

Official Journal

of the European Communities

ISSN 0378-6978

L 80

Volume 43

31 March 2000

English edition

Legislation

Contents

I Acts whose publication is obligatory

- ★ **Council Regulation (EC) No 655/2000 of 27 March 2000 opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products** 1
- ★ **Council Regulation (EC) No 656/2000 of 27 March 2000 opening and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products originating in Ceuta** 5
- ★ **Council Regulation (EC) No 657/2000 of 27 March 2000 on closer dialogue with the fishing sector and groups affected by the common fisheries policy** 7
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 658/2000 of 30 March 2000 establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables 9
- ★ **Commission Decision No 659/2000/ECSC of 30 March 2000 amending Decision No 2136/97/ECSC on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation** 11
- ★ **Commission Regulation (EC) No 660/2000 of 30 March 2000 amending Regulation (EC) No 304/2000 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of cod in the Irish Sea (ICES Division VIIa)** 14
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 661/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the rates of the refunds applicable to certain cereal and rice-products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty 15
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 662/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing production refunds on cereals and rice 18
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 663/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on products processed from cereals and rice 19

Commission Regulation (EC) No 664/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on cereal-based compound feedingstuffs	21
Commission Regulation (EC) No 665/2000 of 30 March 2000 amending the import duties in the cereals sector	23
Commission Regulation (EC) No 666/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal	26
Commission Regulation (EC) No 667/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the maximum export refund on common wheat in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2010/1999	28
Commission Regulation (EC) No 668/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the maximum export refund on common wheat in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 1707/1999	29
Commission Regulation (EC) No 669/2000 of 30 March 2000 fixing the maximum export refund on barley in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 1701/1999	30
Commission Regulation (EC) No 670/2000 of 30 March 2000 amending Regulation (EC) No 653/2000 fixing the import duties in the rice sector	31

II Acts whose publication is not obligatory

Council

2000/259/EC:

- ★ **Decision No 1/2000 of the EU-Lithuania Association Council of 17 February 2000 adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Lithuania in the Community programme in the field of small- and medium-sized enterprises** 34

I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 655/2000
of 27 March 2000
opening and providing for the administration of autonomous Community tariff quotas for certain
fishery products

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) Community supplies of certain fishery products currently depend on imports from third countries. It is in the Community's interest to suspend in part or in whole the customs duties for the products in question, within Community tariff quotas of an appropriate volume. In order not to jeopardise the development prospects of this production in the Community and to ensure an adequate supply to satisfy user industries, it is advisable to open those quotas, applying customs duties varied accordingly to sensitivity of the different products on the Community market.
- (2) It is necessary, in particular, to ensure for all Community importers equal and uninterrupted access to the said quotas and to ensure the uninterrupted application of the rates laid down for the quotas to all imports of the products concerned into all Member States until the quotas have been used up.
- (3) The decision for the opening of autonomous tariff quotas should be taken by the Community. To ensure the efficiency of a common administration of these quotas, there is no reasonable obstacle to authorising the Member States to draw from the quota-volumes the necessary quantities corresponding to actual imports. However, this method of administration requires close cooperation between the Member States and the Commission and the latter must in particular be able to

monitor the rate at which the quotas are used up and inform the Member States accordingly.

- (4) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 of 2 July 1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code ⁽¹⁾, has codified the management rules for tariff quotas designed to be used following the chronological order of dates of customs declarations.
- (5) Having regard to the economic importance of this Regulation for European industry it is necessary to invoke the ground of urgency referred to in point I(3) of the Additional Protocol to the Treaty of Amsterdam on the role of national parliaments in the European Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. The import duties on the goods listed in the Annex shall be suspended at the indicated duty rate for the periods and in the amounts indicated therein.
2. Imports of the products in question shall not be covered by the quotas referred to in paragraph 1 unless the free-at-frontier price, which is determined by the Member States in accordance with Article 22 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organisation of the market in fishery and aquaculture products ⁽²⁾, is at least equal to the reference price fixed, or to be fixed, by the Community for the products under consideration of the categories of the products concerned.

Article 2

The tariff quotas referred to in Article 1 shall be administered by the Commission in accordance with Articles 308a to 308c of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93.

Article 3

The Member States and the Commission shall cooperate closely to ensure that this Regulation is complied with.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1662/99 (OJ L 197, 29.7.1999, p. 25).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 3318/94 (OJ L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15).

Article 4

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 April 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 27 March 2000.

For the Council

The President

F. GOMES

ANNEX

Order No	CN code	Taric code	Description	Amount of quota (tonnes)	Quota duty (%)	Quota period
09.2753	ex 0302 50 10 ex 0302 50 90 ex 0302 69 35 ex 0303 60 11 ex 0303 60 19 ex 0303 60 90 ex 0303 79 41	20 10 10 10 10 10 10	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>) and fish of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , excluding livers and roes, presented fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing (a) (b)	90 000	3	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2756	ex 0303 60 11 ex 0303 60 19 ex 0303 60 90 ex 0303 79 41	10 10 10 10	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>) and fish of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , excluding livers and roes, frozen, for processing (a) (c)	8 000	3	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2758	ex 0302 70 00	20	Cod livers (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>) and fish liver of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , fresh or chilled, for processing (a) (b)	300	0	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2765	ex 0305 62 00 ex 0305 69 10	20 25 29 10	Cod (<i>Gadus morhua</i> , <i>Gadus ogac</i> , <i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>) and fish of the species <i>Boreogadus saida</i> , salted or in brine, but not dried or smoked, for processing (a) (b)	8 000	0	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2773	ex 0306 13 10 ex 0306 23 10	10 11 91	Shrimps and prawns of the species <i>Pandalus borealis</i> , in shell, fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing (a) (b)	12 000	0	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2779	ex 0304 90 05	10	Surimi, frozen, for processing (a) (b)	16 000	3,5	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2780	ex 0304 20 91 ex 0304 90 97	10 60	Frozen blue grenadier fillets <i>Macruronus novaezealandiae</i> and other frozen meat of blue grenadier, for processing (a) (b)	20 000	3,5	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2785	ex 0307 49 59 ex 0307 99 11	10 10	Tubes of squid (<i>Ommastrephes</i> spp. excluding <i>Ommastrephes sagittatus</i> , <i>Nototodarus</i> spp., <i>Sepioteuthis</i> spp.) and <i>Illex</i> spp., frozen, for processing (a) (b)	11 000	3,5	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2786	ex 0307 49 59 ex 0307 99 11	20 20	Squid (<i>Ommastrephes</i> spp. excluding <i>Ommastrephes sagittatus</i> , <i>Nototodarus</i> spp., <i>Sepioteuthis</i> spp.) and <i>Illex</i> spp., frozen whole, tentacles and fins, for processing (a) (b)	500	3	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2788	ex 0302 40 00 ex 0303 50 00 ex 0304 10 97 ex 0304 90 22	10 10 20 10	Herrings (<i>Clupea harengus</i> , <i>Clupea pallasii</i>), whole, head included, of a weight exceeding 140 g per piece or flaps of a weight exceeding 80 g per piece), excluding livers and roes, fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing (a) (b)	20 000	0	1.11. to 31.12.2000

Order No	CN code	Taric code	Description	Amount of quota (tonnes)	Quota duty (%)	Quota period
09.2790	ex 1604 14 16	20 95	Fillets known as 'loins' of tunas and skipjack, for processing (a) (b)	4 000	6	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2792	ex 1604 12 99	10	Herrings, spiced/vinegar cured, in brine, preserved in barrels of at least 70 kg net drained weight, for processing (a) (b)	5 000	6	1.4. to 31.12.2000
09.2794	ex 1605 20 99	45	Shrimps and prawns of the species <i>Pandalus borealis</i> , cooked and peeled, for processing (a) (b)	5 000	6	1.4. to 31.12.2000

(a) Control of the use for this special purpose shall be carried out pursuant to the relevant Community provisions.

(b) This quota is available for products intended to undergo any operation, unless it is solely for one or more of the following operations:

- cleaning, gutting, tailing, heading,
- cutting (excluding dicing, filleting, production of flaps or cutting of frozen blocks or splitting of frozen interleaved fillet blocks),
- sampling, sorting,
- labelling,
- packing,
- chilling,
- freezing,
- deep freezing,
- thawing, separation.

The quota is not available for products intended, in addition, to undergo treatment (or operations) which gives quota entitlement, where such treatment (or operations) is (are) carried out at retail or catering level. The reduction of customs duties shall apply only to fish intended for human consumption.

(c) The quota is available for products destined exclusively for salting and drying.

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 656/2000**of 27 March 2000****opening and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain fishery products originating in Ceuta**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 133 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) By Regulation (EC) No 2622/97 ⁽¹⁾, the Council opened zero-duty Community tariff quotas for 1998-1999 for live fry and juveniles of sea bass and bream, sea bass and sea bream originating in Ceuta (Order No 09.0321 and 09.0322).
- (2) By letter of 15 November 1999 the Kingdom of Spain was asked to extend the validity of the quotas referred to in Regulation (EC) No 2622/97.
- (3) The Spanish authorities backed their request with social and economic arguments on Ceuta, showing the constraints under which its economy is operating and the difficulties faced by the local fishing industry. The request is justified as the economic situation in Ceuta requires the adoption of preferential measures to facilitate its exports to the Community.
- (4) In view of the late transmission of the request the Council has not been able to adopt before 31 December 1999 a Regulation extending the validity of these quotas. These quotas are, therefore, reopened by the present Regulation.
- (5) In the interests of rationalising implementation of the measures concerned, it is appropriate not to limit the validity of these quotas solely to the year 2000 but to extend it to the end of the year 2002.
- (6) The quota period runs from 1 January to 31 December each year. As this Regulation will be applicable only from 1 April 2000 the quota period for 2000 should run from 1 April to 31 December, with the quota volume remaining the same as for the whole year.
- (7) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2454/93 of 2 July 1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community Customs Code ⁽²⁾ codified the management rules for tariff quotas designed to be used following the chronological order of dates of customs declarations.
- (8) Eligibility for the tariff quotas introduced by this Regulation is subject to the definition of preferential origin specified in Article 27 of Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 ⁽³⁾,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In 2000 from 1 April to 31 December and in 2001 and 2002 from 1 January to 31 December, the customs duties applicable on importation into the Community of the products in question, originating in Ceuta, shall be suspended at the level and within the limits of the annual Community tariff quotas shown below:

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 354, 30.12.1997, p. 7.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1662/1999 (OJ L 197, 29.7.1999, p. 25).

⁽³⁾ OJ L 302, 19.10.1992, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 955/1999 of the European Parliament and the Council (OJ L 119, 7.5.1999, p. 1).

Order No	CN code	Taric code	Description	Amount of quota	Quota duty (%)
09.0321	ex 0301 99 90	20	Live fry and juveniles of sea bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>) and gilt-head seabreams (<i>Sparus aurata</i>)	3 000 000 units	0
09.0322	0302 69 94 0302 69 95	—	Sea bass (<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>) and gilt-head seabreams (<i>Sparus aurata</i>), fresh or chilled	100 tonnes	0

Article 2

Proof of the products' originating status shall be adduced in accordance with Article 6 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1135/88 of 7 March 1988 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative cooperation in the trade between the customs territory of the Community, Ceuta and Melilla and the Canary Islands ⁽¹⁾.

Article 3

The tariff quota referred to in Article 1 shall be administered by the Commission in accordance with Articles 308a, 308b and 308c of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93.

Article 4

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 April 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 27 March 2000.

For the Council

The President

F. GOMES

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 114, 2.5.1988, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3902/89 (OJ L 375, 23.12.1989, p. 5).

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 657/2000**of 27 March 2000****on closer dialogue with the fishing sector and groups affected by the common fisheries policy**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 37 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to give the representatives of the fishery products and aquaculture industry together with the other groups concerned a greater role in the design, drafting and implementation of the common fisheries policy (CFP), it is necessary to establish closer dialogue with these groups and to make the entire decision-making process more transparent, especially in the preparatory stages.
- (2) In view of the tasks of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ACFA) renewed under Commission Decision 1999/478/EC ⁽¹⁾, these objectives of closer dialogue and transparency could be made easier by the introduction of new measures to improve the organisation of meetings of the ACFA, on the one hand, and the communication to the groups concerned of information concerning the issues at stake and the results achieved, on the other.
- (3) To that end, the European trade organisations should be given help in preparing meetings of the ACFA with a view to stimulating comprehensive study of the issues involved in the CFP and the impact of its measures, fostering initiatives from the industry and seeking, if possible, common positions on Commission draft proposals.
- (4) In order to improve the circumstances in which decisions are taken the industry should be informed at a very early stage of the initiatives planned and the aims

and details of the different CFP measures should be explained to all the groups concerned,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Within the conditions laid down in the Annex, the Commission shall bear the cost of:

- meetings arranged by the European trade organisations which are aimed at preparing meetings of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture,
- explaining the objectives of, and measures relating to, the common fisheries policy, and in particular Commission proposals, and of disseminating relevant information in this field to the fishing industry and the groups concerned, maintaining regular contact with the organisations and groups concerned.

Funding may be provided also for meetings of experts arranged by the Commission to support the activities referred to in the second indent of the first subparagraph.

Article 2

The Commission may carry out all the verifications it considers necessary to ensure compliance with the conditions and performance of the tasks assigned by this Regulation to the European trade organisations, which shall assist the representatives appointed for this purpose by the Commission.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh day following that 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, 27 March 2000.

For the Council

The President

F. GOMES

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 187, 20.7.1999, p. 70.

ANNEX

Costs incurred by the European trade organisations in arranging preparatory meetings for meetings of the Advisory Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture (ACFA)

The travelling and accommodation costs of members of the European trade organisations required to travel in order to prepare meetings of the ACFA will be eligible.

The costs relating to meetings of the European trade organisations unconnected with meetings of the ACFA and costs other than those referred to in the first subparagraph will not be eligible.

Each year, as a function of the financial resources available and in proportion to entitlements within the plenary committee of the ACFA, each trade organisation which is a member of the ACFA plenary will be allocated drawing rights under a financing agreement with the Commission.

These drawing rights and the average cost of a journey by a member of a trade organisation (approximately EUR 750 in 1998) will determine the number of journeys for which each organisation may be financially responsible for the purpose of preparing meetings, less a maximum of 20 % of the amount of the drawing right which will be retained at a flat rate by each organisation to cover its organisational and administrative costs strictly linked with the organisation of the preparatory meetings.

Communication with all the groups concerned

This will include, at the initiative of the Commission:

- producing and disseminating documentary material tailored to the specific needs of the groups concerned (written, audiovisual and electronic material) based mainly on surveys conducted among those groups;
- providing very wide access to data and explanatory material concerning in particular Commission proposals through the development of the Internet website and producing a regular publication, as well as organising information and training seminars for opinion formers.

The measures referred to in the first and second indents will be carried out by external contractors selected by a call for tenders.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 658/2000
of 30 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 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 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 30 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	157,9
	204	102,8
	999	130,3
0707 00 05	068	130,6
	628	149,6
	999	140,1
0709 90 70	052	98,8
	204	91,1
	628	113,7
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	999	101,2
	052	79,2
	204	37,4
	212	50,2
	220	28,7
	624	53,8
0805 30 10	999	49,9
	052	35,3
	220	72,1
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	600	74,1
	999	60,5
	388	94,2
	400	100,9
	404	87,1
	508	80,1
	512	88,8
	528	84,3
0808 20 50	720	66,3
	999	86,0
	388	68,2
	512	66,0
	528	71,2
	999	68,5

⁽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 DECISION No 659/2000/ECSC**of 30 March 2000****amending Decision No 2136/97/ECSC on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the treaty establishing the European Coal and Steel Community, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 95 thereof,

After consulting the ECSC Consultative Committee and obtaining the unanimous agreement of the Council,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Decision No 2136/97/ECSC of 12 September 1997 on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Decision No 2124/98/ECSC ⁽²⁾, implements in Community law the provisions of the Agreement between the European Coal and Steel Community and the Russian Federation on trade in certain steel products ⁽³⁾ (hereinafter the 'Steel Agreement'). The Steel Agreement was concluded in the wider framework, and provided for in Article 21 of the Agreement on partnership and cooperation (PCA) establishing a partnership between the European Communities and their member States, of one part, and the Russian Federation of the part ⁽⁴⁾.

(2) Several Declarations are attached as integral parts to the Steel Agreement. Declaration No 3, in particular, states that 'in the context of the Agreement [...], the Parties agree that they shall not apply with respect to the other Party quantitative restrictions, customs duties, charges or any similar measures on the export of ferrous waste and scrap under the Combined Nomenclature heading 7204 [...].'

(3) On 16 April 1999, the Russian Government adopted a Decree ⁽⁵⁾ imposing a 15 % customs duty (with a minimum charge of EUR 15/tonne) on exports of iron and steel scrap for a period of six months. The intention, as stated in the Decree, was to prevent diversion of the raw materials needed for steel production and to maintain minimum levels of production from Russian steel plants.

(4) At the 17 May meeting of the Cooperation Council, the Community delegation passed a memorandum to the Russian delegation expressing its concerns regarding the Decree. This memorandum called for the export tax on iron scrap to be dropped forthwith on the grounds of its incompatibility with the Steel Agreement.

(5) At the request of the Russian authorities, the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement coal and steel contact group and the subcommittee on steel, coal, mining and raw materials were convened in Brussels in June for consultations focusing particularly on Russia's export duty on iron scrap. The Commission delegation clearly stated that it regarded the measure as a violation of both the Steel Agreement and the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement. In the absence of a satisfactory solution, it reserved the right to make use of the dispute settlement provisions and take retaliatory measures under the latter.

(6) The Community delegation expounded the same objections regarding the Decree at the meeting of the EU/Russia Cooperation Committee in Brussels on 8 October 1999.

(7) Notwithstanding all these consultations, on 28 October 1999 the Russian Government extended by six months the original decree imposing a customs duty on exports of iron and steel scrap ⁽⁶⁾.

(8) The aim and effect of the decrees is to restrict exports of the products concerned from the Russian Federation, and they are therefore prejudicial to the Community's steel industry. Against a background of economic recovery in world steel production, the tax on Russian scrap exports means that the current pressure on the price of scrap is further intensified. The international price for scrap rose by some EUR 8 per tonne in the last few months of 1999. Each additional euro represents extra costs to the Community industry of around EUR 60 million.

(9) Appropriate trade sanctions are clearly necessary, therefore, for as long as the Russian Federation persists in this breach of the Steel Agreement.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 300, 4.11.1997, p. 15.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 268, 3.10.1998, p. 31.

⁽³⁾ Commission Decision 97/742/ECSC (OJ L 300, 4.11.1997, p. 51). Text of Agreement (OJ L 300, 4.11.1997, p. 52).

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 327, 28.11.1997, p. 3.

⁽⁵⁾ Decree No 441.

⁽⁶⁾ Decree No 1198.

- (10) The Steel Agreement was concluded in the overall framework of the partnership and Cooperation Agreement. For the purposes of dispute settlement and trade sanctions, therefore, the relevant procedures in the latter apply in areas covered by the former.
- (11) In particular, under Article 107(2) of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement 'if either Party considers that the other Party has failed to fulfil an obligation under the Agreement, it may take appropriate measures. Before so doing, except in cases of special urgency, it shall supply the Cooperation Council with all relevant information required for a thorough examination of the situation with a view to seeking a solution acceptable to the parties'.
- (12) In accordance with that Article, the Community wrote on 22 December 1999 to the President of the Cooperation Council supplying all relevant information required for a thorough examination of the situation with a view to seeking a solution acceptable to the Parties, and also informing the Cooperation Council of the Community's intention to adopt appropriate sanctions against its obligations under the bilateral Steel Agreement and the PCA unless a solution i.e. withdrawal of the tax on exports of scrap of Combined Nomenclature heading 7204, was found within one calendar month of the date on the letter. No solution acceptable to the Parties was found during the consultations which took place in Brussels on 2 to 3 February 2000.
- (13) Annex IV of Decision No 2136/97/ECSC determines the quantitative limits applicable to Community imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation.
- (14) A reduction of 12 % in these limits for 2000 represents a trade sanction of the order of EUR 20 million. Such a measure therefore constitutes a proportionate response to the infringement. In accordance with Article 107(2) of the PCA, priority has been given in the selection of these measures to those which least disturb the functioning of the Agreement,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The quantitative limits for 2000 in Annex IV to Decision No 2136/97/ECSC on administering certain restrictions on imports of certain steel products from the Russian Federation are replaced by those set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

The Commission shall take appropriate measures to repeal this Decision once the Russian Federation has taken the necessary measures to meet its obligations under Declaration No 3, attached to the Agreement between the European Coal and Steel Community and the Russian Federation on trade in certain steel products.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force the day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Pascal LAMY

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

(in tonnes)	
Products	2000
<i>SA. Flat-rolled products</i>	
1. Coils	201 423
1 (a) Hot rolled coils for re-rolling	397 557
2. Heavy plate	30 206
3. Other flat rolled products	27 438
<i>SB. Long products</i>	
1. Beams	11 649
2. Wire rod	27 182
3. Other longs	101 307

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 660/2000
of 30 March 2000
amending Regulation (EC) No 304/2000 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of cod
in the Irish Sea (ICES Division VIIa)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3760/92 of 20 December 1992 establishing a Community system for fisheries and aquaculture ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1181/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 15(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Conditions laid down in Article 1(1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 304/2000 of 9 February 2000 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of cod in the Irish Sea (ICES Division VIIa) ⁽³⁾ imply prohibition of the use within that part of the Irish Sea referred to as Strangford Loch of many types of fishing gears for the protection of the stock of cod in the Irish Sea. However, cod do not occur in Strangford Loch and the prohibition of the use of fishing gears of the types indicated is therefore not justified.

- (2) Article 1(1) of Regulation (EC) No 304/2000 therefore should be amended,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The following text shall be added to the end of Article 1(1) of Regulation (EC) No 304/2000.

‘However, these conditions shall not apply to that part of the Irish Sea referred to as Strangford Loch.’

Article 2

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

It shall be applicable from 14 February 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 389, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 164, 9.6.1998, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 35, 10.2.2000, p. 10.

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 661/2000
of 30 March 2000**

**fixing the rates of the refunds applicable to certain cereal and rice-products exported in the form of
goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty**

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 organisation of the market in cereals ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽³⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 13(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 and Article 13(1) of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 provide that the difference between quotations of prices on the world market for the products listed in Article 1 of each of those Regulations and the prices within the Community may be covered by an export refund.
- (2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 of 30 May 1994 laying down common implementing rules for granting export refunds on certain agricultural products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty, and the criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds ⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 238/2000 ⁽⁶⁾, specifies the products for which a rate of refund should be fixed, to be applied where these products are exported in the form of goods listed in Annex B to Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 or in Annex B to Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 as appropriate.
- (3) In accordance with the first subparagraph of Article 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1222/94, the rate of the refund per 100 kilograms for each of the basic products in question must be fixed for each month.
- (4) The commitments entered into with regard to refunds which may be granted for the export of agricultural products contained in goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty may be jeopardised by the fixing in advance of high refund rates. Whereas it is therefore necessary to take precautionary measures in such situations without, however, preventing the conclusion of long-term

contracts. Whereas the fixing of a specific refund rate for the advance fixing of refunds is a measure which enables these various objectives to be met.

- (5) Now that a settlement has been reached between the European Community and the United States of America on Community exports of pasta products to the United States and has been approved by Council Decision 87/482/EEC ⁽⁷⁾, it is necessary to differentiate the refund on goods falling within CN codes 1902 11 00 and 1902 19 according to their destination.
- (6) Article 4(5)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 provides that, in the absence of the proof referred to in Article 4(5)(a) of that Regulation, a reduced rate of export refund has to be fixed, taking account of the amount of the production refund applicable, pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1722/93 ⁽⁸⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 87/1999 ⁽⁹⁾, for the basic product in question, used during the assumed period of manufacture of the goods.
- (7) It is necessary to ensure continuity of strict management taking account of expenditure forecasts and funds available in the budget.
- (8) The Management Committee for Cereals has not delivered an opinion within the time limit set by its chairman,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The rates of the refunds applicable to the basic products appearing in Annex A to Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 and listed either in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 or in Article 1(1) of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95, exported in the form of goods listed in Annex B to Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 or in Annex B to amended Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 respectively, are hereby fixed as shown in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 136, 31.5.1994, p. 5.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 24, 29.1.2000, p. 45.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 275, 29.9.1987, p. 36.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ L 159, 1.7.1993, p. 112.

⁽⁹⁾ OJ L 9, 15.1.1999, p. 8.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Erkki LIIKANEN

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 30 March 2000 fixing the rates of the refunds applicable to certain cereals and rice products exported in the form of goods not covered by Annex I to the Treaty

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Description of products ⁽¹⁾	Rate of refund per 100 kg of basic product	
		In case of advance fixing of refunds	Other
1001 10 00	Durum wheat: – on exports of goods falling within CN codes 1902 11 and 1902 19 to the United States of America – in other cases	— —	— —
1001 90 99	Common wheat and meslin: – on exports of goods falling within CN codes 1902 11 and 1902 19 to the United States of America – in other cases: – – where pursuant to Article 4 (5) of Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 ⁽²⁾ – – in other cases	2,163 2,205 3,327	2,163 2,205 3,327
1002 00 00	Rye	4,402	4,402
1003 00 90	Barley	2,559	2,559
1004 00 00	Oats	4,153	4,153
1005 90 00	Maize (corn) used in the form of: – starch: – – where pursuant to Article 4 (5) of Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 ⁽²⁾ – – in other cases – glucose, glucose syrup, maltodextrine, maltodextrine syrup of CN codes 1702 30 51, 1702 30 59, 1702 30 91, 1702 30 99, 1702 40 90, 1702 90 50, 1702 90 75, 1702 90 79, 2106 90 55 ⁽³⁾ : – – where pursuant to Article 4 (5) of Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 ⁽²⁾ – – in other cases – other (including unprocessed) Potato starch of CN code 1108 13 00 similar to a product obtained from processed maize: – where pursuant to Article 4 (5) of Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 ⁽²⁾ – in other cases	2,529 3,932 2,378 3,781 3,932 2,529 3,932	2,529 3,932 2,378 3,781 3,932 2,529 3,932
ex 1006 30	Wholly-milled rice: – round grain – medium grain – long grain	14,421 14,421 14,421	14,421 14,421 14,421
1006 40 00	Broken rice	3,343	3,343
1007 00 90	Sorghum	2,559	2,559

⁽¹⁾ As far as agricultural products obtained from the processing of a basic product or/and assimilated products are concerned, the coefficients shown in Annex E of amended Commission Regulation (EC) No 1222/94 shall be applied (OJ L 136, 31.5.1994, p. 5).

⁽²⁾ The goods concerned are listed in Annex I of amended Regulation (EEC) No 1722/93 (OJ L 159, 1.7.1993, p. 112).

⁽³⁾ For syrups of CN codes NC 1702 30 99, 1702 40 90 and 1702 60 90, obtained from mixing glucose and fructose syrup, the export refund may be granted only for the glucose syrup.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 662/2000
of 30 March 2000
fixing production refunds on cereals and rice

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 organisation of the market in cereals ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 7 ⁽³⁾ thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 7(2) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1722/93 of 30 June 1993 laying down detailed rules for the arrangements concerning production refunds in the cereals and rice sectors ⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 87/1999 ⁽⁶⁾, and in particular Article 3 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EEC) No 1722/93 establishes the conditions for granting the production refund; whereas the basis for the calculation is established in Article 3 of the said Regulation; whereas the refund thus calculated must be

fixed once a month and may be altered if the price of maize and/or wheat changes significantly.

- (2) The production refunds to be fixed in this Regulation should be adjusted by the coefficients listed in the Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 1722/93 to establish the exact amount payable.
- (3) 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 refund referred to in Article 3(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1722/93, expressed per tonne of starch extracted from maize, wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, rice or broken rice, shall be EUR 30,45 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 159, 1.7.1993, p. 112.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 9, 15.1.1999, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 663/2000**of 30 March 2000****fixing the export refunds on products processed from cereals and rice**

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 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organization of the market in rice ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 and Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 provide that the difference between quotations or prices on the world market for the products listed in Article 1 of those Regulations and prices for those products within the Community may be covered by an export refund.

(2) Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 provides that when refunds are being fixed account must be taken of the existing situation and the future trend with regard to prices and availabilities of cereals, rice and broken rice on the Community market on the one hand and prices for cereals, rice, broken rice and cereal products on the world market on the other. The same Articles provide that it is also important to ensure equilibrium and the natural development of prices and trade on the markets in cereals and rice and, furthermore, to take into account the economic aspect of the proposed exports, and the need to avoid disturbances on the Community market.

(3) Article 4 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1518/95 ⁽⁵⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2993/95 ⁽⁶⁾, on the import and export system for products processed from cereals and from rice defines the specific criteria to be taken into account when the refund on these products is being calculated.

(4) The refund to be granted in respect of certain processed products should be graduated on the basis of the ash, crude fibre, tegument, protein, fat and starch content of the individual product concerned, this content being a particularly good indicator of the quantity of basic product actually incorporated in the processed product.

(5) There is no need at present to fix an export refund for manioc, other tropical roots and tubers or flours obtained therefrom, given the economic aspect of potential exports and in particular the nature and origin of these products. For certain products processed from cereals, the insignificance of Community participation in world trade makes it unnecessary to fix an export refund at the present time.

(6) The world market situation or the specific requirements of certain markets may make it necessary to vary the refund for certain products according to destination.

(7) The refund must be fixed once a month; whereas it may be altered in the intervening period.

(8) Certain processed maize products may undergo a heat treatment following which a refund might be granted that does not correspond to the quality of the product; whereas it should therefore be specified that on these products, containing pregelatinized starch, no export refund is to be granted.

(9) 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 export refunds on the products listed in Article 1(1)(d) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 and in Article 1(1)(c) of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and subject to Regulation (EC) No 1518/95 are hereby fixed as shown in the Annex to this Regulation.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 55.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 312, 23.12.1995, p. 25.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 30 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on products processed from cereals and rice

(EUR/tonne)		(EUR/tonne)	
Product code	Refund	Product code	Refund
1102 20 10 9200 ⁽¹⁾	57,64	1104 23 10 9100	61,76
1102 20 10 9400 ⁽¹⁾	49,40	1104 23 10 9300	47,35
1102 20 90 9200 ⁽¹⁾	49,40	1104 29 11 9000	35,54
1102 90 10 9100	40,20	1104 29 51 9000	34,84
1102 90 10 9900	27,34	1104 29 55 9000	34,84
1102 90 30 9100	78,28	1104 30 10 9000	8,71
1103 12 00 9100	78,28	1104 30 90 9000	10,29
1103 13 10 9100 ⁽¹⁾	74,11	1107 10 11 9000	62,02
1103 13 10 9300 ⁽¹⁾	57,64	1107 10 91 9000	47,70
1103 13 10 9500 ⁽¹⁾	49,40	1108 11 00 9200	69,68
1103 13 90 9100 ⁽¹⁾	49,40	1108 11 00 9300	69,68
1103 19 10 9000	46,09	1108 12 00 9200	65,87
1103 19 30 9100	41,54	1108 12 00 9300	65,87
1103 21 00 9000	35,54	1108 13 00 9200	65,87
1103 29 20 9000	27,34	1108 13 00 9300	65,87
1104 11 90 9100	40,20	1108 19 10 9200	53,20
1104 12 90 9100	86,98	1108 19 10 9300	53,20
1104 12 90 9300	69,58	1109 00 00 9100	0,00
1104 19 10 9000	35,54	1702 30 51 9000 ⁽²⁾	82,74
1104 19 50 9110	65,87	1702 30 59 9000 ⁽²⁾	63,34
1104 19 50 9130	53,52	1702 30 91 9000	82,74
1104 21 10 9100	40,20	1702 30 99 9000	63,34
1104 21 30 9100	40,20	1702 40 90 9000	63,34
1104 21 50 9100	53,60	1702 90 50 9100	82,74
1104 21 50 9300	42,88	1702 90 50 9900	63,34
1104 22 20 9100	69,58	1702 90 75 9000	86,70
1104 22 30 9100	73,93	1702 90 79 9000	60,17
		2106 90 55 9000	63,34

⁽¹⁾ No refund shall be granted on products given a heat treatment resulting in pregelatinisation of the starch.

⁽²⁾ Refunds are granted in accordance with Council Regulation (EEC) No 2730/75 (OJ L 281, 1.11.1975, p. 20), amended.

NB: The product codes and the footnotes are defined in Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3846/87 (OJ L 366, 24.12.1987, p. 1), amended.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 664/2000
of 30 March 2000
fixing the export refunds on cereal-based compound feedingstuffs

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 Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 provides that the difference between quotations or 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 (EC) No 1517/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down detailed rules for the application of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 as regards the arrangements for the export and import of compound feedingstuffs based on cereals and amending Regulation (EC) No 1162/95 laying down special detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences for cereals and rice ⁽³⁾ in Article 2 lays down general rules for fixing the amount of such refunds.
- (3) That calculation must also take account of the cereal products content. In the interest of simplification, the refund should be paid in respect of two categories of 'cereal products', namely for maize, the most commonly used cereal in exported compound feeds and maize products, and for 'other cereals', these being eligible cereal products excluding maize and maize products. A

refund should be granted in respect of the quantity of cereal products present in the compound feedingstuff.

- (4) Furthermore, the amount of the refund must also take into account the possibilities and conditions for the sale of those products on the world market, the need to avoid disturbances on the Community market and the economic aspect of the export.
- (5) However, in fixing the rate of refund it would seem advisable to base it at this time on the difference in the cost of raw inputs widely used in compound feedingstuffs as the Community and world markets, allowing more accurate account to be taken of the commercial conditions under which such products are exported.
- (6) The refund must be fixed once a month; whereas it may be altered in the intervening period.
- (7) 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 export refunds on the compound feedingstuffs covered by Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 and subject to Regulation (EC) No 1517/95 are hereby fixed as shown in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 51.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 30 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on cereal-based compound feeding-stuffs

Product code benefiting from export refund ⁽¹⁾:

2309 10 11 9000, 2309 10 13 9000, 2309 10 31 9000,
2309 10 33 9000, 2309 10 51 9000, 2309 10 53 9000,
2309 90 31 9000, 2309 90 33 9000, 2309 90 41 9000,
2309 90 43 9000, 2309 90 51 9000, 2309 90 53 9000.

(EUR/t)

Cereal products ⁽²⁾	Amount of refund ⁽²⁾
Maize and maize products: CN codes 0709 90 60, 0712 90 19, 1005, 1102 20, 1103 13, 1103 29 40, 1104 19 50, 1104 23, 1904 10 10	41,17
Cereal products ⁽²⁾ excluding maize and maize products	30,82

⁽¹⁾ The product codes are defined in Sector 5 of the Annex to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3846/87 (OJ L 366, 24.12.1987, p. 1), amended.

⁽²⁾ For the purposes of the refund only the starch coming from cereal products is taken into account.

Cereal products means the products falling within subheadings 0709 90 60 and 0712 90 19, Chapter 10, and headings Nos 1101, 1102, 1103 and 1104 (unprocessed and not reconstituted excluding subheading 1104 30) and the cereals content of the products falling within subheadings 1904 10 10 and 1904 10 90 of the combined nomenclature. The cereals content in products under subheadings 1904 10 10 and 1904 10 90 of the combined nomenclature is considered to be equal to the weight of this final product. No refund is paid for cereals where the origin of the starch cannot be clearly established by analysis.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 665/2000
of 30 March 2000
amending the import duties in the cereals sector

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 organisation of the market in cereals ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 of 28 June 1996 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 as regards import duties in the cereals sector ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2519/98 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 2 (1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The import duties in the cereals sector are fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 566/2000 ⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 603/2000 ⁽⁶⁾.

- (2) Article 2, (1) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 provides that if during the period of application, the average import duty calculated differs by EUR 5 per tonne from the duty fixed, a corresponding adjustment is to be made. Such a difference has arisen. It is therefore necessary to adjust the import duties fixed in Regulation (EC) No 566/2000,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annexes I and II to Regulation (EC) No 566/2000 are hereby replaced by Annexes I and II to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 161, 29.6.1996, p. 125.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 315, 25.11.1998, p. 7.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 68, 16.3.2000, p. 59.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 72, 21.3.2000, p. 8.

ANNEX I

Import duties for the products covered by Article 10(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92

CN code	Description	Import duty by land inland waterway or sea from Mediterranean, the Black Sea or Baltic Sea ports (EUR/tonne)	Import duty by air or by sea from other ports ⁽²⁾ (EUR/tonne)
1001 10 00	Durum wheat high quality	17,09	7,09
	medium quality ⁽¹⁾	27,09	17,09
1001 90 91	Common wheat seed	28,23	18,23
1001 90 99	Common high quality wheat other than for sowing ⁽³⁾	28,23	18,23
	medium quality	71,14	61,14
	low quality	79,45	69,45
1002 00 00	Rye	70,07	60,07
1003 00 10	Barley, seed	70,07	60,07
1003 00 90	Barley, other ⁽³⁾	70,07	60,07
1005 10 90	Maize seed other than hybrid	83,42	73,42
1005 90 00	Maize other than seed ⁽³⁾	83,42	73,42
1007 00 90	Grain sorghum other than hybrids for sowing	70,07	60,07

⁽¹⁾ In the case of durum wheat not meeting the minimum quality requirements for durum wheat of medium quality, referred to in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1249/96, the duty applicable is that fixed for low-quality common wheat.

⁽²⁾ For goods arriving in the Community via the Atlantic Ocean or via the Suez Canal (Article 2(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96), the importer may benefit from a reduction in the duty of:

— EUR 3 per tonne, where the port of unloading is on the Mediterranean Sea, or

— EUR 2 per tonne, where the port of unloading is in Ireland, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden, Finland or the Atlantic Coasts of the Iberian Peninsula.

⁽³⁾ The importer may benefit from a flat-rate reduction of EUR 14 or 8 per tonne, where the conditions laid down in Article 2(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 are met.

ANNEX II

Factors for calculating duties

(period from 16 March 2000 to 29 March 2000)

1. Averages over the two-week period preceding the day of fixing:

Exchange quotations	Minneapolis	Kansas-City	Chicago	Chicago	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	Minneapolis
Product (% proteins at 12 % humidity)	HRS2. 14 %	HRW2. 11,5 %	SRW2	YC3	HAD2	Medium quality (*)	US barley 2
Quotation (EUR/t)	124,26	108,55	102,34	90,86	168,72 (**)	158,72 (**)	114,80 (**)
Gulf premium (EUR/t)	32,37	5,52	3,11	11,53	—	—	—
Great Lakes premium (EUR/t)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(*) A discount of EUR 10/t (Article 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96).

(**) Fob Gulf.

2. Freight/cost: Gulf of Mexico — Rotterdam: 17,28 EUR/t; Great Lakes — Rotterdam: 29,31 EUR/t.

3. Subsidy within the meaning of the third paragraph of Article 4(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96: EUR 0,00/t (HRW2)
EUR 0,00/t (SRW2).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 666/2000**of 30 March 2000****fixing the export refunds on cereals and on wheat or rye flour, groats and meal**

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 organisation of the market in cereals⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13 (2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 provides that the difference between quotations or prices on the world market for the products listed in Article 1 of that Regulation and prices for those products in the Community may be covered by an export refund.
- (2) The refunds must be fixed taking into account the factors referred to in Article 1 of 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 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⁾.
- (3) As far as wheat and rye flour, groats and meal are concerned, when the refund on these products is being calculated, account must be taken of the quantities of cereals required for their manufacture; whereas these quantities were fixed in Regulation (EC) No 1501/95.

- (4) The world market situation or the specific requirements of certain markets may make it necessary to vary the refund for certain products according to destination.
- (5) The refund must be fixed once a month; whereas it may be altered in the intervening period.
- (6) It follows from applying the detailed rules set out above to the present situation on the market in cereals, and in particular to quotations or prices for these products within the Community and on the world market, that the refunds should be as set out in the Annex hereto.
- (7) 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 export refunds on the products listed in Article 1(a), (b) and (c) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92, excluding malt, exported in the natural state, shall be as set out in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽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 2000 fixing the export refunds on cereals and on wheat or rye flour,
groats and meal**

(EUR/t)			(EUR/t)		
Product code	Destination ⁽¹⁾	Amount of refund	Product code	Destination ⁽¹⁾	Amount of refund
1001 10 00 9200	—	—	1101 00 11 9000	—	—
1001 10 00 9400	01	0	1101 00 15 9100	01	46,50
1001 90 91 9000	—	—	1101 00 15 9130	01	43,50
1001 90 99 9000	03	24,00	1101 00 15 9150	01	40,00
	02	0	1101 00 15 9170	01	37,00
1002 00 00 9000	03	55,00	1101 00 15 9180	01	34,75
	02	0	1101 00 15 9190	—	—
1003 00 10 9000	—	—	1101 00 90 9000	—	—
1003 00 90 9000	03	18,00	1102 10 00 9500	01	87,00
	02	0	1102 10 00 9700	01	68,50
1004 00 00 9200	—	—	1102 10 00 9900	—	—
1004 00 00 9400	—	—	1103 11 10 9200	01	0 ⁽²⁾
1005 10 90 9000	—	—	1103 11 10 9400	01	0 ⁽²⁾
1005 90 00 9000	03	27,00	1103 11 10 9900	—	—
	02	0	1103 11 90 9200	01	0 ⁽²⁾
1007 00 90 9000	—	—	1103 11 90 9800	—	—
1008 20 00 9000	—	—			

⁽¹⁾ The destinations are identified as follows:

- 01 all third countries,
- 02 other third countries,
- 03 Switzerland, Liechtenstein.

⁽²⁾ No refund is granted when this product contains compressed meal.

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 667/2000
of 30 March 2000**

**fixing the maximum export refund on common wheat in connection with the invitation to tender
issued in Regulation (EC) No 2010/1999**

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 organisation of the market in cereals ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the granting of export refunds on 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⁾, and in particular Article 7 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the refund and/or the tax for the export of common wheat to certain ACP States was opened pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2010/1999 ⁽⁵⁾.
- (2) Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 provides that the Commission may, on the basis of the tenders notified, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92, decide to fix a maximum export refund taking account of the criteria

referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95. In that case a contract is awarded to any tenderer whose bid is equal to or lower than the maximum refund, as well as to any tenderer whose bid relates to an export tax.

- (3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the cereal in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.
- (4) 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

For tenders notified from 24 to 30 March 2000, pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2010/1999, the maximum refund on exportation of common wheat shall be EUR 35,00/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 7.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 313, 21.11.1998, p. 16.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 248, 21.9.1999, p. 19.

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 668/2000
of 30 March 2000**

**fixing the maximum export refund on common wheat in connection with the invitation to tender
issued in Regulation (EC) No 1707/1999**

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 organisation of the market in cereals⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the granting of export refunds on 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⁾, and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the refund and/or the tax for the export of common wheat to all third countries was opened pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1707/1999⁽⁵⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2011/1999⁽⁶⁾.
- (2) Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 provides that the Commission may, on the basis of the tenders notified, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92, decide to fix

a maximum export refund taking account of the criteria referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95. In that case a contract is awarded to any tenderer whose bid is equal to or lower than the maximum refund, as well as to any tenderer whose bid relates to an export tax.

- (3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the cereal 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

For tenders notified from 24 to 30 March 2000, pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 1707/1999, the maximum refund on exportation of common wheat shall be EUR 33,99/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 7.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 313, 21.11.1998, p. 16.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 201, 31.7.1999, p. 55.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 248, 21.9.1999, p. 23.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 669/2000**of 30 March 2000****fixing the maximum export refund on barley in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 1701/1999**

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 organisation of the market in cereals ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the granting of export refunds on 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⁾, and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the refund and/or the tax for the export of barley to all third countries except for the United States of America and Canada was opened pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1701/1999 ⁽⁵⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2322/1999 ⁽⁶⁾.
- (2) Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 provides that the Commission may, on the basis of the tenders notified, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92, decide to fix

a maximum export refund taking account of the criteria referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95. In that case a contract is awarded to any tenderer whose bid is equal to or lower than the maximum refund, as well as to any tenderer whose bid relates to an export tax.

- (3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the cereal 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

For tenders notified from 24 to 30 March 2000, pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 1701/1999, the maximum refund on exportation of barley shall be EUR 27,98/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 March 2000.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 7.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 313, 21.11.1998, p. 16.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 201, 31.7.1999, p. 27.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 280, 30.10.1999, p. 77.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 670/2000
of 30 March 2000
amending Regulation (EC) No 653/2000 fixing the import duties in the rice sector

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⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1503/96 of 29 July 1996 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 as regards import duties in the rice sector ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2831/98 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 4(1) thereof,

Whereas:

An error has been discovered in Annexes I and II to Commission Regulation (EC) No 653/2000 ⁽⁵⁾. The Regulation in question should therefore be amended,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annexes I and II to Regulation (EC) No 653/2000 are hereby replaced by Annexes I and II to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 31 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 30 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 189, 30.7.1996, p. 71.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 351, 29.12.1998, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 79, 30.3.2000, p. 23.

ANNEX I

Import duties on rice and broken rice

(EUR/t)

CN code	Duties ⁽¹⁾				
	Third countries (except ACP and Bangladesh) ⁽²⁾	ACP ⁽¹⁾ ⁽²⁾ ⁽³⁾	Bangladesh ⁽⁴⁾	Basmati India and Pakistan ⁽⁵⁾	Egypt ⁽⁶⁾
1006 10 21	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 23	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 25	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 27	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 92	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 94	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 96	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 10 98	(7)	76,44	111,06		173,10
1006 20 11	141,08	45,04	66,20		105,81
1006 20 13	141,08	45,04	66,20		105,81
1006 20 15	141,08	45,04	66,20		105,81
1006 20 17	203,22	66,79	97,27	0,00	152,42
1006 20 92	141,08	45,04	66,20		105,81
1006 20 94	141,08	45,04	66,20		105,81
1006 20 96	141,08	45,04	66,20		105,81
1006 20 98	203,22	66,79	97,27	0,00	152,42
1006 30 21	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 23	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 25	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 27	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 42	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 44	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 46	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 48	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 61	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 63	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 65	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 67	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 92	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 94	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 96	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 30 98	(7)	146,86	212,59		341,25
1006 40 00	(7)	45,38	(7)		105,00

⁽¹⁾ The duty on imports of rice originating in the ACP States is applicable, under the arrangements laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1706/98 (OJ L 215, 1.8.1998, p. 12) and amended Commission Regulation (EC) No 2603/97 (OJ L 351, 23.12.1997, p. 22).

⁽²⁾ In accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1706/98, the duties are not applied to products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and imported directly into the overseas department of Réunion.

⁽³⁾ The import levy on rice entering the overseas department of Réunion is specified in Article 11(3) of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95.

⁽⁴⁾ The duty on imports of rice not including broken rice (CN code 1006 40 00), originating in Bangladesh is applicable under the arrangements laid down in Council Regulation (EEC) No 3491/90 (OJ L 337, 4.12.1990, p. 1) and amended Commission Regulation (EEC) No 862/91 (OJ L 88, 9.4.1991, p. 7).

⁽⁵⁾ No import duty applies to products originating in the OCT pursuant to Article 101(1) of amended Council Decision 91/482/EEC (OJ L 263, 19.9.1991, p. 1).

⁽⁶⁾ For husked rice of the Basmati variety originating in India and Pakistan, a reduction of EUR/t 250 applies (Article 4a of amended Regulation (EC) No 1503/96).

⁽⁷⁾ Duties fixed in the Common Customs Tariff.

⁽⁸⁾ The duty on imports of rice originating in and coming from Egypt is applicable under the arrangements laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 2184/96 (OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 1) and Commission Regulation (EC) No 196/97 (OJ L 31, 1.2.1997, p. 53).

ANNEX II

Calculation of import duties for rice

	Paddy	Indica rice		Japonica rice		Broken rice
		Husked	Milled	Husked	Milled	
1. Import duty (EUR/tonne)	(¹)	203,22	455,00	141,08	455,00	(¹)
2. Elements of calculation:						
(a) Arag cif price (EUR/tonne)	—	333,81	308,09	419,82	328,18	—
(b) fob price (EUR/tonne)	—	—	—	388,72	297,08	—
(c) Sea freight (EUR/tonne)	—	—	—	31,10	31,10	—
(d) Source	—	USDA	USDA	Operators	Operators	—

(¹) Duties fixed in the Common Customs Tariff.

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

DECISION No 1/2000 OF THE EU-LITHUANIA ASSOCIATION COUNCIL

of 17 February 2000

**adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Lithuania in the Community programme
in the field of small- and medium-sized enterprises**

(2000/259/EC)

THE ASSOCIATION COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Lithuania, of the other part ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 110 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) According to Article 110 of the Europe Agreement, Lithuania is to participate in framework programmes, projects or other actions of the Community in the fields laid down in Annex XX thereto, which include the field of small- and medium-sized enterprises.
- (2) Council Decision 97/15/EC of 9 December 1996 on a third multiannual programme for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 to 2000) ⁽²⁾ adopts a programme for Community policy for SMEs, including craft and very small enterprises, for a period of four years from 1 January 1997, and Article 7(1) thereof provides that this programme is to be open to the participation of the associated central European countries.
- (3) According to Article 110 of the Europe Agreement the terms and conditions for the participation of Lithuania in the activities referred to in Annex XX thereto are to be decided by the Association Council,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Lithuania shall participate in the third multiannual programme for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 to 2000) according to the terms and conditions set out in Annexes I and II which shall form an integral part of this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply for the duration of the programme.

Article 3

This Decision shall enter into force on the first day of the month following that of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 17 February 2000.

For the Association Council

The President

J. GAMA

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 51, 20.2.1998, p. 3.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 6, 10.1.1997, p. 25.

ANNEX I

Terms and conditions for the participation of Lithuania in the third multiannual programme for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 to 2000)

1. Lithuania will participate in the activities of the third multiannual programme for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 to 2000) (hereinafter called 'the Programme') in conformity, unless otherwise provided in this Decision, with the objectives, criteria, procedures and time limits laid down in Council Decision 97/15/EC of 9 December 1996 on a third multiannual programme for small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 to 2000) and in particular Article 7(1) thereof.
 2. The terms and conditions for the submission, assessment and selection of applications related to eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of Lithuania will be the same as those applicable to eligible institutions, organisations and individuals of the Community.
 3. Where appropriate, in order to ensure the Community dimension of the Programme, transnational projects and activities proposed by Lithuania will be required to include a minimum number of partners from the Member States of the Community. This minimum number will be decided in the framework of the implementation of the Programme, taking into account the nature of the various activities, the number of partners in a given project and the number of countries participating in the Programme.
 4. Lithuania will pay a contribution each year to the general budget of the European Union to cover the costs resulting from its participation in the Programme (see Annex II). The Association Committee is entitled to adapt this contribution whenever necessary.
 5. The Member States of the Community and Lithuania will make every effort, within the framework of the existing provisions, to facilitate the free movement and residence of all eligible persons to the Programme moving between Lithuania and the Member States of the Community for the purpose of participation in activities covered by the Decision.
 6. Without prejudice to the responsibilities of the European Commission and the European Court of Auditors in relation to the evaluation of the Programme according to Article 6 of Decision 97/15/EC, the participation of Lithuania in the Programme will be continuously evaluated on a partnership basis involving Lithuania and the European Commission. Lithuania will submit the necessary reports to the European Commission and take part in other specific activities set out by the Community in that context.
 7. Without prejudice to the procedures referred to in Article 4 of Decision 97/15/EC, Lithuania will be invited to coordination meetings on any question concerning the implementation of this Decision prior to regular meetings of the Programme Committee. The European Commission will inform Lithuania of the results of such regular meetings.
 8. The language to be used as regards the application process, contracts, reports to be submitted and other administrative arrangements for the Programme, will be one of the official languages of the institutions of the European Union.
-

ANNEX II

Financial contribution of Lithuania to the third multiannual programme for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the European Union (1997 to 2000)

1. The financial contribution of Lithuania will cover:
 - financial support from the Programme for the participation of Lithuanian entities in activities as defined in Annex I.1;
 - supplementary costs of an administrative nature related to the management of the Programme by the European Commission stemming from Lithuania's participation.
2. For every financial year, the aggregated amount of subsidies or any other financial support received from the Programme by the Lithuanian beneficiaries will not exceed the contribution paid by Lithuania, after deduction of the supplementary administrative costs.

Should the contribution paid by Lithuania to the general budget of the European Union, after deduction of the supplementary administrative costs, be higher than the aggregated amount of subsidies or other financial support received by the Lithuanian beneficiaries from the Programme, the European Commission will transfer the balance to the next budgetary exercise, and it will be deducted from the following year's contribution. Should such a balance be left when the Programme comes to an end, the corresponding amount will be reimbursed to Lithuania.

3. Lithuania's annual contribution will be EUR 384 130 from 1999. Of this sum, an amount of EUR 25 130 will cover supplementary administrative costs related to the management of the Programme by the European Commission stemming from Lithuania's participation.
4. The financial regulations applicable to the general budget of the European Union will apply, notably to the management of the contribution of Lithuania.

Upon entry into force of this Decision and at the beginning of each following year, the European Commission will send to Lithuania a call for funds corresponding to its contribution to the costs under this Decision.

This contribution will be expressed in euro and paid into a euro bank account of the European Commission.

Lithuania will pay its contribution to the annual costs under this Decision according to the call for funds and at the latest three months after the call for funds is sent. Any delay in the payment of the contribution shall give rise to the payment of interest by Lithuania on the outstanding amount from the due date. The interest rate corresponds to the rate applied by the European Central Bank, for the month of the due date, for its operations in euro, increased by 1,5 percentage points.

5. Lithuania will pay the supplementary administrative costs referred to in paragraph 3 from its national budget.
 6. Lithuania will pay EUR 107 700 (30 %) of the remaining costs of its participation in the Programme from its national budget in 1999, and EUR 179 500 (50 %) in the year 2000.
 7. Subject to regular Phare programming procedures, in 1999 the remaining EUR 251 300 will be paid from Lithuania's annual Phare allocation, and in the year 2000 the remaining EUR 179 500 will be paid from Lithuania's annual Phare allocation.
-