referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 shall be fixed as indicated in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 337, 24. 12. 1994, p. 66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 198, 15. 7. 1998, p. 4.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 30 March 1999 establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Third country code ⁽¹⁾	Standard import value
0702 00 00	052	66,4
	204	54,3
	212	44,2
	999	55,0
0707 00 05	052	117,6
	068	107,2
	999	112,4
0709 10 00	220	216,7
	999	216,7
0709 90 70	052	100,5
	204	157,1
	999	128,8
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	052	49,1
	204	44,1
	212	46,3
	220	34,4
	600	73,1
	624	48,8
	999	49,3
0805 30 10	052	37,8
	600	81,9
	999	59,9
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	039	106,2
	388	89,4
	400	89,6
	404	91,5
	508	81,0
	512	77,2
	524	68,3
	528	74,5
	720	82,5
	999	84,5
0808 20 50	388	62,2
	400	75,4
	512	63,0
	528	68,9
	624	74,4
	720	69,3
	999	68,9

⁽¹⁾ Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2317/97 (OJ L 321, 22. 11. 1997, p. 19). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 689/1999
of 30 March 1999
fixing the corrective amount applicable to the refund on cereals

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 of 30 June 1992 on the common organization of the market in cereals⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 923/96⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13 (8) thereof,

Whereas Article 13 (8) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 provides that the export refund applicable to cereals on the day on which application for an export licence is made must be applied on request to exports to be effected during the period of validity of the export licence; whereas, in this case, a corrective amount may be applied to the refund;

Whereas Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down certain detailed rules under Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the granting of export refunds on cereals and the cereals and the measures to be taken in the event of disturbance on the market for cereals⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2513/98⁽⁴⁾, allows for the fixing of a corrective amount for the products listed in Article 1 (1)(c) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92; whereas that corrective amount must be calculated taking account of the factors referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95;

Whereas the world market situation or the specific requirements of certain markets may make it necessary to vary the corrective amount according to destination;

Whereas the corrective amount must be fixed at the same time as the refund and according to the same procedure; whereas it may be altered in the period between fixings;

Whereas it follows from applying the provisions set out above that the corrective amount must be as set out in the Annex hereto;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The corrective amount referred to in Article 1 (1) (a), (b) and (c) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 which is applicable to export refunds fixed in advance in respect of malt shall be as set out in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 April 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1. 7. 1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 126, 24. 5. 1996, p. 37.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 147, 30. 6. 1995, p. 7.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 313, 21. 11. 1998, p. 16.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 30 March 1999 fixing the corrective amount applicable to the refund on cereals

(EUR / t)

Product code	Destination (1)	Current 4	1st period 5	2nd period 6	3rd period 7	4th period 8	5th period 9	6th period 10
1001 10 00 9200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1001 10 00 9400	01	0	-1,00	-1,00	0	0	—	—
1001 90 91 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1001 90 99 9000	01	0	0	0	-10,00	-10,00	—	—
1002 00 00 9000	01	0	0	0	-10,00	-10,00	—	—
1003 00 10 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1003 00 90 9000	03	0	-25,00	-35,00	-35,00	-35,00	—	—
	02	0	0	-10,00	-10,00	-10,00	—	—
1004 00 00 9200	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1004 00 00 9400	01	0	0	0	-10,00	-10,00	—	—
1005 10 90 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1005 90 00 9000	04	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
	02	0	-1,00	-2,00	-3,00	-4,00	—	—
1007 00 90 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1008 20 00 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1101 00 11 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1101 00 15 9100	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1101 00 15 9130	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1101 00 15 9150	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1101 00 15 9170	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1101 00 15 9180	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1101 00 15 9190	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1101 00 90 9000	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1102 10 00 9500	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1102 10 00 9700	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1102 10 00 9900	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1103 11 10 9200	01	0	0	0	-10,00	-10,00	—	—
1103 11 10 9400	01	0	0	0	-10,00	-10,00	—	—
1103 11 10 9900	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1103 11 90 9200	01	0	0	0	0	0	—	—
1103 11 90 9800	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(1) The destinations are identified as follows:

01 all third countries

02 other third countries

03 United States of America, Canada and Mexico

04 Switzerland, Liechtenstein and Slovenia.

NB: The zones are those defined in amended Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2145/92 (OJ L 214, 30. 7. 1992, p. 20).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 690/1999

of 30 March 1999

fixing advance payments in respect of the production levies in the sugar sector
for the 1998/99 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 of 30 June 1981 on the common organisation of the markets in the sugar sector⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1148/98⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 28(8) thereof,

Whereas Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1443/82 of 8 June 1982 laying down detailed rules for the application of the quota system in the sugar sector⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 392/94⁽⁴⁾, provides for the fixing before 1 April and the collection before the following 1 June, of the unit amounts to be paid by sugar producers, isoglucose producers and inulin syrup producers as advance payments of the production levies for the current marketing year; whereas the estimate of the basic production levy and of the B levy, referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 1443/82, gives an amount which is more than 60 % of the maximum amounts indicated in Article 28(3), (4) and (5) of Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81; whereas, in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 1443/82, the unit amounts for sugar and inulin syrup should therefore be fixed at 50 % of the maximum amounts concerned and for isoglucose the unit amount of the advance payment should therefore be fixed at 40 % of the unit amount of the basic production levy estimated for sugar;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Sugar,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The unit amounts referred to in Article 5(1)(b) of Regulation (EEC) No 1443/82 in respect of the 1998/99 marketing year are hereby fixed as follows:

- (a) the advance payment of the basic production levy for A sugar and B sugar shall be EUR 0,632 per 100 kilograms of white sugar;
- (b) the advance payment of the B levy for B sugar shall be EUR 11,848 per 100 kilograms of white sugar;
- (c) the advance payment of the basic production levy for A isoglucose and B isoglucose shall be EUR 0,506 per 100 kilograms of dry matter;
- (d) the advance payment of the basic production levy for A inulin syrup and B inulin syrup shall be EUR 0,632 per 100 kilograms of dry matter equivalent sugar/isoglucose;
- (e) the advance payment of the B levy for B inulin syrup shall be EUR 11,848 per 100 kilograms of dry matter equivalent sugar/isoglucose.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 177, 1. 7. 1981, p. 4.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 159, 3. 6. 1998, p. 38.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 158, 9. 6. 1982, p. 17.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 53, 24. 2. 1994, p. 7.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 691/1999
of 30 March 1999

amending Regulation (EC) No 708/98 on the taking over of paddy rice by the intervention agencies and fixing the corrective amounts and the price increases and reductions to be applied as regards the quality characteristics of the rice

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 8(b) thereof,

Whereas the characteristics that set stained grains and spotted grains apart are very close and distinguishing one from another is often a delicate task when samples taken in accordance with Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 708/98 ⁽³⁾ are analysed; whereas those two criteria should therefore be combined and the relevant price reductions applying should be determined on the basis of grain defects covering both stained and spotted grains;

Whereas new varieties of rice are being grown in the Community; whereas they should be entered, with their milling yields, in the list in point B in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 708/98;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 708/98 is hereby amended as follows:

1. the table in Article 2 is replaced by the following.

	'Round grain rice CN code 1006 10 92	Medium and A long grain rice CN codes 1006 10 94 and 1006 10 96	B long grain rice CN code 1006 10 98
Chalky grains	6	4	4
Grains striated with red	10	5	5
Stained and spotted grains	4	2,75	2,75
Amber grains	1	0,50	0,50
Yellow grains	0,175	0,175	0,175
Miscellaneous impurities	1	1	1
Grains of rice of other varieties	5	5	5'

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30. 12. 1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 265, 30. 9. 1998, p. 4.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 98, 31. 3. 1998, p. 21.

2. the table in part B of Annex II is replaced by the following.

'B. Basic yield after processing

Quality designation	Yield in whole grains (%)	Total yield (%)
Carillon	65	69
Argo, Selenio, Couachi	64	71
Alpe, Arco, Balilla, Balilla GG, Balilla Sollana, Bomba, Bombon, Colina, Elio, Flipper, Frances, Lido, Liso, Matusaka, Monticili, Pegonil, Sara, Strella, Thainato, Thaiperla, Ticinese, Veta, Leda, Marenny, Clot, Albada, Guadiamar	63	71
Ispaniki A, Makedonia	62	71
Bravo, Europa, Loto, Riva, Rosa Marchetti, Savio Veneria	61	70
Tolima	61	69
Inca	61	68
Arôme	60	71
Alfa, Ariete, Bahia, Carola, Cigalon, Corallo, Cripto, Cristal, Drago, Eolo, Girona, Gladio, Graldo, Indio, Italico, Jucar, Koral, Lago, Lemont, Mercurio, Miara, Molo, Navile, Niva, Onda, Padano, Panda, Pierina, Marchetti, Ribe, Ringo, Rio, S. Andrea, Saturno, Senia, Sequial, Smeraldo, Star, Stirpe, Vela, Vitro, Calca, Dion, Zeus	60	70
Strymonas	60	69
Anseatico, Arlesienne, Baldo, Belgioioso, Betis, Euribe, Italpatna, Marathon, Redi, Ribello, Rizzotto, Rocca, Roma, Romanico, Romeo, Tebre, Volano	59	70
Bonnet Bell, Rita, Silla, Thaibonnet, L 202, Puntal	58	70
Evropi, Melas	58	68
Arborio, Arlatan, Blue Belle, Blue Belle 'E', Blue Bonnet, Calendal, Razza 82, Rea	56	70
Cesariot, Maratelli, Precoce Rossi	56	68
Carnaroli, Elba, Vialone Nano	55	70
Delta	55	68
Axios	55	65
Roxani	55	64
Irat 348, Mana	45	65
Pygmalion	50	69
Varieties not specified	63	71'

3. Annex III is replaced by the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

It shall apply from 1 April 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

'ANNEX III

PRICE REDUCTIONS FOR GRAIN DEFECTS

Defect	Percentage of grains with defects			Reduction (1)
	Round grain rice CN code 1006 10 92	Medium and A long grain rice CN codes 1006 10 94 and 1006 10 96	B long grain rice CN code 1006 10 98	
Chalky	From 2 to 6 %	From 2 to 4 %	From 1,5 to 4 %	1 % per 1/2 point
Striated with red	From 1 to 10 %	From 1 to 5 %	From 1 to 5 %	1 % per point
Stained and spotted	From 0,50 to 4 %	From 0,50 to 2,75 %	From 0,50 to 2,75 %	0,8 % per 1/4 point
Amber	From 0,05 to 1 %	From 0,05 to 0,50 %	From 0,05 to 0,50 %	1,25 % per 1/4 point
Yellow	From 0,02 to 0,175 %	From 0,02 to 0,175 %	From 0,02 to 0,175 %	6 % per 1/8 point

(1) Overruns in the limits are taken into account up to two decimal places.'

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 692/1999
of 30 March 1999
amending representative prices and additional duties for the import of certain
products in the sugar sector

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,
Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1785/81 of 30 June 1981 on the common organization of the markets in the sugar sector⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1148/98⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1423/95 of 23 June 1995 laying down detailed implementing rules for the import of products in the sugar sector other than molasses⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 624/98⁽⁴⁾, and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 1 (2), and Article 3 (1) thereof,

Whereas the amounts of the representative prices and additional duties applicable to the import of white sugar, raw sugar and certain syrups are fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1379/98⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 646/1999⁽⁶⁾;

Whereas it follows from applying the general and detailed fixing rules contained in Regulation (EC) No 1423/95 to the information known to the Commission that the representative prices and additional duties at present in force should be altered to the amounts set out in the Annex hereto,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The representative prices and additional duties on imports of the products referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1423/95 shall be as set out in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 1999.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 30 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 177, 1. 7. 1981, p. 4.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 159, 3. 6. 1998, p. 38.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 141, 24. 6. 1995, p. 16.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 85, 20. 3. 1998, p. 5.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 187, 1. 7. 1998, p. 6.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 82, 26. 3. 1999, p. 26.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 30 March 1999 amending representative prices and the amounts of additional duties applicable to imports of white sugar, raw sugar and products covered by CN code 1702 90 99

(EUR)

CN code	Amount of representative prices per 100 kg net of product concerned	Amount of additional duty per 100 kg net of product concerned
1701 11 10 ⁽¹⁾	13,60	10,12
1701 11 90 ⁽¹⁾	13,60	16,47
1701 12 10 ⁽¹⁾	13,60	9,89
1701 12 90 ⁽¹⁾	13,60	15,91
1701 91 00 ⁽²⁾	18,19	17,67
1701 99 10 ⁽²⁾	18,19	12,23
1701 99 90 ⁽²⁾	18,19	12,23
1702 90 99 ⁽³⁾	0,18	0,46

⁽¹⁾ For the standard quality as defined in Article 1 of amended Council Regulation (EEC) No 431/68 (OJ L 89, 10. 4. 1968, p. 3).

⁽²⁾ For the standard quality as defined in Article 1 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/72 (OJ L 94, 21. 4. 1972, p. 1).

⁽³⁾ By 1 % sucrose content.

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 17 March 1999

amending Council Decision 79/542/EEC and Decisions 92/160/EEC and 93/197/EEC with regard to the animal health conditions for imports into the Community of registered horses from certain parts of Kyrgyzstan

(notified under document number C(1999) 609)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(1999/236/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 90/426/EEC of 26 June 1990 on animal health conditions governing the movement and imports from third countries of equidae⁽¹⁾, as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden, and in particular Articles 12, 13, 15, 16 and 19(ii) thereof,

(1) Whereas by Council Decision 79/542/EEC⁽²⁾, as last amended by Decision 1999/227/EC⁽³⁾, a list of third countries has been established from which Member States authorise imports of bovine animals, swine, equidae, sheep and goats, fresh meat and meat products;

(2) Whereas by Decision 92/160/EEC⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Decision 1999/228/EC, the Commission has established the regionalisation of certain third countries for imports of equidae;

(3) Whereas the health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of registered horses are laid

down in Commission Decision 93/197/EEC⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by Decision 1999/227/EC;

(4) Whereas following a Commission veterinary inspection mission to Kyrgyzstan the animal health situation with regard to equidae appears to be under the satisfactory control of the veterinary services;

(5) Whereas the veterinary authorities of Kyrgyzstan have provided a written undertaking to notify within 24 hours by telefax, telegram or telex to the Commission and the Member States the confirmation of any infectious or contagious disease in equidae mentioned in Annex A of Directive 90/426/EEC, which are compulsorily notifiable in the country, and within due time any change in the vaccination or import policy in respect of equidae;

(6) Whereas annual testing of horses for glanders is carried out in Kyrgyzstan and no positive findings have been reported for at least six months; whereas African horse sickness, Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis and vesicular stomatitis have never occurred in Kyrgyzstan;

(7) Whereas monitoring for equine viral arteritis has only commenced and the country's status with regard to this disease cannot be established definitely; whereas therefore uncastrated male horses

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 18. 8. 1990, p. 42.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 146, 14. 6. 1979, p. 15.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 83, 27. 3. 1999, p. 77.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 71, 18. 3. 1992, p. 27.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 86, 6. 4. 1993, p. 16.

older than 180 days intended for imports into the Community should be subject to laboratory testing for this disease;

- (8) Whereas dourine has been reported in certain parts of Kyrgyzstan, whereas, however, the Issyk-Kul region has been free of dourine for at least six months and official guarantees have been received that the movement of equidae into this region from the rest of the country is under official veterinary control;
- (9) Whereas for reason of the equine health situation in certain parts of Kyrgyzstan it appears appropriate to regionalise the country concerned, so as to allow imports into the Community of registered horses only from the disease free part of the territory of Kyrgyzstan;
- (10) Whereas the animal health conditions and veterinary certification must be adopted according to the animal health situation of the third country concerned; whereas the present case relates only to registered horses;
- (11) Whereas Decision 79/542/EEC and Decisions 92/160/EEC and 93/197/EEC must be amended accordingly;
- (12) Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In Part 2 of the Annex to Decision 79/542/EEC, special column for registered horses, the following line is inserted in accordance with the alphabetical order of the ISO country code:

'KG	Kyrgyzstan	×	(')
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Article 2

The Annex of Decision 92/160/EEC is amended as follows:

1. the following words are added:

'Kyrgyzstan⁽⁴⁾
Region of Issyk-Kul';

2. the following footnote is added:

'⁽⁴⁾ Only permanent imports into the Community of registered horses are authorised.'

Article 3

Commission Decision 93/197/EEC is amended as follows:

1. 'Kyrgyzstan (') (2) (KG)' is added in alphabetical order of the ISO country code to the list of third countries in Group B of Annex I.
2. The title of the health certificate of Group B in Annex II is replaced by the following:

'B — HEALTH CERTIFICATE

for imports into Community territory of registered horses from Kyrgyzstan (') and of registered equidae and equidae for breeding and production from Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Belarus, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Croatia, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, New Zealand, Poland, Romania, Russia ('), Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Ukraine, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.'

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 17 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

COMMISSION DECISION

of 18 March 1999

recognising in principle the completeness of the dossier submitted for detailed examination in view of the possible inclusion of CGA 277 476 (oxasulfuron) in Annex I to Council Directive 91/414/EEC concerning the placing of plant-protection products on the market

(notified under document number C(1999) 632)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(1999/237/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant-protection products on the market⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Directive 98/47/EC⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 6(3) thereof,

Whereas Directive 91/414/EEC (hereinafter 'the Directive') has provided for the development of a Community list of active substances authorised for incorporation in plant-protection products;

Whereas the applicant has submitted a dossier for one active substance to Member States' authorities in view of obtaining the inclusion of the active substance in Annex I to the Directive;

Whereas a dossier for the active substance CGA 277 476 (oxasulfuron) was submitted by Novartis Protezione Pianta SpA to the Italian authorities on 29 May 1998;

Whereas the said authorities indicated to the Commission the results of a first examination of the completeness of the dossier with regard to the data and information requirements provided for in Annex II and, for at least one plant-protection product containing the active substance concerned, in Annex III to the Directive; whereas subsequently, in accordance with the provisions of Article 6(2), the dossier was submitted by the applicant to the Commission and other Member States;

Whereas the dossier for CGA 277 476 (oxasulfuron) was referred to the Standing Committee on plant health on 1 December 1998;

Whereas Article 6(3) of the Directive requires it being confirmed at the level of the Community that each dossier is to be considered as satisfying in principle the data and information requirements provided for in Annex II and, for at least one plant-protection product containing the active substance concerned, in Annex III to the Directive;

Whereas such confirmation is necessary in order to pursue the detailed examination of the dossier as well as in order to open to Member States the possibility of granting provisional authorisation for plant-protection products containing this active substance in due respect of the conditions laid down in Article 8(1) of the Directive, and in particular the condition to make a detailed assessment of the active substance and the plant-protection products with regard to the requirements of the Directive;

Whereas such Decision does not prejudice that further data or information may be requested from the applicant where it would appear during the detailed examination that such information or data are required for a Decision to be taken;

Whereas it is understood between the Member States and the Commission that Italy will pursue the detailed examination for the dossier for CGA 277 476 (oxasulfuron);

Whereas Italy will report the conclusions of its examination accompanied by any recommendations on the inclusion or non-inclusion and any conditions related thereto to the Commission as soon as possible and at the latest within a period of one year; whereas on receipt of this report the detailed examination will be continued with the expertise from all Member States within the framework of the Standing Committee on plant health;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on plant health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The following dossier satisfies in principle the data and information requirements provided for in Annex II and, for at least one plant-protection product containing the active substance concerned, in Annex III to the Directive, taking into account the uses proposed:

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 230, 19. 8. 1991, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 191, 7. 7. 1998, p. 50.

the dossier submitted by Novartis Protezione Piante SpA to the Commission and the Member States with a view to the inclusion of CGA 277 476 (oxasulfuron) as active substance in Annex I to Directive 91/414/EEC and which was referred to the Standing Committee on plant health on 1 December 1998.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 March 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission
