

2000/0046(CNS)

**Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No ...
of ...
amending Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 on the common organisation of the market in rice
(2000/C 86 E/02)**

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,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee,

Whereas:

(1) Article 3(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2072/98 ⁽²⁾, provides for the intervention price to be subject to monthly increases. This mechanism seeks to take account, to some extent, of storage costs and financing charges for storing rice in the Community and of the need to ensure that stocks are disposed of in line with market requirements. In accordance with the approach followed for the reform of the common organisation of the markets in connection with Agenda 2000 and in order to enable producers to organise their production over several years, the monthly increases should be fixed without any limit in time, without prejudice to any revisions that may be called for in the future. In particular given the stability of prices and interest rates, the increases currently applicable should be maintained.

(2) With an eye to simplification and legislative clarity, the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 that are not relevant should be deleted at the same time.

(3) Furthermore, in compliance with the provisions adopted by the Council on the subject of comitology, the corresponding provisions of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 should be amended. Since the measures necessary for the

implementation of this Regulation are management measures within the meaning of Article 2 of Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission ⁽³⁾, they should be adopted by use of the management procedure provided for in Article 4 of that Decision,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 is amended as follows:

1. Article 3(2) is replaced by the following:

‘2. The intervention price shall be subject to monthly increases during each of the four months specified in Article 4(1). The price thus obtained for the month of July shall remain valid until 31 August.

From the 2000/01 marketing year, each monthly increase shall be equal to EUR 2/t.’

2. Article 20 is deleted.

3. Article 22 is replaced by the following:

‘Article 22

1. The Commission shall be assisted by the Management Committee for Cereals established by Article 23 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the common organisation of the market in cereals.

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, the management procedure laid down in Article 4 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, in compliance with Article 7(3) thereof.

3. The period provided for in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be one month.’

Article 2

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

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 265, 30.9.1998, p. 4.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

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

Done at Brussels, . . .

For the Council

The President

. . .
