

## COMMISSION DECISION

of 3 March 2004

## amending Decision 2000/40/EC as regards the period of validity of the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to refrigerators

(notified under document number C(2004) 310)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2004/214/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 on a revised Community eco-label award scheme <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular the second subparagraph of Article 6(1) thereof,

After consulting the European Union Eco-labelling Board,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 provides for the award of an eco-label to a product possessing characteristics, which enable it to contribute significantly to improvements in relation to key environmental aspects and provides that specific eco-label criteria are to be established according to product groups.
- (2) Commission Decision 2000/40/EC of 16 December 1999 establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to refrigerators <sup>(2)</sup> will expire on 1 December 2003.
- (3) Following the review of that Decision in accordance with Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000, it is appropriate to prolong the period of validity of those ecological criteria for a period of 12 months, in particular to allow those companies that have been awarded the eco-label to continue using the eco-label at least until the revision of Decision 2000/40/EC is completed.
- (4) Decision 2000/40/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.

- (5) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the committee set up under Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

Article 3 of Decision 2000/40/EC is replaced by the following:

*'Article 3*

The product group definition and the criteria for the product group shall be valid until 1 December 2004. If, however, by that date a new decision establishing the product group definition and the criteria for this product group has not yet been adopted, that period of validity shall end either on 1 December 2005 or on the date of adoption of the new decision, whichever is sooner.'

*Article 2*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 3 March 2004.

*For the Commission*

Margot WALLSTRÖM

*Member of the Commission*<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 237, 21.9.2000, p. 1.<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 13, 19.1.2000, p. 22.