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I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 688/2003
of 15 April 2003
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 1947/2002 ⁽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 16 April 2003.

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

Done at Brussels, 15 April 2003.

For the Commission
J. M. SILVA RODRÍGUEZ
Agriculture Director-General

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 337, 24.12.1994, p. 66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 299, 1.11.2002, p. 17.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 15 April 2003 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	115,0
	204	78,4
	212	129,8
	999	107,7
0707 00 05	052	111,9
	096	75,4
	204	40,0
	999	75,8
0709 10 00	220	190,1
	999	190,1
0709 90 70	052	83,4
	204	50,7
	999	67,1
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	052	86,7
	204	38,8
	212	70,3
	220	47,0
	400	46,8
	600	49,6
	624	68,6
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	999	58,3
	060	64,5
	388	85,4
	400	104,0
	404	86,6
	508	83,9
	512	81,7
	524	68,3
	528	86,1
	720	83,5
	804	128,6
	999	87,3
0808 20 50	388	76,6
	512	82,6
	528	67,0
	720	46,0
	999	68,0

⁽¹⁾ Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2020/2001 (OJ L 273, 16.10.2001, p. 6). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 689/2003
of 15 April 2003
on the issue of system B export licences in the fruit and vegetables sector (apples)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 of 28 October 1996 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 47/2003 ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1961/2001 of 8 October 2001 on detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 as regards export refunds on fruit and vegetables ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1176/2002 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 6(6) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 307/2003 ⁽⁵⁾ fixes the indicative quantities for which system B export licences may be issued.
- (2) In the light of the information available to the Commission today, there is a risk that the indicative quantities laid down for the current export period for apples will

shortly be exceeded. This overrun will prejudice the proper working of the export refund scheme in the fruit and vegetables sector.

- (3) To avoid this situation, applications for system B licences for apples after 15 April 2003 should be rejected until the end of the current export period,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Applications for system B export licences for apples submitted pursuant to Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 307/2003, export declarations for which are accepted after 15 April 2003 and before 14 May 2003, are hereby rejected.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 16 April 2003.

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

Done at Brussels, 15 April 2003.

For the Commission

J. M. SILVA RODRÍGUEZ
Agriculture Director-General

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 7, 11.1.2003, p. 64.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 268, 9.10.2001, p. 8.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 170, 29.6.2002, p. 69.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 45, 19.2.2003, p. 4.

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 690/2003
of 15 April 2003**

**on import licences in respect of beef and veal products originating in Botswana, Kenya,
Madagascar, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Namibia**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

ovine and caprine animals and swine, fresh meat or meat products from third countries ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1452/2001 ⁽⁴⁾,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2286/2002 of 10 December 2002 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP States) and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 1706/98 ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Article 1

The following Member States shall issue on 21 April 2003 import licences for beef and veal products, expressed as boned meat, originating in certain African, Caribbean and Pacific States, in respect of the following quantities and countries of origin:

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1918/98 of 9 September 1998 laying down detailed rules for the application in the beef and veal sector of Council Regulation (EC) No 1706/98 on the arrangements applicable to agricultural products and certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific States and repealing Regulation (EC) No 589/96 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Germany:

- 550 tonnes originating in Namibia,
- 800 tonnes originating in Botswana.

United Kingdom:

- 450 tonnes originating in Botswana,
- 800 tonnes originating in Namibia,
- 75 tonnes originating in Swaziland.

Whereas:

Article 2

Licence applications may be submitted, pursuant to Article 3(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1918/98, during the first 10 days of May 2003 for the following quantities of boned beef and veal:

(1) Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1918/98 provides for the possibility of issuing import licences for beef and veal products. However, imports must take place within the limits of the quantities specified for each of these exporting non-member countries.

(2) The applications for import licences submitted between 1 and 10 April 2003, expressed in terms of boned meat, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 1918/98, do not exceed, in respect of products originating from Botswana, Kenya, Madagascar, Swaziland, Zimbabwe and Namibia, the quantities available from those States. It is therefore possible to issue import licences in respect of the quantities applied for.

(3) The quantities in respect of which licences may be applied for from 1 May 2003 should be fixed within the scope of the total quantity of 52 100 tonnes.

(4) This Regulation is without prejudice to Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine,

Botswana:	16 645,5 tonnes,
Kenya:	142 tonnes,
Madagascar:	7 579 tonnes,
Swaziland:	3 078 tonnes,
Zimbabwe:	9 100 tonnes,
Namibia:	10 260 tonnes.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on 21 April 2003.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 348, 21.12.2002, p. 5.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 250, 10.9.1998, p. 16.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 302, 31.12.1972, p. 28.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 198, 21.7.2001, p. 11.

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

Done at Brussels, 15 April 2003.

For the Commission
J. M. SILVA RODRÍGUEZ
Agriculture Director-General

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 691/2003
of 15 April 2003
fixing 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 1666/2000 ⁽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 1900/2002 ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 provides that the rates of duty in the Common Customs Tariff are to be charged on import of the products referred to in Article 1 of that Regulation. However, in the case of the products referred to in paragraph 2 of that Article, the import duty is to be equal to the intervention price valid for such products on importation and increased by 55 %, minus the cif import price applicable to the consignment in question. However, that duty may not exceed the rate of duty in the Common Customs Tariff.
- (2) Pursuant to Article 10(3) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92, the cif import prices are calculated on the basis of the representative prices for the product in question on the world market.

- (3) Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 lays down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 as regards import duties in the cereals sector.
- (4) The import duties are applicable until new duties are fixed and enter into force. They also remain in force in cases where no quotation is available for the reference exchange referred to in Annex II to Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 during the two weeks preceding the next periodical fixing.
- (5) In order to allow the import duty system to function normally, the representative market rates recorded during a reference period should be used for calculating the duties.
- (6) Application of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 results in import duties being fixed as set out in the Annex to this Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The import duties in the cereals sector referred to in Article 10(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 shall be those fixed in Annex I to this Regulation on the basis of the information given in Annex II.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 16 April 2003.

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

Done at Brussels, 15 April 2003.

For the Commission

J. M. SILVA RODRÍGUEZ

Agriculture Director-General

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 161, 29.6.1996, p. 125.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 287, 25.10.2002, p. 15.

ANNEX I

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

CN code	Description	Import duty ⁽¹⁾ (EUR/tonne)
1001 10 00	Durum wheat high quality	0,00
	medium quality	0,00
	low quality	0,00
1001 90 91	Common wheat seed	0,00
ex 1001 90 99	Common high quality wheat other than for sowing ⁽²⁾	0,00
1002 00 00	Rye	28,70
1005 10 90	Maize seed other than hybrid	45,61
1005 90 00	Maize other than seed ⁽³⁾	45,61
1007 00 90	Grain sorghum other than hybrids for sowing	28,70

⁽¹⁾ 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.

⁽²⁾ Importers are entitled to a flat-rate reduction of EUR 14 per tonne.

⁽³⁾ The importer may benefit from a flat-rate reduction of EUR 24 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 1 April 2003 to 14 April 2003)

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

Exchange quotations	Minneapolis	Chicago	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	Minneapolis
Product (% proteins at 12 % humidity)	HRS2. 14 %	YC3	HAD2	Medium quality (*)	Low quality (**)	USbarley 2
Quotation (EUR/t)	122,17	88,08	193,46 (***)	183,46 (***)	163,46 (***)	112,24 (***)
Gulf premium (EUR/t)	25,75	14,68	—	—	—	—
Great Lakes premium (EUR/t)	—	—	—	—	—	—

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

(**) A discount of 30 EUR/t (Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 2378/2002).

(***) Fob Gulf.

2. Freight/cost: Gulf of Mexico–Rotterdam: 17,30 EUR/t; Great Lakes–Rotterdam: 26,46 EUR/t.

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

COURT OF JUSTICE

PRACTICE DIRECTIONS relating to direct actions and appeals

THE COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

— as an attachment to an electronic mail (e-mail address: ecj.registry@curia.eu.int).

Pursuant to Article 125a of its Rules of Procedure,

Whereas:

- (1) It is in the interest of the efficient conduct of proceedings in direct actions and appeals that practice directions should be issued to agents and lawyers representing parties before the Court, dealing with the submission of pleadings and the preparation and conduct of hearings.
- (2) The present directions reflect, explain and complement provisions in the Rules of Procedure and are designed to enable agents and lawyers to take account of the constraints under which the Court operates, particularly as regards the electronic processing of procedural documentation and translation and interpretation requirements.
- (3) The Rules of Procedure and the Instructions to the Registrar require the Registrar to receive procedural documents, to ensure that they comply with the provisions of the Rules of Procedure and to assist the Court and Chambers, in particular in the organisation of hearings. In carrying out his duties, the Registrar must satisfy himself that the agents and lawyers comply with these practice directions, requiring them to make good any irregularities of form in documents lodged which do not comply with those provisions or requesting the agent or lawyer concerned to comply therewith.
- (4) The views of representatives of the agents of the Member States and the institutions acting in proceedings before the Court, and of the Council of the Bars and Law Societies of the European Community (CCBE), have been heard on the drafting of these practice directions.

2. Where transmission is by electronic mail, only a scanned copy of the signed original will be accepted. An ordinary electronic file or one bearing an electronic signature or a computer-generated facsimile signature will not be treated as complying with Article 37(6) of the Rules of Procedure.

Documents should be scanned at a resolution of 300 DPI and, wherever possible, in PDF format (images plus text), using Acrobat or Readiris 7 Pro software.

3. A document lodged by telefax or electronic mail will be treated as complying with the relevant time-limit only if the signed original itself reaches the Registry within 10 days following such lodgment, as specified in Article 37(6) of the Rules of Procedure. The signed original must be sent without delay, immediately after the despatch of the copy, without any corrections or amendments, even of a minor nature. In the event of any discrepancy between the signed original and the copy previously lodged, only the date of lodgment of the signed original will be taken into consideration.
4. Where, in accordance with Article 38(2) of the Rules of Procedure, a party agrees to be notified by telefax or other technical means of communication, the statement to that effect must specify the telefax number and/or the electronic mail address to which the Registry may send that party documents to be served. The recipient's computer must be equipped with suitable software (for example, Acrobat or Readiris 7 Pro) for reception and display of communications from the Registry, which will be transmitted in PDF format.

HEREBY ADOPTS THE FOLLOWING PRACTICE DIRECTIONS:

PRESENTATION OF PLEADINGS

USE OF TECHNICAL MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

1. A copy of the signed original of a procedural document may be transmitted to the Registry in accordance with Article 37(6) of the Rules of Procedure either:
— by telefax (to fax number: (352) 43 37 66), or

5. Pleadings and other procedural documents lodged (*), by the parties must be submitted in a form which can be processed electronically by the Court, in particular by scanning and character recognition.

(*) The Court's postal address is:
Court of Justice of the European Communities
L-2925 Luxembourg

For that purpose, the following requirements must be complied with:

1. the paper must be white, unlined and A4 size, with text on one side of the page only;
2. pages of pleadings and annexes, if any, must be assembled in such a way as to be easily separable. They must not be bound together or permanently attached by means such as glue or staples;
3. the text must be in a commonly-used font (such as Times New Roman, Courier or Arial), in at least 12 pt in the body of the text and at least 10 pt in the foot-notes, with one-and-a-half line spacing and upper, lower, left and right margins of at least 2,5 cm;
4. the pages of the pleading must be numbered consecutively in the top right-hand corner. That numbering must also cover all the pages of any annexes to the pleading, so as to make it possible to check that all the pages of the annexes have been duly scanned.
6. The following information must appear on the first page of the pleading:
 1. the title of the pleading (application, appeal, defence, response, reply, rejoinder, application for leave to intervene, statement in intervention, observations on the statement in intervention, objection of inadmissibility, etc.),

Where a response seeks an order setting aside in whole or in part the decision of the Court of First Instance on a plea in law not raised in the appeal, the title of the pleading must indicate that the document is a response and cross-appeal;

 2. the case number (C-.../...), if it has already been notified by the Registry;
 3. the names of the applicant (appellant) and defendant (respondent) and, in appeals, the identification of the decision under appeal and the parties before the Court of First Instance;
 4. the name of the party on whose behalf the pleading is lodged.
7. Each paragraph of the pleading must be numbered.
8. The signature of the agent or lawyer acting for the party concerned must appear at the end of the pleading.

FORM AND CONTENT OF THE PRINCIPAL TYPES OF PLEADING

Application initiating proceedings

9. An application must contain the statements prescribed by Article 38(1) and (2) of the Rules of Procedure.
10. The following must appear at the beginning of each application:
 1. the applicant's name and address;
 2. the name and capacity of the applicant's agent or lawyer;
 3. the identity of the party or parties against whom the action is brought;
 4. the statements referred to in Article 38(2) of the Rules of Procedure (address for service in Luxembourg and/or agreement to service by telefax or any other technical means of communication).
11. In the case of an application for annulment, a copy of the contested measure must be annexed to the application and identified as such.
12. Each application should be accompanied by a summary of the pleas in law and main arguments relied on, intended to facilitate publication in the Official Journal of the notice prescribed by Article 16(6) of the Rules of Procedure, which will be prepared by the Registry. The summary in question must not be more than two pages long.
13. The precise wording of the forms of order sought by the applicant must be specified either at the beginning or the end of the application.
14. The introductory part of the application must be followed by a brief account of the facts giving rise to the dispute.
15. The structure of the legal argument must reflect the pleas in law relied upon. After the account of the facts giving rise to the dispute, a summary outline of those pleas in law should be given.

Defence

16. The defence must contain the statements prescribed by Article 40(1) of the Rules of Procedure.
17. In addition to the case-number and the applicant's name, the following must appear at the beginning of each defence:
 1. the defendant's name and address;
 2. the name and capacity of the defendant's agent or lawyer;

3. an address for service in Luxembourg and/or agreement to service by telefax or other technical means of communication (second subparagraph of Article 40(1) of the Rules of Procedure).
18. The precise wording of the forms of order sought by the defendant must be specified either at the beginning or at the end of the defence.
19. The structure of the legal argument must, so far as is possible, reflect that of the pleas in law put forward in the application.
20. If any fact alleged by the other party is contested it must be clearly indicated and the basis on which it is challenged must be stated explicitly.

Appeal

21. An appeal must contain the statements prescribed by Article 112(1) of the Rules of Procedure.
22. The following must appear at the beginning of each appeal:
 1. the appellant's name and address;
 2. the name and capacity of the appellant's agent or lawyer;
 3. the identification of the decision of the Court of First Instance appealed against (type of decision, formation of the Court, date and number of the case) and the names of the parties before the Court of First Instance;
 4. the date on which the decision of the Court of First Instance was notified to the appellant;
 5. an address for service in Luxembourg and/or agreement to service by telefax or other technical means of communication.
23. A copy of the decision of the Court of First Instance appealed against must be annexed to the appeal.
24. The appeal should be accompanied by a summary of the grounds of appeal and main arguments relied on, intended to facilitate publication in the Official Journal of the notice prescribed by Article 16(6) of the Rules of Procedure, which will be prepared by the Registry. The summary in question must not be more than two pages long.
25. The precise wording of the forms of order sought by the appellant must be specified either at the beginning or at the end of the appeal (Article 113(1) of Rules of Procedure).

26. It is not generally necessary to set out the background to the dispute or its subject-matter; it will be sufficient to refer to the decision of the Court of First Instance.
27. The structure of the legal arguments must reflect the grounds, in particular errors of law, relied upon in support of the appeal. A summary outline of those grounds should be given at the beginning of the appeal.

Response

28. A response must contain the statements prescribed by Article 115(1) of the Rules of Procedure.
29. The following must appear at the beginning of each response:
 1. the name and address of the party lodging it;
 2. the name and capacity of the agent or lawyer acting for that party;
 3. the date on which notice of the appeal was served on the party;
 4. an address for service and/or agreement to service by telefax or any other technical means of communication.
30. The precise wording of the forms of order sought by the party lodging the response must be specified either at the beginning or at the end of the response.
31. If the response seeks an order setting aside, in whole or in part, the decision of the Court of First Instance on a plea in law not raised in the appeal, that fact must be indicated in the title of the pleading (Response and Cross-appeal).
32. The structure of the legal arguments must, so far as is possible, reflect the grounds of appeal put forward by the appellant and/or, as appropriate, the grounds put forward by way of cross-appeal.

ANNEXES TO PLEADINGS

33. Only documents mentioned in the actual text of a pleading and necessary in order to prove or illustrate its contents may be submitted as annexes.
34. Annexes will be accepted only if they are accompanied by a schedule of annexes (Article 37(4) of the Rules of Procedure). That schedule must indicate for each document annexed:
 1. the number of the annex;
 2. a short description of the document (e.g. 'letter', followed by its date, author and addressee and its number of pages);

3. a reference to the page and paragraph in the pleading at which the document is mentioned and from which the need to produce it is apparent.

35. If, for the convenience of the Court, copies of judgments, legal writings or legislation are annexed to a pleading, they must be separate from the other annexes.

36. Each reference to a document lodged must state the relevant annex number as given in the schedule of annexes in which it appears and indicate the pleading to which it is annexed. In appeal proceedings, where the document has already been produced before the Court of First Instance, the identification used for that document before the Court of First Instance must also be given.

DRAFTING AND LENGTH OF PLEADINGS

37. With a view to avoiding delay in proceedings, when drafting pleadings the following points in particular must be taken into consideration:

- the case is examined on the basis of the pleadings; in order to facilitate that examination, documents must be structured and concise and must avoid repetition,
- pleadings must, as a general rule, be translated; in order to facilitate translation and to make it as accurate as possible sentences should be simple in structure and vocabulary should be simple and precise,
- the time needed for translation and for examination of the case-file is proportionate to the length of the pleadings lodged, so that the shorter the pleadings, the swifter the disposal of the case.

38. It is the Court's experience that, save in exceptional circumstances, effective pleadings need not exceed 10 or 15 pages and replies, rejoinders and responses can be limited to five to 10 pages.

APPLICATIONS FOR EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

39. A party applying by separate document under Article 62a of the Rules of Procedure for a case to be decided by the Court by expedited procedure must briefly state the reasons for the special urgency of the case. Save in exceptional circumstances, that application must not exceed five pages.

40. As the expedited procedure is largely oral, the pleading of the party requesting it must be confined essentially to a summary of the pleas relied upon. Such pleadings must not, save in exceptional circumstances, exceed 10 pages.

APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE TO LODGE A REPLY IN APPEAL PROCEEDINGS

41. The President may, on application, allow a reply to be lodged if it is necessary in order to enable the appellant to defend its point of view or in order to provide a basis for the decision on the appeal.

Save in exceptional circumstances such an application must not exceed two to three pages and must be confined to summarising the precise reasons for which, in the appellant's opinion, a reply is necessary. The request must be comprehensible in itself without any need to refer to the appeal or the response.

APPLICATIONS FOR HEARING OF ORAL ARGUMENT

42. The Court may decide not to hear oral argument where none of the parties has applied to be heard (Articles 44a and 120 of the Rules of Procedure). In practice, it is rare for a hearing to be organised in the absence of such an application.

The application must specify why the party wishes to be heard. That reasoning must be based on a real assessment of the benefit of a hearing to the party in question and must indicate the documentary elements or arguments which that party considers it necessary to develop or disprove more fully at a hearing. It is not sufficient to provide a general statement of reasons referring to the importance of the case or of the questions to be decided.

PREPARATION AND CONDUCT OF HEARINGS

43. Before the hearing begins the agents or lawyers are called to a short meeting with the relevant formation of the Court, in order to plan the hearing. At that point the Judge-Rapporteur and the Advocate General may indicate the matters they wish to hear developed in the arguments.

44. Oral argument is limited to 30 minutes *maximum* before the full Court, the Grand Chamber or a chamber of five Judges (Fifth and Sixth Chambers) and to 15 minutes *maximum* before a chamber of three Judges (First, Second, Third and Fourth Chambers). Before any formation the presentation of an intervener's argument is limited to 15 minutes *maximum*.

Speaking time may exceptionally be extended beyond those limits on application made to the President of the formation concerned together with a detailed statement of reasons. The application must reach the Court as soon as possible and, in order to be taken into consideration, at the latest two weeks before the date of the hearing.

The notification of the hearing asks the agents and lawyers to inform the Registry of the likely duration of their oral arguments. The information supplied is used in the planning of the business of the Court and the Chambers, and it is not possible to exceed the speaking time requested.

45. Having read the written pleadings, the Judges and the Advocate General are already familiar with the case, its subject-matter and the pleas in law and arguments put forward by the parties. The purpose of oral argument is not to present a party's point of view afresh but to clarify any matters which the agent or lawyer regards as particularly important, especially those referred to in the application for a hearing (see paragraph 42 above). Repetition of what has already been stated in the written pleadings is to be avoided; if necessary, a reference to the pleadings during the course of the oral argument will suffice.

Oral submissions should begin by outlining the plan to be followed.

46. Very frequently the Judges and Advocate General will listen to oral argument via simultaneous interpretation. In order to facilitate that interpretation, agents and lawyers should speak at an unforced pace and use short sentences of simple structure.

It is inadvisable to read out a text prepared in advance. It is preferable to speak on the basis of properly structured notes. If the oral argument is, nevertheless, prepared in writing, account should be taken in drafting the text of the fact that it is to be delivered orally and ought therefore to come as close as possible to oral exposition. To facilitate interpretation, agents and lawyers are requested to send the text or written outline of their oral argument by fax in advance to the Interpretation Division (fax (352) 43 03 36 97).

Done at Luxembourg, 25 March 2003.

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 10 April 2003

on financial assistance from the Community for the storage of antigens for production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines in France, Italy and the United Kingdom in 2003

(notified under document number C(2003) 1191)

(Only the French and Italian texts are authentic)

(2003/266/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Decision 90/424/EEC of 26 June 1990 on expenditure in the veterinary field ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Decision 2001/572/EC ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 14 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Council Decision 91/666/EEC of 11 December 1991 establishing Community reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Commission Decision 2001/181/EC ⁽⁴⁾, the establishment of antigen banks is part of the Community's action to create Community reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines.
- (2) Decision 91/666/EEC designates the 'Laboratoire de pathologie bovine du Centre national d'études vétérinaires et alimentaires' at Lyon in France, which is now part of the 'Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments (AFSSA)', and the 'Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia' in Italy, as antigen banks for the storage of Community reserves. Commission Decision 2000/111/EC of December 1999 designating a new antigen bank and making provisions for the transfer and storage of antigens within the framework of the Community action concerning reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines ⁽⁵⁾ further designates Merial SAS, Pirbright, United Kingdom.

- (3) Community assistance should be linked to compliance with certain conditions as to the functioning of the antigen banks and the transmission of information and supporting documents.
- (4) For budgetary reasons the Community assistance should be granted for a period of one year.
- (5) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The Community shall grant financial assistance to Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments for the stocking of antigens for the production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines at the premises of Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments, Lyon.

2. For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2003 the maximum amount of financial assistance shall be EUR 30 000.

Article 2

1. The Community shall grant financial assistance to Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia for the stocking of antigens for the production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines at the premises of Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia.

2. For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2003 the maximum amount of financial assistance shall be EUR 30 000.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 19.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 203, 28.7.2001, p. 16.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 368, 31.12.1991, p. 21.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 66, 8.3.2001, p. 39.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 33, 8.2.2000, p. 19.

Article 3

1. The Community shall grant financial assistance to Merial SAS with its headquarters in Lyon, France, for the stocking of antigens for the production of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines at the premises of Merial SAS, Lyon, France, and at the premises of Merial SAS, Pirbright, United Kingdom.

2. For the period from 1 January to 31 December 2003 the maximum amount of financial assistance shall be EUR 51 327.

Article 4

1. The Community's financial assistance referred to in Article 1(2), Article 2(2) and Article 3(2) shall only be granted if the conditions provided for in Article 4 of Decision 91/666/EEC are complied with and the information and documents provided for in paragraph 2 are submitted to the Commission on 29 February 2004 at the latest.

2. The information and documents referred to in paragraph 1 shall include the following:

(a) technical information on:

- (i) the amount and type of antigen stored (storage records);

- (ii) storage equipment used (type, number and capacity of tanks);
 - (iii) security systems in place (temperature control, anti-theft measures);
 - (iv) insurance arrangements (fire, accidents);
- (b) financial information (completion of a form based on the model set out in the Annex).

Article 5

This Decision is addressed to the Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Aliments, 31, avenue Tony Garnier, BP 7033, F-69342 Lyon Cedex 07, Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale di Brescia, Via Bianchi 9, I-25124 Brescia, and Merial SAS, 29, avenue Tony Garnier, BP 7123, F-69348 Lyon Cedex 07.

Done at Brussels, 10 April 2003.

For the Commission

David BYRNE

Member of the Commission

ANNEX

FINANCIAL INFORMATION RELATED TO THE STORAGE OF ANTIGENS FOR PRODUCTION OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE VACCINES

STATEMENT OF COSTS

Reporting period from: to:

Reference No of Commission Decision providing financial assistance:

Name and address of beneficiary:

.....

Category of costs	Amount for the period (National currency) ⁽¹⁾
1. Staff	
2. Capital equipment	
3. Consumables	
4. Insurance	
5. Rental of premises	
Total	

⁽¹⁾ All costs must be expressed in national currency.**Certificate by the beneficiary**

We certify that:

- the above costs were incurred in connection with the tasks defined in the Decision and were essential to the sound performance of those tasks,
- they are genuine costs falling within the definition of reimbursable costs,
- all the documents supporting the costs are available for audit purposes.

Date:

Name of technical director:

Signature:

Date:

Person financially responsible:

Signature:

DECISION No 3/2002**of 5 February 2003**

of the Joint Committee set up under the Agreement on Mutual Recognition between the European Community and Japan on the publication of lists of confirmed facilities under the Sectoral Annex on Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) for Chemicals and the Sectoral Annex on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for Medicinal Products

(2003/267/EC)

THE JOINT COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Agreement on Mutual Recognition between Japan and the European Community and in particular Article 8(3)(b) thereof,

Whereas the Joint Committee is, unless otherwise decided, responsible for the publication on a sector-by-sector basis of lists of the confirmed facilities,

Whereas the information contained in the lists of confirmed facilities is mostly of interest to the authorities of the Parties which can make the lists available to the public,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The lists of confirmed facilities under the Sectoral Annex on Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) for Chemicals and the Sectoral Annex on Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) for Medicinal Products shall not be published by the Joint Committee. This is without prejudice to the Parties' respective legislation on public access to documents.
2. A Party may, if so required by their domestic legislation, publish the lists of confirmed facilities it has provided to the Joint Committee and the other Party.
3. This Decision, done in duplicate, shall be signed by the co-chairs. This Decision shall be effective from the date of the later of these signatures.

Signed in Tokyo on 5 February 2003.

Signed in Brussels on 20 December 2002.

On behalf of Japan

Jun SHIMMI

*On behalf of the European Community*Philippe MEYER
