

**Commission communication about a change of customs duties applicable under Council Regulation (EC) No 1256/96 applying a multiannual scheme of generalised tariff preferences (1 July 1996 to 30 June 1999) in respect of certain agricultural products originating in developing countries**

(98/C 395/06)

In accordance with Artikel 4(3) second indent of Regulation (EC) No 1256/96 <sup>(1)</sup>, the preferential margin for certain products originating in the countries listed in Annex II, part 1 of that Regulation is to be abolished from 1 January 1999.

The products and countries concerned by this abolition of preferential margin from January 1999 are as follows <sup>(2)</sup>:

CN code	Description of goods	Countries
Chapters 1 and 2	Live animals; meat and edible meat offal	Argentina Brazil Uruguay
Chapter 3 1604 1605 1902 20 10	Fish and crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic vertebrates; prepared or preserved fish; caviar and caviar substitutes prepared from fish eggs; crustaceans, molluscs and other aquatic invertebrates, prepared or preserved; stuffed pasta, whether or not cooked or otherwise preserved, containing more than 20 % by weight of fish, crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates	Thailand
Chapter 4	Dairy produce; birds' eggs; natural honey; edible products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	Mexico
Chapter 5	Products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	China
Chapter 6 to 8	Live trees and other plants; bulbs, roots and the like; cut flowers and ornamental foliage; edible vegetables and certain roots and tubers; edible fruit and nuts; peel of citrus fruits or melons	Chile Mexico Thailand
Chapter 9	Coffee, tea, maté and spices	Brazil
Chapter 12	Oil seeds and oleaginous fruits; miscellaneous grains, seeds and fruit; industrial or medicinal plants; straw and fodder	Ukraine
Chapter 15	Animal or vegetable fats and oils and their cleavage products; prepared edible fats; animal or vegetable waxes	Indonesia Malaysia Philippines

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 160, 29.6.1996, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> Notwithstanding the rules for the interpretation of the Combined Nomenclature, the wording for the description of the products is to be considered as having no more than an indicative value, the preferential scheme being determined, within the context of this list, by the coverage of the CN codes.

CN code	Description of goods	Countries
Chapter 16 to 23 except for codes 1604, 1605 and 1902 20 10	Preparations of meat; of fish or of crustaceans, molluscs or other aquatic invertebrates; sugars and sugar confectionery; cocoa and cocoa preparations; preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastry cooks' products; preparations of vegetables, fruit, nuts or other parts of plants; miscellaneous edible preparations; beverages, spirits and vinegar; residues and waste from the food industries; prepared animal fodder	Argentina Brazil Thailand
Chapter 24	Tobacco and manufactured tobacco substitutes	Brazil

## STATE AID

C 3/97 (ex N 546/96)

Italy

(98/C 395/07)

(Text with EEA relevance)

*(Articles 92 to 94 of the Treaty establishing the European Community)*

**Commission notice pursuant to Article 93(2) of the EC Treaty to other Member States and interested parties concerning the extension of the deadlines of the order-book aid which Italy plans to grant in Sicily**

The Commission has sent the Italian Government the following letter, informing it that it has decided to terminate the proceedings initiated on 22 January 1997 <sup>(1)</sup>.

'Following its decision of 22 January 1997, the Commission notified by letter SG(97) D/2836 of 15 April 1997, published in *Official Journal of the European Communities* C 163 of 30 May 1997, that it was initiating proceedings in respect of the proposed order-book aid scheme for Sicily.

The Permanent Representation expressed the wish to withdraw notification of the proposed scheme and confirmed that it had never entered into effect by letter No 3569 of 2 June 1998.

The Commission hereby informs the Italian authorities that, in the light of the comments, it has decided to terminate the proceedings initiated in respect of the proposed scheme since they are no longer applicable.'

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ C 163, 30.5.1997.