

**Authorization for State aid pursuant to Articles 92 and 93 of the EC Treaty**

**Cases where the Commission raises no objections**

(96/C 368/03)

**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Portugal

**Aid No:** N 612/94

**Title:** Aid for the agricultural sector

**Objective:** Improvement of the sector by means of research, training, dissemination, and formation of and start-up aid for producer groups

**Legal basis:** Regulamento de aplicação da medida de investigação, experimentação e demonstração (IED), formação, organização, divulgação e estudos estratégicos

**Budget:** Unspecified

**Aid intensity:** Various according to type of aid

**Duration:** Up to 1999

**Conditions:**

- the Commission reserves the right to re-examine the aid for the formation and start-up of producer groups when, under Article 93 (1) of the EC Treaty, it carries out an across-the-board review of aid schemes of this type in all Member States.
- the Commission reserves the right to examine the research and development aid as covered by Article 93 (1) of the EC Treaty in the light of replies from the Member States concerning the revision of the rules on State aid for R&D (OJ No C 45, 17. 2. 1996, p. 5)

**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Italy (Sicily)

**Aid No:** N 834/A/95 (bee-keeping sector)

**Title:** Measures to support bee-keeping and silkworm-rearing. Regional Law 65/95 and Title II of Regional Law 17/96

**Objective:** To encourage the development of bee-keeping and protect the environment

**Legal basis:** Legge regionale n. 65/95 riguardante norme per la tutela e l'incentivazione dell'apicoltura e della bachicoltura e titolo II della legge regionale n. 17/96 (ad esclusione dell'articolo 14 § 2)

**Budget:** The budget planned for the first three years in bee-keeping sector is Lit 3 billion (about ECU 1,45 million)

**Aid intensity:** Various according to measure

**Duration:** Unspecified

**Conditions:** The measures provided for in Article 4 (1) (a) fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 2328/91 and are subject to examination under that Regulation.

The Commission has drawn the attention of the Italian authorities to the fact that Regional Law No 13/86 (Article 4 (2)) is currently being examined under Regulation (EEC) No 2328/91.

As regards the bee-keeping sector, honey — the product concerned — while listed in Annex II to the Treaty is not subject to a common organization of the market. Consequently, the Treaty does not allow the Commission to object to a national aid scheme in this sector.

The Commission makes the following recommendations to the Italian Government in accordance with Article 93 (3), first sentence, of the Treaty:

- with regard to possible aid for advertising promotion of bee-keeping products as referred to in Article 4 (1) (b), such aid should be granted in accordance with the Community criteria contained in the Community rules on national aid for advertising agricultural products (OJ No C 302, 12. 11. 1987, p. 6);
- with regard to the aid provided for in Article 4 (1) (b) for the implementation of research programmes by groupings of bee-keepers, the results of this research should be put at the disposal of all operators concerned on a non-discriminatory basis;
- with regard to the aid provided for in Article 4 (1) (b) for investment by bee-keeping groupings aimed at provision of technical assistance to bee-keepers, the rate of such aid for the purchase of fixed assets in areas not covered by Directive 75/268/EC should be modified in order to comply with a maximum aid level of 35 %;
- with regard to the aid provided for in Article 8 (3), it should be granted in accordance with the criteria set out by the Commission in document VI/503/88 relating to national aid for producer organizations;

In connection with the research aid provided for in Article 4 (1) (b), the Commission reserves the right to re-examine this aid under Article 93 (1) of the Treaty once any relevant measures proposed by the Commission as regards State aid for research and development in the agricultural sector have come into force.

In connection with the aid to ensure survival of hives in years subject to 'difficult conditions' (Article 4 (2)), the Commission has asked the Italian authorities to specify the nature of such difficulties.

The Commission also reserves the right to re-examine its position at a later date under Article 93 (1) of the Treaty with regard to the start-up aid for cooperatives provided for in Regional Law No 65/95 as amended by Title II of Regional Law No 17/96

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Italy (Sicily)

**Aid No:** N 834/A/95 (silkworm sector)

**Title:** Measures for bee-keeping and silkworm-rearing (Regional Law 65/95 and Title II of Regional Law 17/96)

**Objective:** To encourage the development of silkworm-rearing

**Legal basis:** Legge regionale n. 65/95 riguardante norme per la tutela e l'incentivazione dell'apicoltura e della bachicoltura e titolo II della legge regionale n. 17/96 (ad esclusione dell'articolo 14 § 2)

**Budget:** A budget of Lit 500 million a year is envisaged (about ECU 0,24 million)

**Aid intensity:** Various according to measure

**Duration:** Unspecified

**Conditions:** The measures provided for in Regional Law No 13/86 (Article 18) are currently being examined under Regulation (EEC) No 2328/91.

The Commission has taken account of the undertaking by the Italian authorities, with regard to the aid provided for in Article 19 (2) and (3), to comply with the criteria set out by the Commission in document VI/503/88 concerning national aid for producer organizations.

The Commission reserves the right to re-examine its position at a later date under Article 93 (1) of the Treaty with regard to the start-up aid for cooperatives.

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Germany (Rheinland-Pfalz)

**Aid No:** N 143/96

**Title:** Premium for young farmers setting up for the first time (amendment of an existing aid scheme)

**Objective:** To encourage young farmers to set up in farming by granting aid complementary to the aid provided for in Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 2328/91

**Legal basis:** Verwaltungsvorschrift über die 'Förderung von einzelbetrieblichen Investitionen in der Landwirtschaft'

**Budget:**

- in 1996: DM 1 million (about ECU 0,5 million),
- in 1997: DM 1 million (about ECU 0,5 million)

**Aid intensity:** Grant towards starting capital of DM 40 000 (about ECU 20 000)

**Duration:** Unspecified

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Spain (Castile-León)

**Aid No:** N 160/96

**Title:** Aid for the improvement of land

**Objective:** The improvement of the irrigation infrastructure

**Legal basis:** Proyecto de Orden por la que se convocan ayudas a entidades locales para el fomento de la transformación y mejora de terrenos comunales y propios

**Budget:** Pta 100 million (about ECU 630 000) a year

**Aid intensity:** 60 % (70 % in the case of combination with other aid for the same type of expenditure)

**Duration:** Unspecified

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Denmark

**Aid No:** N 217/96

**Title:** Aid for agricultural production compatible with environmental protection

**Objective:** To promote agricultural methods of production compatible with the requirements of environmental protection

**Legal basis:**

- Landbrugsministeriets bekendtgørelse nr. 715 af 30. august 1995
- Landbrugsministeriets bekendtgørelse nr. 229 af 4. april 1995

**Budget:** Unspecified**Aid intensity:** Varies according to the rural area concerned**Duration:** Applications for subsidies until the end of 1997. Duration of the 20-year contract as from the date of the commitment.

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996**Member State:** Germany (Baden-Württemberg)**Aid No:** N 385/96**Title:** Investment aid for heating installations using rape**Objective:** To encourage the use of rape as an energy raw material**Legal basis:** Zuwendungsbescheid des Ministeriums für ländlichen Raum, Ernährung, Landwirtschaft und Forsten Baden-Württemberg**Budget:** DM 90 000 (about ECU 43 000) a year for 1996 and 1997**Aid intensity:** 50 % of eligible costs**Duration:** 1996-1997

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996**Member State:** Spain (Galicia)**Aid No:** N 432/96**Title:** Development of forests**Objective:** Improvement of forests**Legal basis:** Orden por la que se aprueba un programa regional de ayudas a acciones de desarrollo y ordenación de los bosques en zonas rurales**Budget:** Unspecified**Aid intensity:** Varies according to the type of aid**Duration:** Up to 31 December 2000**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996**Member State:** Spain (Extremadura)**Aid No:** N 433/96**Title:** Development of forests**Objective:** Improvement of forests**Legal basis:** Decreto que desarrolla el régimen de ayudas para las acciones de desarrollo y ordenación de los bosques en zonas rurales**Budget:** Unspecified**Aid intensity:** Various according to the type of aid**Duration:** Up to 31 December 2000

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996**Member State:** Spain (Asturia)**Aid No:** N 434/96**Title:** Development of forests**Objective:** The improvement of forests**Legal basis:** Resolución de ayudas para fomentar acciones de desarrollo y aprovechamiento de bosques en zonas rurales**Budget:** Unspecified**Aid intensity:** Varies according to the type of aid**Duration:** Up to 31 December 2001

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**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996**Member State:** Spain (Castile-La Mancha)**Aid No:** N 435/96**Title:** Development of forests**Objective:** Improvement of forests**Legal basis:** Decreto que desarrolla el régimen de ayudas para la mejora, desarrollo y ordenación de los bosques en zonas rurales**Budget:** Unspecified**Aid intensity:** Varies according to type of aid**Duration:** Up to 31 December 2001

**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Spain (Extremadura)

**Aid No:** N 436/96

**Title:** Development of forests in rural areas

**Objective:** Improvement of forests

**Legal basis:** Decreto por el que se establece un régimen de ayudas a acciones de desarrollo y ordenación de los bosques en zonas rurales

**Budget:** Unspecified

**Aid intensity:** Various according to type of aid

**Duration:** Up to 31 December 2001

**Legal basis:** Proyecto de orden por la que se establece una prima de polinización a las explotaciones apícolas de Andalucía para 1996

**Budget:** Unspecified

**Aid intensity:** Between Pta 800 (about ECU 5) and Pta 1 500 (about ECU 9) per hive

**Duration:** 1996

**Conditions:** Since honey is not subject to a common organization of the market, the provisions of Regulation No 26 (OJ No 30, 20. 4. 1962, p. 92) apply. Only the provisions of Article 93 (1) and (3), first sentence, of the Treaty are applicable; the Commission can consequently only make comments.

**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Spain (Cantabria)

**Aid No:** N 438/96

**Title:** Aid for cattle farms which need to replace stock as a result of animal health campaigns involving culling

**Objective:** To compensate for replacement of animals compulsorily slaughtered as part of animal health campaigns

**Legal basis:** Orden por la que se establecen ayudas a las explotaciones de ganado vacuno que como consecuencia de la campaña de saneamiento ganadero tengan que realizar un vaciado sanitario

**Budget:** Pta 50 million (about ECU 310 000)

**Aid intensity:** Various

**Duration:** Up to 31 December 1999

**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Italy

**Aid No:** N 519/96

**Title:** National programme of AIMA: private storage aid for ware potatoes produced in Italy in 1995

**Objective:** Private storage of ware potatoes

**Legal basis:** Delibera CIPE del 10. 1. 1995 — Disciplinary AIMA

**Budget:** Lit 3 billion (about ECU 1,5 million)

**Aid intensity:**

— Lit 1 000 (about ECU 0,5) per quintal/month

— Lit 150 (about ECU 0,075) per quintal to federations of associations of potato producers for provision of services

**Duration:** One year

**Conditions:** The Commission has drawn the attention of the Italian authorities to the fact that it reserves the right to assess this type of measure on the basis of Article 93 (1) of the Treaty in the light of provisions that may be approved by the Council when implementing a future Regulation on the common organization of the market in potatoes.

**Date of adoption:** 7 August 1996

**Member State:** Spain (Andalusia)

**Aid No:** N 516/96

**Title:** Compensation scheme for bee-keepers

**Objective:** Maintenance of the bee sector