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I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 587/2000
of 17 March 2000
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:

- (1) 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.

- (2) 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 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

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 17 March 2000 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	154,0
	204	102,2
	624	165,4
	999	140,5
0707 00 05	052	114,9
	068	128,9
	628	146,6
	999	130,1
0709 10 00	220	309,8
	999	309,8
0709 90 70	052	98,8
	204	41,6
	999	70,2
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	052	75,4
	204	35,8
	212	38,8
	220	31,0
	600	41,1
	624	58,9
	999	46,8
0805 30 10	052	33,7
	600	64,3
	999	49,0
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	388	102,7
	400	85,7
	404	91,1
	508	88,0
	512	102,7
	528	84,3
	720	119,1
	728	97,0
	999	96,3
	052	77,4
0808 20 50	388	76,1
	400	106,6
	512	74,9
	528	68,1
	999	80,6

⁽¹⁾ Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2543/1999 (OJ L 307, 2.12.1999, p. 46). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 588/2000
of 17 March 2000**

fixing the minimum selling price for skimmed-milk powder for the 5th individual invitation to tender issued under the standing invitation to tender referred to in Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 26 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999 of 17 December 1999 laying down detailed rules for applying Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 as regards the grant of aid for skimmed milk and skimmed-milk powder intended for animal feed and the sale of such skimmed-milk powder ⁽²⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 438/2000 ⁽³⁾, intervention agencies have put up for sale by standing invitation to tender certain quantities of skimmed-milk powder held by them.
- (2) According to Article 30 of the said Regulation, in the light of the tenders received in response to each individual invitation to tender a minimum selling price shall be fixed or a decision shall be taken to make no award; whereas the amount of the processing security shall also be fixed taking account of the difference between the market price of skimmed-milk powder and the minimum selling price.

- (3) In the light of the tenders received, the minimum selling price should be fixed at the level specified below and the processing security determined accordingly.
- (4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 5th individual invitation to tender pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999, in respect of which the time limit for the submission of tenders expired on 14 March 2000, the minimum selling price and the processing security are fixed as follows:

- minimum selling price:
- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Germany: | EUR 207,52/100 kg, |
| other Member States: | EUR 203,52/100 kg, |
- processing security: EUR 40,00/100 kg.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 340, 31.12.1999, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 54, 26.2.2000, p. 24.

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 589/2000
of 17 March 2000**

fixing the minimum selling prices for butter and the maximum aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for the 49th individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The intervention agencies are, pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2571/97 of 15 December 1997 on the sale of butter at reduced prices and the granting of aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for use in the manufacture of pastry products, ice-cream and other foodstuffs ⁽²⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 494/1999 ⁽³⁾, to sell by invitation to tender certain quantities of butter that they hold and to grant aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter. Article 18 of that Regulation stipulates that in the light of the tenders received in response to each individual invitation to tender a minimum selling price shall be fixed for butter and maximum aid shall be fixed for cream, butter and concentrated butter. It is further stipulated that the price

or aid may vary according to the intended use of the butter, its fat content and the incorporation procedure, and that a decision may also be taken to make no award in response to the tenders submitted. The amount(s) of the processing securities must be fixed accordingly.

- (2) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The maximum aid and processing securities applying for the 49th individual invitation to tender, under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97, shall be fixed as indicated in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 350, 20.12.1997, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 59, 6.3.1999, p. 17.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 17 March 2000 fixing the minimum selling prices for butter and the maximum aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for the 49th individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97

(EUR/100 kg)

Formula			A		B	
Incorporation procedure			With tracers	Without tracers	With tracers	Without tracers
Minimum selling price	Butter ≥ 82 %	Unaltered	—	—	—	—
		Concentrated	—	—	—	—
Processing security		Unaltered	—	—	—	—
		Concentrated	—	—	—	—
Maximum aid	Butter ≥ 82 %		95	91	—	91
	Butter < 82 %		92	88	—	88
	Concentrated butter		117	113	117	113
	Cream		—	—	40	38
Processing security	Butter		105	—	—	—
	Concentrated butter		129	—	129	—
	Cream		—	—	44	—

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 590/2000**of 17 March 2000****fixing the maximum aid for concentrated butter for the 221st special invitation to tender opened under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 429/90**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Commission Regulation (EEC) No 429/90 of 20 February 1990 on the granting by invitation to tender of an aid for concentrated butter intended for direct consumption in the Community ⁽²⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 124/1999 ⁽³⁾, the intervention agencies are opening a standing invitation to tender for the granting of aid for concentrated butter; Article 6 of that Regulation provides that in the light of the tenders received in response to each special invitation to tender, a maximum amount of aid is to be fixed for concentrated butter with a minimum fat content of 96 % or a decision is to be taken to make no award; whereas the end-use security must be fixed accordingly.

- (2) In the light of the tenders received, the maximum aid should be fixed at the level specified below and the end-use security determined accordingly.

- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 221st special invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender opened by Regulation (EEC) No 429/90, the maximum aid and the amount of the end-use security shall be as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| — maximum aid: | 117 EUR/100 kg |
| — end-use security: | 129 EUR/100 kg. |

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 45, 21.2.1990, p. 8.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 16, 21.1.1999, p. 19.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 591/2000**of 17 March 2000****fixing the maximum purchasing price for butter for the fifth invitation to tender carried out under the standing invitation to tender governed by Regulation (EEC) No 2771/1999**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 13 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2771/1999 of 16 December 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 as regards intervention on the market in butter and cream ⁽²⁾, provides that, in the light of the tenders received for each invitation to tender, a maximum buying-in price is to be fixed in relation to the intervention price applicable and that it may also be decided not to proceed with the invitation to tender.

- (2) As a result of the tenders received, the maximum buying-in price should be fixed as set out below.

- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the fifth invitation to tender issued under Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999, for which tenders had to be submitted not later than 14 March 2000, the maximum buying-in price is fixed at 295,38 EUR/100 kg.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 333, 24.12.1999, p. 11.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 592/2000**of 17 March 2000****on the issuing of import licenses for bananas under the tariff quotas and the quantity of traditional ACP bananas for the second quarter of 2000 and on the submission of new applications**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 of 13 February 1993 on the common organisation of the market in bananas ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1257/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 20 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2362/98 ⁽³⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 756/1999 ⁽⁴⁾, lays down detailed rules for the implementation of Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 regarding imports of bananas into the Community.
- (2) Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 2362/98 lays down that where, in the case of a given quarter and for any one or more of the origins listed in Annex I, the quantities applied for appreciably exceed any indicative quantity fixed under Article 14 or exceed the quantities available, a percentage reduction to be applied to the amounts requested shall be fixed.
- (3) The indicative quantities available for import under the tariff quotas and the quantity of traditional ACP bananas are laid down for the second quarter of 2000 by Commission Regulation (EC) No 250/2000 ⁽⁵⁾.
- (4) In the case of the quantities covered by licence applications that are either less than or do not appreciably exceed the indicative quantities fixed for the given quarter, import licenses are issued for the quantities applied for. However, for certain origins, the quantities applied for appreciably exceed the indicative quantities. A reduction percentage should therefore be set to be applied to each licence application for the origin or origins involved.

- (5) The maximum quantity for which licence applications may still be submitted in accordance with Article 18 of Regulation (EC) No 2362/98 should be set, taking account of the applications accepted at the end of the application period and of the available quantities.
- (6) This Regulation should apply immediately to permit licences to be issued as quickly as possible.
- (7) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Bananas,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Import licences for bananas shall be issued under the tariff quotas and the quantity of traditional ACP bananas referred to in Article 18 of Regulation (EEC) No 404/93 for the second quarter of 2000 for:

- (a) the quantity indicated in the licence application multiplied by reduction coefficients of 0,6741, 0,7820, 0,7252 and 0,6533, for applications indicating origins 'Columbia', 'Costa Rica', 'Ecuador' and 'Other' respectively;
- (b) the quantity indicated in the licence application for applications indicating origins other than those referred to in (a).

Article 2

The quantities for which licence applications may still be lodged in respect of the second quarter of 2000 are laid down in the Annex.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of 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, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 47, 25.2.1993, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 80.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 293, 31.10.1998, p. 32.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 98, 13.4.1999, p. 10.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 26, 2.2.2000, p. 6.

ANNEX

(tonnes)	
	Quantities available for new applications
Panama	24 628,650
Traditional ACP bananas	208 234,753

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 593/2000**of 13 March 2000****suspending application of Council Regulation (EC) No 2006/97 laying down certain rules for the application of the special arrangements for imports of olive oil originating in Morocco**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2006/97 of 9 October 1997 laying down certain rules for the application of the special arrangements for imports of olive oil originating in Morocco ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Articles 17 and 18 of, and Annex B to the Cooperation Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Morocco ⁽²⁾, provide for special arrangements for imports of olive oil falling within CN codes 1509 and 1510, wholly obtained in Morocco and transported direct from that country to the Community. Those arrangements were extended beyond 1 January 1994 by an agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters with the Kingdom of Morocco for the duration of the Cooperation Agreement.
- (2) Regulation (EC) No 2006/97 establishes certain rules for the application of the arrangements with the aim of adapting them to the requirements of the Agreement on agriculture concluded as part of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations.
- (3) Article 5 of Regulation (EC) No 2006/97 states that where a new agreement is concluded the Commission shall adopt the resultant adjustments in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 38 of Regulation No

136/66/EEC of 22 September 1966 on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2702/1999 ⁽⁴⁾. The special arrangements will no longer be applicable once the Euro-Mediterranean Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Morocco, of the other part ⁽⁵⁾, enters into force on 1 March 2000. Pending the formal repeal of Regulation (EC) No 2006/97 by an act of Council, therefore, it is necessary to adapt it to the new situation by suspending its application with effect from the entry into force of the new agreement.

- (4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for oils and fats,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Application of Council Regulation (EC) No 2006/97 is suspended.

Article 2

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

It shall apply from 1 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 284, 16.10.1997, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 264, 27.9.1978, p. 2.

⁽³⁾ OJ 172, 30.9.1966, p. 3025/66.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 327, 21.12.1999, p. 7.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 70, 18.3.2000.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 594/2000**of 17 March 2000****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled long grain rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2176/1999**

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 13 (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2176/1999 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) 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 maximum export refund on wholly milled long grain rice falling within CN code 1006 30 67 to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2176/1999 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 10 to 16 March 2000 at 269,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 267, 15.10.1999, p. 4.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 595/2000**of 17 March 2000****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled medium grain and long grain A rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2178/1999**

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 organization of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13 (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2178/1999 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) 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 maximum export refund on wholly milled medium grain and long grain A rice to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in European Regulation (EC) No 2178/1999 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 10 to 16 March 2000 at 180,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 267, 15.10.1999, p. 10.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 596/2000**of 17 March 2000****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled round grain, medium grain and long grain A rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2179/1999**

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 13(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2179/1999 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

- (3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

- (4) 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 maximum export refund on wholly milled grain, medium grain and long grain A rice to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2179/1999 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 10 to 16 March 2000 at 160,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 267, 15.10.1999, p. 13.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 597/2000**of 17 March 2000****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled round grain rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2180/1999**

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 organization of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13 (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2180/1999 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) 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 maximum export refund on wholly milled round grain rice to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2180/1999 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 10 to 16 March 2000 at 163,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 267, 15.10.1999, p. 16.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 598/2000
of 17 March 2000
fixing the export refunds on beef and veal

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in beef and veal ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 33(12) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 33 of Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 provides that the difference between prices on the world market for the products listed in Article 1 of that Regulation and prices for those products within the Community may be covered by an export refund.
- (2) Regulation (EEC) No 32/82 ⁽²⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2326/97 ⁽³⁾, Regulation (EEC) No 1964/82 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1452/1999 ⁽⁵⁾, and Regulation (EEC) No 2388/84 ⁽⁶⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3661/92 ⁽⁷⁾, lay down the conditions for granting special export refunds on certain cuts of beef and veal and certain preserved beef and veal products.
- (3) It follows from applying those rules and criteria to the foreseeable situation on the market in beef and veal that the refund should be as set out below.
- (4) Given the current market situation in the Community and the possibilities of disposal in certain third countries in particular, export refunds should be granted, on the one hand, on bovine animals intended for slaughter of a live weight greater than 220 kilograms and less than 300 kilograms, and, on the other on adult bovine animals of a live weight of at least 300 kilograms.
- (5) Export refunds should be granted for certain destinations on some fresh or chilled meat listed in the Annex I under CN code 0201, on some frozen meat listed in the

Annex I under CN code 0202, on some meat or offal listed in the Annex I under CN code 0206 and on some other prepared or preserved meat or offal listed in the Annex I under CN code 1602 50 10.

- (6) In view of the wide differences in products covered by CN codes 0201 20 90 700 and 0202 20 90 100 used for refund purposes, refunds should only be granted on cuts in which the weight of bone does not exceed one third.
- (7) In the case of meat of bovine animals, boned or boneless, salted and dried, there are traditional trade flows to Switzerland. To allow this trade to continue, the refund should be set to cover the difference between prices on the Swiss market and export prices in the Member States; whereas there are possibilities for exporting such meat and also salted, smoked and dried meat to certain African, Near and Middle Eastern countries. A refund should accordingly be set.
- (8) In the case of certain other cuts and preserves of meat or offal shown in Annex I under CN codes 1602 50 31 to 1602 50 80, the Community share of international trade may be maintained by granting a refund corresponding to that at present available.
- (9) In the case of other beef and veal products, a refund need not be fixed since the Community's share of world trade is not significant.
- (10) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3846/87 ⁽⁸⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2765/1999 ⁽⁹⁾, establishes the agricultural product nomenclature for the purposes of export refunds.
- (11) In order to simplify customs export formalities for operators, the refunds on all frozen cuts should be brought into line with those on fresh or chilled cuts other than those from adult male bovine animals.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 4, 8.1.1982, p. 11.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 323, 26.11.1997, p. 1.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 212, 21.7.1982, p. 48.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 167, 2.7.1999, p. 17.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 221, 18.8.1984, p. 28.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 370, 19.12.1992, p. 16.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ L 366, 24.12.1987, p. 1.

⁽⁹⁾ OJ L 338, 30.12.1999, p. 1.

- (12) Experience has shown that in certain cases it is often difficult to determine the relevant quantities of beef, veal and other meat contained in prepared or preserved meat falling within CN code 1602 50. Exclusively beef and veal products should accordingly be set apart and a new heading should be created for mixtures of meats or offals; whereas checks on products other than mixtures of meat or offal should be stepped up by making the granting of refunds on these products conditional on manufacture under the arrangements provided for in Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 565/80 of 4 March 1980 on the advance payment of export refunds in respect of agricultural products⁽¹⁾, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2026/83⁽²⁾.
- (13) Refunds on female animals should vary depending on their age in order to prevent abuses in the export of certain pure-bred breeding animals.
- (14) Opportunities exist for the export to certain third countries of heifers other than those intended for slaughter, but to prevent any abuse control criteria should be laid down to ensure that these animals are not more than 36 months old.
- (15) Notwithstanding the subdivision of the combined nomenclature for prepared and preserved meat, other than uncooked, falling within CN code 1602 50, experience has shown that it is possible to delete from the refund nomenclature several products falling within CN code 1602 50 31 and to amend the list of products falling within CN code 1602 50 80.
- (16) The Management Committee for beef and veal has not delivered an opinion within the time limit set by its chairman,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. The list of products on which export refunds as referred to in Article 33 of Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 are granted and the amount thereof shall be as set out in Annex I of this Regulation.
2. The destinations are identified in Annex II to this Regulation.
3. The products must meet the relevant health marking requirements of:
 - Chapter XI of Annex I to Directive 64/433/EEC,
 - Chapter VI of Annex I to Directive 94/65/EC,
 - Chapter VI of Annex B to Directive 77/99/EEC.

Article 2

The grant of the refund for product code 0102 90 59 9000 of the nomenclature for export refunds and for exports to the third countries in zone 10 listed in Annex II to this Regulation shall be subject to presentation, when the customs formalities for export are completed, of the original and one copy of the veterinary certificate signed by an official veterinarian certifying that these are heifers of an age of not more than 36 months. The original of the certificate shall be returned to the exporter and the copy, certified as being in accordance with the regulations by the customs authorities, shall be attached to the application for payment of the refund.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2000.

However, Article 1(3) shall apply to payment declarations as referred to in Article 26(1) of Regulation (EC) No 800/1999 and export declarations as referred to in Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 800/1999 accompanied by an export licence issued after 3 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 62, 7.3.1980, p. 5.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 199, 22.7.1983, p. 12.

ANNEX I

to the Commission Regulation of 17 March 2000 fixing export refunds on beef

(EUR/100 kg)			(EUR/100 kg)		
Product code	Destination	Refund (°)	Product code	Destination	Refund (°)
		– Live weight –			– Net weight –
0102 10 10 9120	01	57,00	0201 20 20 9120	02	43,50
0102 10 10 9130	02	21,00		03	30,00
	03	14,50		04	15,00
	04	7,00	0201 20 30 9110 ⁽¹⁾	02	85,00
0102 10 30 9120	01	57,00		03	59,00
0102 10 30 9130	02	21,00		04	28,50
	03	14,50	0201 20 30 9120	02	31,50
	04	7,00		03	22,50
0102 10 90 9120	01	57,00		04	11,00
0102 90 41 9100	02	54,50	0201 20 50 9110 ⁽¹⁾	02	147,50
0102 90 51 9000	02	21,00		03	98,50
	03	14,50		04	49,00
	04	7,00	0201 20 50 9120	02	55,50
0102 90 59 9000	02	21,00		03	38,00
	03	14,50		04	19,00
	04	7,00	0201 20 50 9130 ⁽¹⁾	02	85,00
	10	54,50 ⁽²⁾		03	59,00
0102 90 61 9000	02	21,00		04	28,50
	03	14,50	0201 20 50 9140	02	31,50
	04	7,00		03	22,50
0102 90 69 9000	02	21,00		04	11,00
	03	14,50	0201 20 90 9700	02	31,50
	04	7,00		03	22,50
0102 90 71 9000	02	54,50		04	11,00
	03	35,50	0201 30 00 9050	05 ⁽⁴⁾	45,00
	04	18,00		07 ^(4a)	45,00
0102 90 79 9000	02	54,50	0201 30 00 9100 ^{(2) (6)}	02	205,00
	03	35,50		03	140,50
	04	18,00		04	71,00
		– Net weight –		06	181,50
0201 10 00 9110 ⁽¹⁾	02	85,00	0201 30 00 9120 ^{(2) (6)}	08	113,00
	03	59,00		09	105,00
	04	28,50		03	77,50
0201 10 00 9120	02	31,50		04	39,00
	03	22,50		06	99,50
	04	11,00	0201 30 00 9150 ⁽⁶⁾	08	15,50
0201 10 00 9130 ⁽¹⁾	02	116,50		09	14,50
	03	78,00		03	12,50
	04	39,50		04	6,50
0201 10 00 9140	02	43,50		06	14,50
	03	30,00	0201 30 00 9190 ⁽⁶⁾	02	43,50
	04	15,00		03	28,50
0201 20 20 9110 ⁽¹⁾	02	116,50		04	14,00
	03	78,00		06	35,00
	04	39,50			

(EUR/100 kg)			(EUR/100 kg)		
Product code	Destination	Refund (°)	Product code	Destination	Refund (°)
		– Net weight –			– Net weight –
0202 10 00 9100	02	31,50	1602 50 10 9120	02	50,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	03	22,50		03	40,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	04	11,00		04	40,50 ⁽⁸⁾
0202 10 00 9900	02	43,50	1602 50 10 9140	02	45,00 ⁽⁸⁾
	03	30,00		03	35,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	04	15,00		04	35,50 ⁽⁸⁾
0202 20 10 9000	02	43,50	1602 50 10 9160	02	35,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	03	30,00		03	28,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	04	15,00		04	28,50 ⁽⁸⁾
0202 20 30 9000	02	31,50	1602 50 10 9170	02	24,00 ⁽⁸⁾
	03	22,50		03	19,00 ⁽⁸⁾
	04	11,00		04	19,00 ⁽⁸⁾
0202 20 50 9100	02	55,50	1602 50 10 9190	02	24,00
	03	38,00		03	19,00
	04	19,00		04	19,00
0202 20 50 9900	02	31,50	1602 50 10 9240	02	—
	03	22,50		03	—
	04	11,00		04	—
0202 20 90 9100	02	31,50	1602 50 10 9260	02	—
	03	22,50		03	—
	04	11,00		04	—
0202 30 90 9100	02	31,50	1602 50 10 9280	02	—
	03	22,50		03	—
	04	11,00		04	—
0202 30 90 9100	05 ⁽⁴⁾	45,00	1602 50 31 9125	01	95,00 ⁽⁵⁾
	07 ^(4a)	45,00		01	32,50 ⁽⁸⁾
0202 30 90 9400 ⁽⁶⁾	08	15,50	1602 50 31 9135	01	15,50
	09	14,50	1602 50 31 9195	01	84,50 ⁽⁵⁾
	03	12,50	1602 50 31 9325	01	28,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	04	6,50	1602 50 31 9335	01	15,50
	06	14,50	1602 50 31 9395	01	95,00 ⁽⁵⁾
0202 30 90 9500 ⁽⁶⁾	02	43,50	1602 50 39 9125	01	32,50 ⁽⁸⁾
	03	28,50	1602 50 39 9135	01	15,50
	04	14,00	1602 50 39 9195	01	24,50 ⁽⁵⁾
	06	35,00	1602 50 39 9325	01	28,50 ⁽⁸⁾
0206 10 95 9000	02	43,50	1602 50 39 9335	01	15,50
	03	28,50	1602 50 39 9395	01	32,50 ⁽⁵⁾
	04	14,00	1602 50 39 9425	01	19,00 ⁽⁸⁾
	06	35,00	1602 50 39 9435	01	14,00
0206 29 91 9000	02	43,50	1602 50 39 9495	01	14,00
	03	28,50	1602 50 39 9505	01	32,50 ⁽⁵⁾
	04	14,00	1602 50 39 9525	01	19,00 ⁽⁸⁾
	06	35,00	1602 50 39 9535	01	14,00
0210 20 90 9100	02	36,50	1602 50 39 9595	01	14,00
	04	22,00		01	14,00
0210 20 90 9300	02	45,00			
0210 20 90 9500 ⁽³⁾	02	45,00			

(EUR/100 kg)			(EUR/100 kg)		
Product code	Destination	Refund (°)	Product code	Destination	Refund (°)
		– Net weight –			– Net weight –
1602 50 39 9615	01	14,00	1602 50 80 9495	01	14,00
1602 50 39 9625	01	6,50	1602 50 80 9505	01	14,00
1602 50 39 9705	01	—	1602 50 80 9515	01	6,50
1602 50 39 9805	01	—	1602 50 80 9535	01	19,00 ⁽⁸⁾
1602 50 39 9905	01	—	1602 50 80 9595	01	14,00
1602 50 80 9135	01	28,50 ⁽⁸⁾	1602 50 80 9615	01	14,00
1602 50 80 9195	01	14,00	1602 50 80 9625	01	6,50
1602 50 80 9335	01	25,50 ⁽⁸⁾	1602 50 80 9705	01	—
1602 50 80 9395	01	14,00	1602 50 80 9805	01	—
1602 50 80 9435	01	19,00 ⁽⁸⁾	1602 50 80 9905	01	—

(¹) Entry under this subheading is subject to the submission of the certificate appearing in the Annex to amended Commission Regulation (EEC) No 32/82.

(²) The refund is granted subject to compliance with the conditions laid down in amended Regulation (EEC) No 1964/82.

(³) The refund on beef in brine is granted on the net weight of the meat, after deduction of the weight of the brine.

(⁴) Carried out in accordance with amended Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2973/79 (OJ L 336, 29.12.1979, p. 44).

(^{4a}) Carried out in accordance with amended Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2051/96 (OJ L 274, 26.10.1996, p. 18).

(⁵) OJ L 221, 19.8.1984, p. 28.

(⁶) The lean bovine meat content excluding fat is determined in accordance with the procedure described in the Annex to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2429/86 (OJ L 210, 1.8.1986, p. 39).

The term 'average content' refers to the sample quantity as defined in Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 2457/97 (OJ L 340, 11.12.1997, p. 29). The sample is to be taken from that part of the consignment presenting the highest risk.

(⁷) Article 13(10) of amended Regulation (EEC) No 805/68 provides that no export refunds shall be granted on products imported from third countries and re-exported to third countries.

(⁸) The refund is granted only on products manufactured under the arrangement provided for in Article 4 of amended Council Regulation (EEC) No 565/80.

(⁹) The grant of the refund is subject to compliance with the conditions referred to in Article 2 of this Regulation.

NB: The descriptions corresponding to the product codes and the footnotes are set out in Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3846/87 as amended.

ANNEX II

Zone 01: all third countries

Zone 02: zones 08 and 09

Zone 03	Zone 07	Zone 09
022 Ceuta and Melilla	404 Canada	224 Sudan
024 Iceland		228 Mauritania
028 Norway		232 Mali
041 Faeroes		236 Burkina Faso
043 Andorra		240 Niger
044 Gibraltar		244 Chad
045 Vatican City		247 Cape Verde
053 Estonia		248 Senegal
054 Latvia	Zone 08	252 Gambia
055 Lithuania		257 Guinea-Bissau
060 Poland	046 Malta	260 Guinea
061 Czech Republic	052 Turkey	264 Sierra Leone
063 Slovakia	072 Ukraine	268 Liberia
064 Hungary	073 Belarus	272 Côte d'Ivoire
066 Romania	074 Moldova	276 Ghana
068 Bulgaria	075 Russia	280 Togo
070 Albania	076 Georgia	284 Benin
091 Slovenia	077 Armenia	288 Nigeria
092 Croatia	078 Azerbaijan	302 Cameroon
093 Bosnia-Herzegovina	079 Kazakhstan	306 Central African Republic
094 Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	080 Turkmenistan	310 Equatorial Guinea
096 Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	081 Uzbekistan	311 Sao Tomé and Príncipe
109 The communes of Livigno and Campione d'Italia; the island of Helgoland	082 Tajikistan	314 Gabon
406 Greenland	083 Kirghistan	318 Congo (Republic)
600 Cyprus	204 Morocco	322 Congo (Democratic Republic)
950 Stores and provisions (Destinations referred to in Article 34 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3665/87, as amended)	208 Algeria	324 Rwanda
	212 Tunisia	328 Burundi
	216 Libya	329 St Helena and dependencies
	220 Egypt	330 Angola
	604 Lebanon	334 Ethiopia
	608 Syria	336 Eritrea
	612 Iraq	338 Djibouti
	616 Iran	342 Somalia
	624 Israel	350 Uganda
	625 West Bank and the Gaza Strip	352 Tanzania
	628 Jordan	355 Seychelles and dependencies
	632 Saudi Arabia	357 British Indian Ocean Territory
Zone 04	636 Kuwait	366 Mozambique
039 Switzerland	640 Bahrain	373 Mauritius
	644 Qatar	375 Comoros
	647 United Arab Emirates	377 Mayotte
	649 Oman	378 Zambia
Zone 05	653 Yemen	386 Malawi
400 United States of America	662 Pakistan	388 South Africa
	669 Sri Lanka	395 Lesotho
	676 Myanmar (Burma)	
	680 Thailand	
	690 Vietnam	
	700 Indonesia	
Zone 06	708 Philippines	
	720 China	Zone 10
809 New Caledonia	724 North Korea	
822 French Polynesia	740 Hong Kong	075 Russia

NB: The countries are those defined by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2317/97 (OJ L 321, 22.11.1997, p. 19).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 599/2000
of 17 March 2000
concerning applications for import licences for durum wheat under tariff quotas provided for in
Regulation (EC) No 778/1999

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1095/96 of 18 June 1996 on the implementation of the concessions set out in Schedule CXL drawn up in the wake of the conclusion of the GATT XXIV:6 negotiations⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 1 thereof,

Whereas:

Commission Regulation (EC) No 778/1999 of 15 April 1999 opening and providing for the administration of tariff quotas for 300 000 tonnes of quality wheat and 50 000 tonnes of durum wheat and repealing Regulations (EC) No 529/97 and (EC) No 2228/96⁽²⁾, lays down special provisions on the organisation of imports under the quota. Article 3(2) of Regulation (EC) No 778/1999 provides that the Commission is to fix a uniform percentage reduction in the quantities if applications for import licences exceed the quantities that may be imported. Applications for licences for durum wheat submitted between 29 January and 14 March 2000 relate to 159 034

tonnes of quality durum wheat. The maximum quantity to be allocated is 50 000 tonnes. The appropriate percentage of reduction for import licence applications submitted between 29 January and 14 March 2000 qualifying for the conditions provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1095/96 must therefore be set,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Applications for import licences for durum wheat qualifying for the conditions provided for in Regulation (EC) No 1095/96 submitted between 29 January and 14 March 2000 and notified to the Commission shall be accepted for the tonnages indicated therein multiplied by a coefficient of 0,314. Applications not notified to the Commission shall be refused.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 21 march 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 146, 20.6.1996, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 101, 16.4.1999, p. 36.

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

COUNCIL DECISION

of 13 March 2000

appointing a Greek alternate member of the Committee of the Regions

(2000/221/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 263 thereof,

Having regard to the Council Decision of 26 January 1998 ⁽¹⁾ appointing the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions,

Whereas:

A seat as an alternate member of the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the death of Mr Philippos Amiridis, a Greek member, as notified to the Council on 7 February 2000,

Having regard to the proposal from the Greek Government,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Mr Mihail Stylianidis shall be appointed an alternate member of the Committee of the Regions to replace Mr Philippos Amiridis for the remainder of the latter's term of office, which runs until 25 January 2002.

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

For the Council

The President

J. PINA MOURA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 28, 4.2.1998, p. 19.

COUNCIL DECISION
of 13 March 2000
appointing a Portuguese member and two Portuguese alternate members of the Committee of the Regions

(2000/222/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 263 thereof,

Having regard to the Council Decision of 26 January 1998 ⁽¹⁾ appointing the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions,

Whereas:

A seat as a member of the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the resignation of Mr Fernando Gomes and two seats as alternate members of the Committee of the Regions have become vacant following the resignation of Ms Edite Marreiros Estrela and Mr Joaquim Couto notified to the Council on 17 November 1999 and 7 February 2000 respectively,

Having regard to the proposal from the Portuguese Government,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

1. Ms Edite de Fatima Santos Marreiros Estrela is hereby appointed a member of the Committee of the Regions in place of Mr Fernando Gomes for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 25 January 2002.
2. Mr Joaquim Luis Rosa do Ceu and Mr Antonio Rui Esteves Solheiro are hereby appointed alternate members of the Committee of the Regions in place of Ms Edite Marreiros Estrela and Mr Joaquim Couto for the remainder of their term of office, which runs until 25 January 2002.

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

For the Council
The President
J. PINA MOURA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 28, 4.2.1998, p. 19.

COUNCIL DECISION
of 13 March 2000
amending Decision 1999/70/EC concerning the external auditors of the national central banks
(2000/223/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Statute of the European System of Central Banks and of the European Central Bank and in particular to Article 27(1) thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation of the European Central Bank (hereinafter referred to as the ECB) of 21 February 2000,

Whereas:

- (1) The accounts of the ECB and of the national central banks are to be audited by independent external auditors recommended by the Governing Council of the ECB and approved by the Council of the European Union.
- (2) The Governing Council of the ECB recommended the Council to approve the replacement, starting from the financial year 2000, of one of the external auditors for the Deutsche Bundesbank who were approved by the Council in its Decision 1999/70/EC ⁽¹⁾.
- (3) It is appropriate to follow the recommendation of the Governing Council,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Article 1(2) of Decision 1999/70/EC shall be replaced by the following:

‘2. KPMG Deutsche Treuhand-Gesellschaft AG and Ernst & Young Deutsche Allgemeine Treuhand AG are hereby approved as the external auditors of the Deutsche Bundesbank for the annual accounts starting from the financial year 2000.’

Article 2

This Decision shall be notified to the ECB.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

For the Council
The President
J. PINA MOURA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 22, 29.1.1999, p. 69.

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**of 13 March 2000****concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1984) (sixth EDF) for the financial year 1998**

(2000/224/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Third ACP-EEC Convention, signed at Lomé on 8 December 1984,

Having regard to Council Decision 86/283/EEC of 30 June 1986 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community ⁽¹⁾,Having regard to the Internal Agreement on the financing and administration of Community aid ⁽²⁾, signed in Brussels on 19 February 1985, as amended by Decision 86/281/EEC ⁽³⁾, and in particular Article 29(3) thereof,Having regard to the Financial Regulation of 11 November 1986 applicable to the sixth European Development Fund ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Articles 66 to 73 thereof,Having examined the revenue and expenditure account and the balance sheet relating to the operations of the European Development Fund (1984) (sixth EDF) as at 31 December 1998 and the Court of Auditors' report relating to the financial year 1998 together with the Commission's replies ⁽⁵⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 29(3) on the Internal Agreement, the discharge for the management of the European Development Fund (1984) (sixth EDF) must be given to the Commission by the European Parliament on a recommendation from the Council.
- (2) The overall implementation by the Commission of the operations of the European Development Fund (1984) (sixth EDF) during the financial year 1998 has been satisfactory,

HEREBY RECOMMENDS that the European Parliament give the Commission a discharge in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1984) (sixth EDF) for the financial year 1998.

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

*For the Council**The President*

J. PINA MOURA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 175, 1.7.1986, p. 1.⁽²⁾ OJ L 86, 31.3.1986, p. 210.⁽³⁾ OJ L 178, 2.7.1986, p. 13.⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 325, 20.11.1986, p. 42.⁽⁵⁾ OJ C 349, 3.12.1999, p. 181.

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**of 13 March 2000****concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1989) (seventh EDF) for the financial year 1998**

(2000/225/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the fourth ACP-EC Convention, signed at Lomé on 15 December 1989, as amended by the agreement signed at Mauritius on 4 November 1995,

Having regard to Council Decision 91/482/EEC of 25 July 1991 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community ⁽¹⁾,Having regard to the Internal Agreement on the financing and administration of Community aid ⁽²⁾, signed in Brussels on 16 July 1990, and in particular Article 33(3) thereof,Having regard to the Financial Regulation of 29 July 1991 applicable to the seventh European Development Fund ⁽³⁾, and in particular Articles 69 to 77 thereof,Having examined the revenue and expenditure account and the balance sheet relating to the operations of the European Development Fund (1989) (seventh EDF) as at 31 December 1998 and the Court of Auditors' report relating to the financial year 1998 together with the Commission's replies ⁽⁴⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 33(3) of the Internal Agreement, the discharge for the management of the European Development Fund (1989) (seventh EDF) must be given to the Commission by the European Parliament on a recommendation from the Council.
- (2) The overall implementation by the Commission of the operations of the European Development Fund (1989) (seventh EDF) during the financial year 1998 has been satisfactory,

HEREBY RECOMMENDS that the European Parliament give the Commission a discharge in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1989) (seventh EDF) for the financial year 1998.

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

*For the Council**The President*

J. PINA MOURA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 263, 19.9.1991, p. 1.⁽²⁾ OJ L 229, 17.8.1991, p. 288.⁽³⁾ OJ L 266, 21.9.1991, p. 1.⁽⁴⁾ OJ C 349, 3.12.1999, p. 181.

COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION**of 13 March 2000****concerning the discharge to be given to the Commission in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1995) (eighth EDF) for the financial year 1998**

(2000/226/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Fourth ACP-EC Convention, signed at Lomé on 15 December 1989, as amended by the agreement signed at Mauritius on 4 November 1995,

Having regard to Council Decision 91/482/EEC of 25 July 1991 on the association of the overseas countries and territories with the European Economic Community ⁽¹⁾, as revised in the interim by Decision 97/803/EC ⁽²⁾,Having regard to the Internal Agreement on the financing and administration of Community aid ⁽³⁾, signed in Brussels on 20 December 1995, and in particular Article 33(3) thereof,Having regard to the Financial Regulation of 16 June 1998 applicable to the eighth European Development Fund ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Articles 69 to 74 thereof,Having examined the revenue and expenditure account and the balance sheet relating to the operations of the European Development Fund (1995) (eighth EDF) as at 31 December 1998 and the Court of Auditors' report relating to the financial year 1998 together with the Commission's replies ⁽⁵⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 33(3) on the Internal Agreement, the discharge for the management of the European Development Fund (1995) (sixth EDF) must be given to the Commission by the European Parliament on a recommendation from the Council.
- (2) The overall implementation by the Commission of the operations of the European Development Fund (1995) (eighth EDF) during the financial year 1998 has been satisfactory,

HEREBY RECOMMENDS that the European Parliament give the Commission a discharge in respect of the implementation of the operations of the European Development Fund (1995) (eighth EDF) for the financial year 1998.

Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.

*For the Council**The President*

J. PINA MOURA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 263, 19.9.1991, p. 1.⁽²⁾ OJ L 329, 29.11.1997, p. 50.⁽³⁾ OJ L 156, 29.5.1998, p. 108 and corrigendum: OJ L 173, 18.6.1998, p. 54.⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 191, 7.7.1998, p. 53.⁽⁵⁾ OJ C 349, 3.12.1999, p. 181.

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 7 March 2000

on the granting of aid for the production of table olives in Italy

(notified under document number C(2000) 599)

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(2000/227/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation No 136/66/EEC of 22 September 1966 on the establishment of a common organisation of the market in oils and fats ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1638/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 5(4) thereof,

Whereas

- (1) Article 5(4) of Regulation No 136/66/EEC grants the Member States the possibility of allocating part of their national guaranteed quantities and of their olive oil production aid to support for table olives under conditions to be approved by the Commission in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 38 of that Regulation.
- (2) Italy has presented a request in respect of the 2000/2001 marketing year and detailed rules should be laid down for the granting of the aid.
- (3) Provision should be made for the aid to be granted to growers of processed table olives from olive groves in Italy and the conditions governing the granting of the aid should be specified.
- (4) The processing period should be defined as running from 1 September 2000 to 31 August 2001. Olives which have undergone initial treatment in brine lasting at least 15 days and have been removed from the brine definitively or failing that have undergone treatment making them fit for human consumption should be deemed to be processed olives.
- (5) The weight of processed table olives for which aid is payable and the equivalence between processed table olives and olive oil should be determined for the

purposes of calculating the unit aid for table olives and of administering the national guaranteed quantities.

- (6) Undertakings processing table olives must be approved in accordance with conditions to be determined.
- (7) Provisions should be laid down for checks on aid for table olives. Those provisions must in particular cover crop declarations by table olive growers, notifications by processors of the quantities of olives delivered by growers and leaving the processing chain, and the obligations on paying agencies regarding checks. Provision should be made for penalties on table olive growers where their declarations conflict with the results of checks.
- (8) The information needed for calculating the aid to be granted to growers of processed table olives should be determined. An advance on the aid may be granted under certain conditions.
- (9) Italy must notify the Commission of the national measures adopted for the purposes of applying this Decision and of the information used for calculating the advance on the aid and the definitive aid.
- (10) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Oils and Fats,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

For the 2000/2001 olive oil marketing year, Italy is authorised to grant aid for the production of table olives in accordance with this Decision.

⁽¹⁾ OJ 172, 30.9.1966, p.3025/66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 32.

Article 2

1. Aid for the production of table olives shall be granted to growers of olives which come from olive groves in Italy and are sent to approved processing undertakings for processing into table olives.

2. For the 2000/2001 olive-oil marketing year, aid shall be granted for table olives processed between 1 September 2000 and 31 August 2001.

3. Within the meaning of this Decision, 'processed table olives' means olives that have undergone at least 15 days' initial treatment in brine and have been removed from the brine definitively or failing that have undergone treatment making them fit for human consumption.

Article 3

1. For the purposes of calculating the unit aid for table olives and of administering the national guaranteed quantities of olive oil, 100 kg of processed table olives shall be deemed to be equivalent to 13 kg of olive oil eligible for production aid as provided for in Article 5 of Regulation No 136/66/EEC.

2. The weight of processed table olives to be taken into consideration shall be the drained net weight of whole olives after processing, possibly bruised but not stoned.

Article 4

1. Approval numbers shall be allocated to undertakings which:

- submit an application for approval by 30 June 2000, accompanied by the information referred to in paragraph 2 and the commitments referred to in paragraph 3,
- market processed table olives, with or without additional preparation,
- have plant capable of processing at least 50 tonnes of olives per year.

2. Applications for approval shall include at least:

- a description of the processing plant and storage facilities, with details of their capacity,
- a description of the forms of table olive preparations marketed, indicating the average weight of processed table olives required for one kilogram of each type of prepared product.

3. For the purposes of approval, processors shall undertake to:

- keep table olives for which aid is payable separate from table olives originating in third countries and those for which aid is not payable when taking delivery of, processing and storing them,
- keep details of stocks of table olives at various stages of preparation, by form of preparation, as at 1 September 2000,
- keep stock records covering table olives, linked to the financial accounts and indicating, for each day:

- (a) the quantities of olives entering the establishment, showing each consignment separately and identifying the grower of each;
 - (b) the quantities of olives sent for processing and the quantities of table olives processed within the meaning of Article 2(3);
 - (c) the quantities of table olives for which the process of preparation has been completed;
 - (d) the quantities of table olives leaving the undertaking, broken down by form of preparation and indicating the consignees.
- provide the grower as referred to in Article 2(1) and the competent body with the documents and the information referred to in Article 6 in accordance with the conditions laid down therein,
- submit to all checks provided for under this Decision.

4. Approval shall be refused or immediately withdrawn where undertakings:

- fail to comply or no longer comply with the conditions for approval, or
- are prosecuted by the competent authorities for irregularities in respect of the arrangements provided for in Regulation No 136/66/EEC, or
- have been penalised for an infringement of that Regulation within the past 24 months.

Article 5

For the purposes of granting the aid for the production of table olives, by 30 November 2000 growers shall lodge a crop attestation, directly or indirectly, with the competent body confirming that the declaration laid down for olive oil production aid also covers table olives or, as appropriate, a new declaration containing the same information as the crop declaration for olive oil but referring to table olives.

Where the information concerned has already been furnished by a crop declaration for olive oil and has not been subject to modification, the supplementary declaration shall simply indicate the references to the crop declaration and the parcels concerned.

The declarations concerning table olives shall be included in the alphanumeric database provided for in connection with the aid scheme for olive oil production.

Article 6

1. During the month following delivery of the final consignment of olives and no later than 30 June 2001, approved undertakings shall issue growers as referred to in Article 2(1) with a certificate of delivery showing the net weight of olives entering the undertaking.

The certificate must be supported by all the documentation relating to the weight of the consignments of olives delivered.

2. Approved undertakings shall notify the competent body and the control agency:

- (a) before the 10th day of each month, of:
- the quantities of olives received, sent for processing and processed within the meaning of Article 2(3) in the course of the previous month,
 - the quantities of olives prepared and sent out, broken down by form of preparation, in the course of the previous month;
 - the aggregate quantities referred to in the first two indents and the stock situation at the end of the previous month;
- (b) before 1 July 2001, of the names of growers as referred to in Article 2(1) for the processing period referred to in Article 2(2) and of the quantities covered by certificates issued to them in accordance with paragraph 1;
- (c) before 1 June 2002, of the total quantities delivered for the processing period referred to in Article 2(2) and of the corresponding total quantities processed.

Article 7

1. Before 1 July 2001, table olive growers shall lodge aid applications, directly or indirectly, with the competent body, containing at least the following details:

- the name and address of the grower,
- a reference to the relevant crop declaration,
- the approved undertaking to which the olives were delivered.

Such applications shall be accompanied by certificates of delivery as referred to in Article 6(1).

Where applicable, applications may be accompanied by an application for an advance on the aid.

2. Applications lodged after the deadline shall incur a penalty consisting of a reduction of 1 % of the amount to which the grower would have been entitled had the application been lodged by the due date, for each working day of delay. Applications lodged more than 25 working days late shall be refused.

Article 8

1. Before the definitive payment of the aid, the competent body shall carry out the controls required to check:

- the quantities of table olives covered by certificates of delivery,
- the quantities of table olives processed, broken down by grower.

Controls shall involve:

- several physical inspections of goods in stock and a check of the accounts of approved undertakings,
- stricter checks of aid applications from olive growers applying for aid for both table olives and olive oil.

2. Italy shall see that all the necessary controls are in place to ensure that:

- entitlement to table olive production aid is respected,
- olives entering an undertaking approved under this Decision are excluded from eligibility for olive oil production aid,
- no more than one aid application is lodged for the same olives.

3. Without prejudice to the penalties laid down by Italy, no aid shall be granted to growers as referred to in Article 2(1) whose declarations as provided for in Article 5 or whose aid applications in accordance with Article 7 prove to conflict with the results of checks. However, Article 15 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2366/98 ⁽¹⁾ shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

Article 9

1. Growers as referred to in Article 2(1) may receive an advance on the aid requested. The advance shall be equal to the unit amount referred to in Article 17a(1) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2261/84 ⁽²⁾, multiplied by the quantity of olive oil equivalent, in accordance with Article 3(1) of this Decision, to the relevant quantity of table olives processed.

For the purposes of granting advances to growers, the quantity of table olives processed shall be determined by applying a provisional processing coefficient to the quantity appearing in the certificate of delivery, as confirmed by the other information notified to the competent body. That coefficient shall be established by the competent body on the basis of the data available on the approved undertaking concerned. However, the quantity of table olives taken into consideration may not exceed 90 % of the quantity of table olives delivered.

2. Advances on the aid shall be paid from 16 October 2001 to growers applying therefor in accordance with Article 7(1).

Article 10

1. Without prejudice to the reductions provided for in Article 20d of Regulation No 136/66/EEC, the aid shall be equal to the unit amount referred to in Article 17a(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 2261/84 multiplied by the quantity of olive oil equivalent, in accordance with Article 3(1) of this Decision, to the relevant quantity of table olives processed.

For the purposes of granting the aid to growers as referred to in Article 2(1), the quantity of table olives processed shall be determined by applying a processing coefficient for the undertaking concerned to the quantity appearing in the certificate of delivery, as confirmed by the other information notified to the competent body. That coefficient shall be equal to the ratio between the total quantity of table olives processed on the one hand, and the total quantity of table olives covered by certificates of delivery on the other hand, in respect of the olive-oil marketing year concerned.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 293, 31.10.1998, p. 50.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 208, 3.8.1984, p. 3.

Where the quantity of processed olives corresponding to the aid as set out in the certificate of delivery cannot be established, the quantities of table olives processed for the growers concerned shall be calculated using the average coefficient for the other undertakings. However, without prejudice to any claims which the olive growers concerned might make against the undertaking, that quantity of processed olives may not exceed 75 % of the quantity shown in the certificate of delivery.

2. Once the controls referred to in Article 8 have been carried out, the aid or, where applicable, the balance of the aid shall be paid to the grower in full within 90 days of the Commission fixing the unit amount thereof.

Article 11

Italy shall notify the Commission:

- without delay, of the national measures taken pursuant to this Decision,

- before 1 August 2001, of the quantities of olive oil equivalent to the estimated output of table olives processed and of the provisional processing coefficients for that estimate,
- before 16 June 2002, of the quantities of olive oil equivalent to the actual output of table olives processed and of the processing coefficients adopted.

Article 12

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 7 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission
