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Information and Notices

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I

(Information)

COMMISSION

Euro exchange rates ⁽¹⁾

7 November 2002

(2002/C 272/01)

1 euro =

Currency	Exchange rate	Currency	Exchange rate		
USD	US dollar	1,0013	LVL	Latvian lats	0,6017
JPY	Japanese yen	121,98	MTL	Maltese lira	0,4149
DKK	Danish krone	7,4297	PLN	Polish zloty	3,9572
GBP	Pound sterling	0,6384	ROL	Romanian leu	33617
SEK	Swedish krona	9,1393	SIT	Slovenian tolar	229,275
CHF	Swiss franc	1,4641	SKK	Slovak koruna	41,288
ISK	Iceland króna	87,17	TRL	Turkish lira	1634000
NOK	Norwegian krone	7,3545	AUD	Australian dollar	1,7758
BGN	Bulgarian lev	1,948	CAD	Canadian dollar	1,5536
CYP	Cyprus pound	0,57143	HKD	Hong Kong dollar	7,8093
CZK	Czech koruna	30,918	NZD	New Zealand dollar	2,0121
EEK	Estonian kroon	15,6466	SGD	Singapore dollar	1,7697
HUF	Hungarian forint	239,15	KRW	South Korean won	1211,27
LTL	Lithuanian litas	3,4535	ZAR	South African rand	9,8788

⁽¹⁾ Source: reference exchange rate published by the ECB.

Authorisation for State aid pursuant to Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty

Cases where the Commission raises no objections

(2002/C 272/02)

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)

Aid No: N 184/02

Title: Northern Ireland Scrapie Plan — Eradication Scheme

Objective: The long-term aim of the Northern Ireland eradication scheme is to reduce and eventually to eradicate scrapie by increasing the genetic resistance of sheep in scrapie affected flocks to TSE infections. All rams and ewes in scrapie affected flocks will be genotyped and susceptible animals will be culled. Compensation will be paid for culled sheep that will be removed from the food chain

Legal basis: Non-statutory initiative

Budget: 2002/2003: GBP 1,25 million; 2003/2004: GBP 0,5 million

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 100 %

Duration: Unlimited

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Duration: Unspecified

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Germany (Bayern)

Aid No: N 225/02

Title: Förderung der Milchwirtschaftlichen Untersuchungs- und Versuchsanstalt Kempten

Objective: To establish a laboratory for research into milk and milk products and the auxiliaries and additives used in the processing of milk

Legal basis: Bayerische Haushaltsordnung

Budget: EUR 16 799 564

Aid intensity or amount: 81 %

Duration: Until 31 December 2005

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Denmark

Aid No: N 214/02

Title: Amendment of an existing aid scheme for the combat of multi-resistant *Salmonella typhimurium* DT 104 in pig herds

Objective: To finance the costs of combating multi-resistant *Salmonella typhimurium* DT 104 in pig herds

Legal basis: Bekendtgørelse nr. 309 af 2. juni 1998 om overvågning af *Salmonella* i slagtesvin og i fersk kød af kvæg og svin, om undersøgelser for *Salmonella* i svine- og kvægbesætninger og om fund af multiresistente *Salmonella Typhimurium* DT 104 hos kvæg og svin

Budget: Unspecified

Aid intensity or amount: Maximum 100 %

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Italy (Trento)

Aid No: N 384/02

Title: Programma per la prevenzione, il controllo e l'eradicazione della malattia 'apple proliferation'

Objective: To prevent, control and eradicate apple proliferation in the Trento province

Legal basis: Delibera n. 910 del 24 aprile 2002

Budget: EUR 2 582 000 for 2002

Aid intensity or amount: Variable according to the measure

Duration: 2000-2006

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Germany (Hamburg)

Aid No: N 387/02

Title: Aid for anti-frost rainwater collectors in fruit growing

Objective: Optimal use of the local water resources. Aid would be granted to the *Hauptentwässerungsverband III. Meile Altenlandes* (a body under public law) for the construction of rainwater collectors to protect fruit cultivation from frost. The German authorities have explained that rainwater collectors are a necessary component (*systembedingter Bestandteil*) of the public sewage infrastructure

Legal basis: The measure is based on the decision of the competent authority of Hamburg

Budget: EUR 1,125 million (nationally financed)

Aid intensity or amount: 70 % of the eligible costs

Duration: Until 31 December 2003

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Germany (Rheinland-Pfalz)

Aid No: N 460/02

Title: Investment aid for the prevention of swine fever

Objective: Prevention of swine fever and other animal diseases. Aid would be granted as a one-off subsidy towards building investments that help to protect pigs from contagion of animal diseases in general and swine fever spread by boars in particular

Legal basis: Verwaltungsvorschrift des Ministeriums für Wirtschaft, Verkehr, Landwirtschaft und Weinbau: Förderung präventiver landwirtschaftlicher Investitionen zur Verbesserung der Tiergesundheit

Budget: EUR 15 000 in 2002

Aid intensity or amount: The maximum aid intensity is 20 % of the investment expenditure of more than EUR 1 000 and not exceeding EUR 10 000 in a three-year period

Duration: Unlimited

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Germany

Aid No: N 569/02

Title: Aid programme of the Federal Government (*Bund*) and the *Länder* for agricultural holdings that are endangered in their existence due to the consequences of the floods in 2002

Objective: The subsidy is a liquidity aid for proceeds loss due to floods and land surface damages of up to a total of 20 % (30 % in disadvantaged areas) of the proceeds loss. The purpose of the aid is the continuance of business

Legal basis: Bundeshaushaltsordnung; Verwaltungsvereinbarung zwischen Bund und Ländern über die Beteiligung des Bundes an Hilfsprogrammen der Länder für landwirtschaftliche Betriebe, die durch die Folgen des Hochwassers 2002 in ihrer Existenz gefährdet sind, vom 26.8.2002

Budget: EUR 20 000 000

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 30 %

Duration: 2002 up to 2003

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Germany

Aid No: N 595/02

Title: Aid programme of the Federal Government (*Bund*) and the *Länder* for remission or partial remission of investment credits for agricultural and forestry holdings that are endangered in their existence due to the consequences of the floods in 2002

Objective: The subsidy is an aid for the remission or partial remission of investment credits for flood-caused damage on investment property. The purpose of the aid is the continuance of business

Legal basis: Bundeshaushaltsordnung; Verwaltungsvereinbarung zwischen Bund und Ländern zum Erlass oder Teilerlass von Investitionskrediten für land- und forstwirtschaftliche Betriebe, die durch die Folgen des Hochwassers 2002 in ihrer Existenz gefährdet sind vom 6.9.2002

Budget: EUR 7 000 000

Aid intensity or amount: Up to 100 % of the market value of the damaged or destroyed investment property

Duration: 2000 up to 2003

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Date of adoption of the decision: 8.10.2002

Member State: Ireland

Aid No: NN 83/02 (ex N 180/02)

Title: Scrapie monitoring and eradication scheme

Objective: Long-term initiative aimed at the compensation for lost lambs and income loss due to the application of measures for the eradication of scrapie from Ireland sheep flock

Budget: Approximately EUR 1,6 million for the purchase of flocks and an additional EUR 0,9 million each year over and above the income support figure for 2002

Duration: Unlimited

The authentic text(s) of the decision, from which all confidential information has been removed, can be found at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/secretariat_general/sgb/state_aids

Information communicated by Member States regarding State aid granted under Commission Regulation (EC) No 68/2001 of 12 January 2001 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to training aid

(2002/C 272/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

Aid No: XT 08/01

— 2002: ESP 60 884 742 000 (EUR 365 924 670),

Member State: Spain

— 2003: ESP 61 888 056 000 (EUR 371 954 710),

Region: All regions

— 2004: ESP 62 804 000 000 (EUR 377 459 640)

Title of aid scheme or name of the company receiving an individual aid: Continuing training initiatives: application procedure

Maximum aid intensity: In accordance with the intensities laid down in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 68/2001

Legal basis: Orden Ministerial por la que se establecen las bases reguladoras para la concesión de ayudas de formación continua con cargo a la financiación prevista en el III Acuerdo tripartito de formación continua y convocatoria de planes de demanda de formación continua

Date of implementation: From publication in the Spanish Official Gazette of the notice inviting applications

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: 31 December 2004

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company:

Objective of aid: Will depend on the training plan submitted by each firm

— 2001: ESP 60 000 000 000 (EUR 360 607 262,63),

Economic sector(s) concerned: All sectors

Name and address of the granting authority:

María Dolores Cano Ratia
Directora General del INEM
C/ Condesa de Venadito, nº 9
E-28027 Madrid

Aid No: XT 23/01

Member State: United Kingdom

Region: Scotland (other than Highlands and Islands of Scotland)

Title of aid scheme or name of the company receiving an individual aid: Scottish Enterprise Training Scheme

Legal basis: Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 as amended by Scottish Statutory Instrument 2001 No 126

Annual expenditure planned under the scheme or overall amount of individual aid granted to the company: Until 31 March 2001: GBP 1,5 million. It is estimated that future budgets may increase considerably and may be at a maximum of GBP 12-15 million over each of the years 2001/2002, 2002/2003 and 2003/2004

Maximum aid intensity:

Large firms outside of assisted areas:

- specific — 25 %,
- general — 50 %.

Large firms in Article 87(3)(c) areas:

- specific — 30 %,
- general — 55 %.

SMEs outside of assisted areas:

- specific — 35 %,
- general — 70 %.

SMEs in Article 87(3)(c) areas:

- specific — 40 %,
- general — 75 %

Date of implementation: 2 February 2001

Duration of scheme or individual aid award: Until 31 December 2006

Objective of aid: Discretionary funding awarded to businesses to assist them in developing the skills of their staff, thereby creating a skilled, trained and adaptable workforce and a labour market responsive to economic change.

Specific training: Training directly and principally applicable to the employees' present or future position within the assisted firm and providing qualifications which are not (or only to a limited extent) transferable to other firms.

General training: Training not applicable only or principally to the employees' present or future position in the assisted firm, but which provides qualifications that are largely transferable to other firms or fields of work and thereby substantially improve the employability of the employee

Economic sector(s) concerned: This scheme applies to all sectors, but in the case of the following sectors only to the extent that there is no conflict with the relevant sectoral guidelines:

- agriculture,
- fisheries and aquaculture,
- shipbuilding,
- coal and steel,
- motor vehicles,
- synthetic fibres

Name and address of the granting authority:

Scottish Enterprise
120 Bothwell Street
Glasgow G2 7JP
Scotland

Other information: This scheme is in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 68/2001 of 12 January 2001 on the application of Articles 87 and 88 of the EC Treaty to State aid to training aid, published in the Official Journal of 13 January 2001

Textiles — Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the Federative Republic of Brazil on arrangements in the area of market access for textile and clothing products

Date of implementation and suspension of quantitative restrictions

(2002/C 272/04)

The Council adopted on 5 November 2002 a Decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Community, of the Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the Federative Republic of Brazil on arrangements in the area of market access for textile and clothing products, and authorising its provisional application ⁽¹⁾. In accordance with its Article 2, the Memorandum of Understanding will start to apply on a provisional basis as of 8 November 2002.

As a result, as of that date, the categories listed below will no longer be submitted to quantitative restrictions and will instead be submitted to double-checking (surveillance). To be imported into the European Union, products of these categories originating in the Federative Republic of Brazil will require the issuance of export licences for double-checking (surveillance) and of import authorisations, as well as the certificates of origin. Consequently, these products will no longer be counted against quotas for customs clearance, regardless of the date of shipment.

Categories for which quotas will be suspended and double-checking (surveillance) introduced:

1, 2, 2A, 3, 4, 6, 9, 20, 22 and 39.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 305, 7.11.2002.

Non-opposition to a notified concentration

(Case COMP/M.2949 — Finmeccanica/Telespazio)

(2002/C 272/05)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 30 October 2002 the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6(1)(b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is only available in Italian and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CIT' version of the CELEX database, under document No 302M2949. CELEX is the computerised documentation system of European Community law.

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2, rue Mercier,
L-2985 Luxembourg.
Tel. (352) 29 29 427 18, fax (352) 29 29 427 09.

Prior notification of a concentration
(Case COMP/M.2898 — Leroy Merlin/Brico)

(2002/C 272/06)

(Text with EEA relevance)

1. On 30 October 2002 the Commission received notification of a proposed concentration pursuant to Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1310/97 ⁽²⁾, by which the undertaking Leroy Merlin Participation (Leroy Merlin, France), controlled by the Mulliez family (the Mulliez family also control the company Auchan), acquires, within the meaning of Article 3(1)(b) of the Regulation, control of the whole of the undertakings Obi SA (France), Aki Bricolage SA (Spain), Probat Iberica SL (Spain), Bricogal SA (Portugal), Brimogal SA (Portugal), Bricodis — Distribuição de Bricolage SA (Portugal) and Leiribri — Sociedade Imobiliária Lda (Portugal) (together 'Brico') by way of purchase of shares.

2. The business activities of the undertakings concerned are:

- Leroy Merlin: retailing of repair, maintenance and improvement products for the home, mainly in France, but also in Spain, Italy and Belgium,
- Brico: retailing of repair, maintenance and improvement products for the home, in France, Spain and Portugal.

3. On preliminary examination, the Commission finds that the notified concentration could fall within the scope of Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. However, the final decision on this point is reserved.

4. The Commission invites interested third parties to submit their possible observations on the proposed operation.

Observations must reach the Commission not later than 10 days following the date of this publication. Observations can be sent by fax (No (32-2) 296 43 01 or 296 72 44) or by post, under reference COMP/M.2898 — Leroy Merlin/Brico, to:

European Commission,
Directorate-General for Competition,
Directorate B — Merger Task Force,
J-70,
B-1049 Brussels.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 395, 30.12.1989, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 257, 21.9.1990, p. 13.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 180, 9.7.1997, p. 1; corrigendum: OJ L 40, 13.2.1998, p. 17.