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I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**DECISION No 163/2001/EC OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL
of 19 January 2001
on the implementation of a training programme for professionals in the European audiovisual
programme industry (MEDIA-Training) (2001-2005)**

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European
Community, and in particular Article 150(4) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ⁽¹⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social
Committee ⁽²⁾,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the
Regions ⁽³⁾,

Acting in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article
251 of the Treaty ⁽⁴⁾,

Whereas:

- (1) From 6 to 8 April 1998, the Commission, in cooperation with the Presidency-in-office, held a European audiovisual conference on 'Challenges and opportunities of the digital age' in Birmingham. This consultation process highlighted the need for an improved programme of training in the audiovisual sector which concentrated on all the new aspects of the digital age. The Council of 28 May 1998 took note of the final conclusions of the said conference and called for new schemes to be developed to encourage a strong and competitive programme industry.
- (2) The Report of the High-Level Group on Audiovisual Policy of 26 October 1998, entitled 'The Digital Age: European Audiovisual Policy', concluded that, in this environment, both initial and continuous training in the audiovisual sector should be strengthened.
- (3) The challenges of production, distribution and availability of European audiovisual content were the main topics discussed at the Forum on Audiovisual Policy entitled 'European content for the digital millennium'

organised in Helsinki on 10 and 11 September 1999 by the Presidency-in-office in cooperation with the Commission.

- (4) The seminar 'Training for the new millennium' held by the Presidency-in-office in cooperation with the Commission in Oporto on 10 and 11 April 2000 stressed in its conclusions that efforts in training are required to facilitate the growth and desirable internationalisation of the European audiovisual industry.
- (5) In the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council entitled 'Audiovisual policy: next steps', the Commission recognises the considerable impact on employment which the digital age will have in the audiovisual industry.
- (6) The Green Paper on 'The Convergence of the Telecommunications, Media and Information Technology Sectors, and the Implications for Regulation' recognises that the emergence of new services will lead to the creation of new jobs. Adapting to the new markets requires staff trained in the use of new technologies. The Commission's public consultation on the Green Paper confirmed the demand for specialised vocational training adapted to the needs of the market.
- (7) In its Conclusions of 27 September 1999 on the results of the public consultation on the Green Paper ⁽⁵⁾, the Council called upon the Commission to take account of those results when drawing up proposals for measures to strengthen the European audiovisual sector, including the multimedia sector.
- (8) The European Council held in Luxembourg on 20 and 21 November 1997 recognised that continuous education and vocational training can make a major contribution to the employment policies of the Member States with a view to improving suitability for employment, adaptability and the spirit of enterprise, and promoting equality of opportunities.

⁽¹⁾ OJ C 150, 30.5.2000, p. 59.

⁽²⁾ OJ C 168, 16.6.2000, p. 8.

⁽³⁾ OJ C 317, 6.11.2000, p. 60.

⁽⁴⁾ Opinion of the European Parliament of 6 July 2000 (not yet published in the Official Journal), Council Common Position of 23 November 2000 (OJ C 375, 28.12.2000, p. 44) and Decision of the European Parliament of 13 December 2000.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ C 283, 6.10.1999, p. 1.

- (9) The European Council meeting held in Lisbon on 24 March 2000 also emphasised the importance of appropriate training, particularly in new technologies used by the information society.
- (10) In its report to the European Council on job opportunities in the information society, the Commission noted that the new audiovisual services offered a strong potential for job creation.
- (11) It is therefore appropriate to facilitate the development of investment in the European audiovisual industry and call on the Member States to encourage the creation of new jobs by various means.
- (12) The Commission implemented an 'Action programme to promote the development of the European audiovisual industry (MEDIA) (1991-1995)', adopted by Council Decision 90/685/EEC⁽¹⁾ and comprising, in particular, support for training activities to improve the professional skills of persons working in the European audiovisual programme industry.
- (13) The Community strategy for developing and strengthening the European audiovisual industry was confirmed under the MEDIA II programme adopted by Council Decision 95/563/EC⁽²⁾, and by Council Decision 95/564/EC⁽³⁾. On the basis of the achievements of the abovementioned MEDIA II programme, its continuation should be ensured in the light of the results obtained.
- (14) In its report on the results obtained under the MEDIA II (1996-2000) programme, from 1 January 1996 to 30 June 1998, the Commission considers that the programme meets the principle of the subsidiarity of Community funds to national funds, since the field of intervention of MEDIA II supplements the traditionally predominant role of the national schemes.
- (15) The Commission recognised the positive impact of the MEDIA II programme on employment in the audiovisual industry in its Communication on Community Policies in Support of Employment.
- (16) As it is necessary to take cultural aspects of the audiovisual sector into account as indicated in Article 151(4) of the Treaty, it should be ensured that participation in this programme reflects European cultural diversity.
- (17) With a view to encouraging European audiovisual projects, the Commission will examine the possibility of complementary funding from other Community instruments in particular under the 'e-Europe' Action plan, such as those covered by the European Investment Bank (EIB), the European Investment Fund (EIF) as well as the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities adopted by Decision No 182/1999/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽⁴⁾. Professionals in the audiovisual sector will be informed about the different types of funding available at Community level.
- (18) The emergence of a European audiovisual market calls for professional skills adjusted to the new dimension of the market, particularly in the field of the economic, financial and commercial management of audiovisual projects and in the use of new technologies in the design, development, production, distribution, marketing and broadcasting of programmes.
- (19) Professionals should be given the professional skills to allow them to benefit fully from the European and international dimension of the market for audiovisual programmes, and they must be encouraged to develop projects which meet the needs of that market.
- (20) Particular emphasis should be given to specialised training in intellectual property rights including the relevant Community rules, as well as to specialised training in the marketing of audiovisual products focusing in particular on new technologies as dissemination and marketing vehicles.
- (21) Equal opportunities are a basic principle in Community policies which must be taken into account in the implementation of this programme.
- (22) Training for professionals should comprise the essential economic, legal, technological and business content; rapid changes in these subjects make lifelong learning necessary.
- (23) In order to ensure that professionals master new technologies, special emphasis should be given to training in the use of these technologies, and thereby increasing competitiveness of enterprises in the audiovisual sector.
- (24) In accordance with the principle of subsidiarity, the networking of vocational training centres should be encouraged in order to facilitate the exchange of know-how and best practice in an international environment.
- (25) Support for vocational training should take account of structural objectives, such as developing the potential for creation, production, marketing and distribution in countries or regions with: a low audiovisual production capacity; and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area; as well as the development of an independent European production and distribution sector, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 380, 31.12.1990, p. 37.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 321, 30.12.1995, p. 25.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 321, 30.12.1995, p. 33.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 26, 1.2.1999, p. 1.

- (26) In accordance with the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality and in view of the fact that the objectives of the proposed measures concerning the implementation of vocational training policy cannot be achieved by the Member States, in particular in view of the transnational partnerships to be established between the training centres, the measures necessary to achieve them should be implemented by the Community. This Decision does not go beyond what is needed to achieve these objectives.
- (27) The measures proposed under this programme are all aimed at achieving transnational cooperation which brings an added value to the measures being taken in the Member States, in accordance with the aforementioned principle of subsidiarity.
- (28) The associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe, those EFTA countries which are members of the EEA, Cyprus, Malta and Turkey are recognised as potential participants in Community programmes on the basis of supplementary appropriations and in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with those countries. Those countries of Europe which have signed the Council of Europe Convention on Transfrontier Television belong to the European audiovisual area and may therefore, if they wish, and taking into account budgetary considerations or other priorities of their audiovisual industries, participate in the programme or benefit under a limited cooperation scheme, on the basis of the supplementary appropriations, in accordance with the procedures to be established in the agreements between the interested parties.
- (29) The opening-up of the programme to European third countries should be subject to a prior examination as to the compatibility of their national legislation with the Community acquis in particular Council Directive 89/552/EEC of 3 October 1989 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the pursuit of television broadcasting activities ⁽¹⁾.
- (30) Cooperation in the field of vocational training on the part of the European training establishments and those in third countries, on the basis of common interests, is likely to create an added value for the European audiovisual industry. Moreover, opening up to third countries will raise awareness of European cultural diversity and will lead to the dissemination of common democratic values. Such cooperation will be developed on the basis of supplementary appropriations and in accordance with the procedures to be established in the agreements between the interested parties.
- (31) In order to enhance the added value of the Community action, it is necessary to ensure, at all levels, that the measures taken under this Decision are consistent with and complementary to other Community action. It is desirable to coordinate the activities laid down by the

programme with those undertaken by international organisations such as the Council of Europe.

- (32) In accordance with the conclusions of the Lisbon European Council, the Council and Commission are to report by the end of 2000 on the review of the EIB and EIF financial instruments which was undertaken in order to redirect funding towards business start-ups, high-tech firms and micro-enterprises, as well as other risk capital or guarantee mechanism initiatives proposed by the EIB and EIF. In this connection, particular attention should be paid to the audiovisual sector, including training programmes.
- (33) This Decision lays down, for the entire duration of the programme, a financial framework constituting the prime reference, within the meaning of point 33 of the Interinstitutional Agreement of 6 May 1999 between the European Parliament, the Council and Commission ⁽²⁾, for the budgetary authority during the annual budgetary procedure.
- (34) The measures necessary for the implementation of this Decision should be adopted in accordance with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission ⁽³⁾,

HAVE DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Establishment of the programme

A vocational training programme, MEDIA-Training, hereinafter referred to as 'the programme', is hereby established for the period from 1 January 2001 to 31 December 2005.

The programme is intended to give professionals in the European audiovisual programme industry, mainly through continuous vocational training, the necessary skills to allow them to take full advantage of the European and international dimension of the market and of the use of new technologies.

Article 2

Objectives of the programme

1. The objectives of the programme are as follows:
 - (a) To meet the industry's needs and promote competitiveness by improving the continuous vocational training of professionals in the audiovisual sector, with a view to giving them the know-how and skills needed to create competitive products on the European and other markets, in particular in the field of:
 - application of new technologies, and in particular digital technologies, for the production and distribution of audiovisual programmes with a high commercial and artistic added value;

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 298, 17.10.1989, p. 23. Directive as amended by Directive 97/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 202, 30.7.1997, p. 60).

⁽²⁾ OJ C 172, 18.6.1999, p. 1.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.

- economic, financial and commercial management, including the legal framework and the techniques for the financing, production and distribution of audiovisual programmes;
- script-writing techniques and storytelling including techniques for the development of new audiovisual programme types.

Particular attention will be paid to the opportunities for distance learning and pedagogic innovation offered by the development of on-line technologies.

For these training activities, cooperation between various players in the audiovisual industry, such as script-writers, directors and producers, will be encouraged.

As an exception, certain initial vocational training measures in which the industrial sector is directly involved, such as master's degrees, may also be supported if no other Community support is available and in fields for which there are no support measures at national level.

- (b) To encourage cooperation and the exchange of know-how and best practice through networking between the partners responsible for training, namely training establishments, the professional sector and undertakings, as well as through developing training for the trainers.

Particular importance will be attached to encouraging the gradual establishment of networks in the audiovisual training sector and in continuous training for the trainers.

2. To achieve the objectives set out in the first subparagraph of paragraph 1(a) and in paragraph 1(b), particular attention shall be devoted to the specific needs of countries or regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area, as well as to the development of an independent European production and distribution sector, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises.

3. The objectives set out in paragraph 1 shall be realised in accordance with the arrangements contained in the Annex.

Article 3

Coordination

In order to achieve maximum coordination, the Commission shall ensure that there is cooperation between the training activities referred to in the programme and the development projects supported under the MEDIA Plus programme established under Council Decision 2000/821/EC⁽¹⁾.

⁽¹⁾ Council Decision 2000/821/EC of 20 December 2000 on the implementation of a programme to encourage the development, distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works (MEDIA Plus — Development, Distribution and Promotion) (2001-2005) (OJ L 336, 30.12.2000, p. 82).

Article 4

Financial provisions and funding conditions

1. The beneficiaries of Community support taking part in implementing the actions set out in the Annex shall provide a substantial proportion of the funding. Community funding shall not exceed 50 % of the cost of operations. However, in the cases expressly provided for in the Annex, this proportion may be as much as 60 % of the cost of operations.

2. The beneficiaries of Community support shall ensure that in principle a majority of the participants in a training measure, nationals of States participating in the programme, are of a nationality other than that of the beneficiary's country. To that end, support to facilitate participation by professionals from different linguistic areas may be included in Community funding for the training measure.

3. The Commission shall ensure that, as far as possible, an appropriate proportion of the funding annually available, to be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 6(2), is reserved for new activities.

4. Community funding shall be determined according to the costs and nature of each project planned.

5. The financial framework for the implementation of this programme for the period referred to in Article 1 is hereby set at EUR 50 million.

6. The annual appropriations shall be authorised by the budgetary authority within the limits of the financial perspective.

Article 5

Implementation of the programme

1. The Commission shall be responsible for the implementation of the programme.

2. The measures necessary for the implementation of this Decision concerning the matters referred to below shall be adopted in accordance with the management procedure referred to in Article 6(2):

- (a) general guidelines for all the measures described in the Annex;
- (b) the content of the calls for proposals, the definition of the criteria and the procedures for the selection of projects;
- (c) the appropriate percentage of the funds available each year reserved for new activities;
- (d) the arrangements for following up and assessing actions;
- (e) any proposal for a Community allocation exceeding EUR 200 000 per beneficiary and per year. This threshold may be reviewed in the light of experience.

3. The measures necessary for the implementation of this Decision concerning all the other matters shall be adopted in accordance with the advisory procedure referred to in Article 6(3). This procedure shall also apply to the final choice of technical assistance offices.

4. Technical assistance shall be governed by the provisions adopted pursuant to the Financial Regulation.

5. The Commission shall give the European Parliament and the Council regular and timely notice of the implementation of the programme, in particular the use of the available resources.

Article 6

Committee

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a Committee.

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 4 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to Article 8 thereof.

The period laid down in Article 4(3) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be set at two months.

3. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 3 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to Article 8 thereof.

4. The Committee shall adopt its rules of procedure.

Article 7

Consistency and complementarity

In the implementation of the programme, the Commission shall, in close cooperation with the Member States, ensure general consistency and complementarity with other relevant Community policies, programmes and actions that impinge upon the training and audiovisual fields.

The Commission shall also ensure coordination between the programme and other Community programmes in the field of initial and continuous training, and with the operation of the European Social Fund, in accordance with the rules of the Fund.

The Commission shall ensure effective liaison between this programme and programmes and actions in the training and audiovisual fields being carried out in the framework of Community cooperation with non-member countries and the relevant international organisations.

Article 8

Opening-up of the programme to third countries

1. The programme shall be open to the participation of the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe, in accordance with the conditions laid down in the association agreements or their additional protocols relating to participation in Community programmes concluded or to be concluded with those countries.

2. The programme shall be open to the participation of Cyprus, Malta, Turkey and those EFTA countries which are members of the EEA Agreement, on the basis of supplementary appropriations, in accordance with the procedures to be agreed with those countries.

3. The programme shall be open to the participation of the countries which are Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Transfrontier Television, other than those referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, on the basis of supplementary appropriations, in accordance with the conditions to be established in the agreements between the interested parties.

4. The opening-up of the programme to the European third countries referred to in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 is subject to a prior examination as to the compatibility of their national legislation with the Community acquis, including the second subparagraph of Article 6(1) of Council Directive 89/552/EEC.

5. The programme shall also be open to cooperation with other third countries on the basis of supplementary appropriations and cost sharing under agreed procedures to be established in the agreements between the interested parties. The European third countries referred to in paragraph 3 which do not wish to participate fully in the programme may be eligible for cooperation under the conditions set out in this paragraph.

Article 9

Monitoring and evaluation

1. The Commission shall ensure that measures taken under this Decision are subject to prior appraisal, and to subsequent monitoring and evaluation, taking care to ensure the accessibility of the programme and its transparency.

2. The beneficiaries selected shall submit an annual report to the Commission.

3. After completion of the projects, the Commission shall evaluate the manner in which they have been carried out and the impact of their implementation, in order to assess whether the original objectives have been achieved.

4. The Commission shall submit to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions an evaluation report on the impact and effectiveness of the programme, on the basis of the results after two years of implementation. This report shall include performance indicators such as impact on employment.

This report shall be accompanied, if need be, by any proposal regarding adjustment.

5. On completion of the programme, the Commission shall submit to the European Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions a detailed report on the implementation and results of the programme.

The Commission's report shall, in particular, give an account of the added value created by the Community's financial support, its possible impact on employment, and the coordinating measures referred to in Articles 3 and 7.

*Article 10***Entry into force**

This Decision shall enter into force on 1 January 2001.

Done at Brussels, 19 January 2001.

For the European Parliament

The President

N. FONTAINE

For the Council

The President

B. RINGHOLM

ANNEX

1. MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED

In support of and in addition to the measures being undertaken by the Member States, the programme aims to permit professionals to adapt to the dimension of the market, and in particular the European market, for audiovisual works, by promoting vocational training in:

- new technologies including the conservation and enhancement of the European film and audiovisual heritage;
- economic, financial and commercial management, including the legal framework, distribution and marketing;
- script-writing techniques and the development of new programme types.

Training activities will take account of the legal framework in the area of intellectual property rights, in particular the relevant Community rules.

Professionals from the audiovisual industry and from radio will have access to the relevant training activities.

The programme will encourage cooperation on the proposed measures between the various players in the audiovisual industry, such as script-writers, directors and producers, with a view to improving the quality and commercial potential of projects by means of closer cooperation between the various groups of professionals.

1.1. **Training in new technologies**

This training aims to develop the ability of professionals to use advanced creation and dissemination techniques, in particular in the fields of animation, computer graphics, multimedia and interactive applications including post-production techniques facilitating the transnational movement of European works.

The measures proposed are as follows:

- promoting the development and updating of the modules for training in the new audiovisual technologies, in parallel to the measures being taken by the Member States;
- networking the training courses, promoting exchanges of trainers and professionals by awarding grants, organising work experience in undertakings in other Member States, and contributing to the training of trainers, through distance learning, and by promoting exchanges and partnerships involving countries and regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area.

1.2. **Training in economic, financial and commercial management**

This training aims to develop the ability of professionals to appreciate and use the European dimension in the development, production, marketing and distribution/dissemination of audiovisual programmes.

The measures proposed are as follows:

- promoting the development and updating of the modules for training in management, in parallel to the measures being taken by the Member States and emphasising the European dimension;
- networking the training courses, promoting exchanges of trainers and professionals by awarding grants, organising work experience in undertakings in other Member States, contributing to the training of trainers, through distance learning, and by promoting exchanges and partnerships involving countries and regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area.

1.3. **Script-writing techniques**

This training is aimed at experienced script writers and directors in order to improve their ability to develop techniques based on both conventional and interactive script-writing and storytelling methods for all types of audiovisual programmes.

The measures will be as follows:

- promoting the development and updating of the training modules for identifying target audiences; publication and development of scripts for an international audience aimed at quality productions; relations between the script-writer, the director, the producer and the distributor;

- networking the training courses, promoting exchanges of trainers and professionals by awarding grants, organising work experience in undertakings in other Member States, contributing to the training of trainers, through distance learning, and by promoting exchanges and partnerships involving countries and regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area.

1.4. **Networks of training courses**

The objective is to encourage recipients of support under the programme to step up coordination of their activities in continuous training in order to establish European networks.

1.5. **Initial vocational training activities**

As an exception support may be provided for activities in some fields of initial vocational training where no other Community or national funding is on offer, including master's degrees in which there is a link with industry in the form of a partnership and/or work experience.

2. **IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURE**

2.1. **Approach**

In implementing the programme, the Commission, assisted by the Committee provided for in Article 6, will work closely with the Member States. It will also consult the partners concerned. It will ensure that the participation of professionals reflects adequately Europe's cultural diversity.

It will encourage designers of training modules to cooperate with establishments, the professional sector and undertakings in their work and in their follow-up.

The Commission will ensure that the designers of training modules take all steps with a view to respecting the principle set out in Article 4(2), and, if specific reasons justify departing from this principle, that Community added value is ensured.

It will ensure that establishments provide linguistic facilities, in particular in the area of script-writing techniques.

It will facilitate the participation of trainees, particularly from countries and regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area.

2.2. **Community contribution**

Community cofinancing of the total training costs will be provided within a framework of joint funding with public and/or private partners, generally up to a limit of 50 %. This percentage may be raised to 60 % for training activities in countries or regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area.

As a general rule, Community financial assistance granted for projects under the programme may cover a maximum period of three years, subject to a periodic review of progress achieved.

The procedure set out in Article 6(2) will be applied to determine the allocation of funding for each type of measure provided for under point 1.

In accordance with the rules for Community funding, and pursuant to the procedure set out in Article 6(2), the Commission will lay down a set of rules for funding in order to determine the ceiling for each continuous training activity and professional trained.

Designers of modules and training establishments will be selected by calls for proposals.

As far as possible, the Commission will ensure that an appropriate percentage of the funds available each year is allocated to new activities.

2.3. **Implementation**

- 2.3.1. The Commission, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 6, will implement the programme. It will call upon consultants and technical assistance offices to be selected, after a call for proposals, on the basis of their expertise in the sector, experience acquired in the MEDIA II programme, or other experience acquired in this area. The technical assistance will be financed by the programme's budget. In accordance with the procedure referred to in Article 6(2), the Commission may also conclude partnerships for operations with specialised bodies, including those which have been set up under other European initiatives, such as Audiovisual Eureka, Eurimages and the European Audiovisual Observatory, in order to implement joint measures which meet the objectives of the programme in the field of training. The Commission will make the final selection of the beneficiaries of the programme and will decide on the financial support to be granted, in accordance with Article 5.

It will give grounds for its decisions to applicants for Community support and ensure the transparency of implementation of the programme.

The beneficiaries will take steps to publicise the Community's support.

In selecting supported activities, the Commission will, in addition to the priorities set out in Article 2(2), take particular account of the following criteria:

- partnership between training establishments, the professional sector and undertakings;
- the innovatory nature of the measure;
- the multiplier effect of the measure (including utilisable results, e.g. manuals);
- the cost-effectiveness of the measure;
- availability of other national or Community support measures.

For the implementation of the programme, and in particular the assessment of the projects receiving funding under the programme, and for the networking measures, the Commission will ensure that it makes use of the skills of recognised experts in the audiovisual sector in the fields of training, development, production, distribution, promotion and also management of rights, especially in the new digital environment.

In order to ensure the independence of the consultants and experts whose services it uses, the Commission will lay down incompatibility provisions in respect of the participation of these groups of persons in the invitations to submit proposals under the programme.

- 2.3.2. Through appropriate measures, the Commission will make known the opportunities offered by the programme and ensure its promotion. The Commission will also provide via the Internet comprehensive information concerning all support arrangements available under the European Community's policies which are of relevance to the audiovisual sector.

In particular, the Commission and the Member States will take the necessary measures, by continuing the activities of the network of MEDIA Desks and Antennae, and by ensuring that the professional skills of the latter are strengthened, in order to:

- inform professionals in the audiovisual sector of all support arrangements available to them under European Community policies;
 - ensure that the programme is publicised and promoted;
 - encourage the greatest possible participation of professionals in the measures under the programme;
 - assist professionals in presenting their projects in response to calls for proposals;
 - foster transfrontier cooperation between professionals;
 - act as a relay with the various support bodies in the Member States with a view to ensuring that the measures under this programme are complementary to the national support measures.
-

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 164/2001
of 26 January 2001
establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 of 21 December 1994 on detailed rules for the application of the import arrangements for fruit and vegetables ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1498/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 4(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in the Annex thereto.

- (2) In compliance with the above criteria, the standard import values must be fixed at the levels set out in the Annex to this Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The standard import values referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 shall be fixed as indicated in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 337, 24.12.1994, p. 66.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 198, 15.7.1998, p. 4.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 26 January 2001 establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Third country code ⁽¹⁾	Standard import value
0702 00 00	052	90,0
	204	41,8
	624	64,6
	999	65,5
0707 00 05	052	95,9
	624	193,9
	628	141,3
	999	143,7
0709 90 70	052	124,3
	204	80,0
	624	185,9
	999	130,1
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	052	44,1
	204	57,7
	212	44,8
	624	31,7
	999	44,6
0805 20 10	204	102,6
	624	57,9
	999	80,3
0805 20 30, 0805 20 50, 0805 20 70, 0805 20 90	052	69,9
	204	90,2
	600	75,5
	624	79,3
	662	47,1
	999	72,4
0805 30 10	052	60,4
	600	71,9
	999	66,2
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	039	86,7
	400	92,3
	404	89,2
	720	100,3
	728	73,7
	999	88,4
0808 20 50	052	189,0
	388	112,2
	400	92,0
	720	106,1
	999	124,8

⁽¹⁾ Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2032/2000 (OJ L 243, 28.9.2000, p. 14). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 165/2001
of 26 January 2001
suspending the buying-in of butter in certain Member States

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1670/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999 of 16 December 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 as regards intervention on the market in butter and cream ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2099/2000 ⁽⁴⁾, lays down the criteria for opening or suspending the buying-in of butter by invitation to tender in the Member States.
- (2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2748/2000 ⁽⁵⁾ suspending the buying-in of butter in certain Member States establishes the list of Member States in which intervention is suspended. As a result of the market prices communicated by Italy intervention must no longer be suspended in this country and the list of

Member States established by Regulation (EC) No 2748/2000 adjusted accordingly.

- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Buying-in of butter by invitation to tender as provided for in Article 6(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 is hereby suspended in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Finland, Portugal, the United Kingdom and Sweden.

Article 2

Regulation (EC) No 2748/2000 is hereby repealed.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 10.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 333, 24.12.1999, p. 11.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 249, 4.10.2000, p. 20.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 318, 18.12.2000, p. 16.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 166/2001**of 26 January 2001****fixing the maximum purchasing price for butter for the 21st invitation to tender carried out under the standing invitation to tender governed by Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1670/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 13 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999 of 16 December 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 as regards intervention on the market in butter and cream ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2099/2000 ⁽⁴⁾, provides that, in the light of the tenders received for each invitation to tender, a maximum buying-in price is to be fixed in relation to the interven-

tion price applicable and that it may also be decided not to proceed with the invitation to tender.

- (2) As a result of the tenders received, the maximum buying-in price should be fixed as set out below.
- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 21st invitation to tender issued under Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999, for which tenders had to be submitted not later than 23 January 2001, the maximum buying-in price is fixed at 295,38 EUR/100 kg.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 10.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 333, 24.12.1999, p. 11.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 249, 4.10.2000, p. 20.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 167/2001**of 26 January 2001****fixing the minimum selling prices for butter and the maximum aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for the 68th individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1670/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The intervention agencies are, pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2571/97 of 15 December 1997 on the sale of butter at reduced prices and the granting of aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for use in the manufacture of pastry products, ice-cream and other foodstuffs ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 635/2000 ⁽⁴⁾, to sell by invitation to tender certain quantities of butter that they hold and to grant aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter. Article 18 of that Regulation stipulates that in the light of the tenders received in response to each individual invitation to tender a minimum selling price shall be fixed for butter and maximum aid shall be fixed for cream, butter and concentrated butter. It is further stipulated that the price

or aid may vary according to the intended use of the butter, its fat content and the incorporation procedure, and that a decision may also be taken to make no award in response to the tenders submitted. The amount(s) of the processing securities must be fixed accordingly.

- (2) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The minimum selling prices and the maximum aid and processing securities applying for the 68th individual invitation to tender, under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97, shall be fixed as indicated in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 10.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 350, 20.12.1997, p. 3.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 76, 25.3.2000, p. 9.

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 26 January 2001 fixing the minimum selling prices for butter and the maximum aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for the 68th individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97

(EUR/100 kg)

Formula			A		B	
Incorporation procedure			With tracers	Without tracers	With tracers	Without tracers
Minimum selling price	Butter ≥ 82 %	Unaltered	—	—	—	—
		Concentrated	—	—	—	—
Processing security		Unaltered	—	—	—	—
		Concentrated	—	—	—	—
Maximum aid	Butter ≥ 82 %		95	91	95	91
	Butter < 82 %		92	88	—	88
	Concentrated butter		117	113	117	113
	Cream		—	—	40	38
Processing security	Butter		105	—	105	—
	Concentrated butter		129	—	129	—
	Cream		—	—	44	—

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 168/2001**of 26 January 2001****fixing the maximum aid for concentrated butter for the 240th special invitation to tender opened under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 429/90**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1670/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In accordance with Commission Regulation (EEC) No 429/90 of 20 February 1990 on the granting by invitation to tender of an aid for concentrated butter intended for direct consumption in the Community ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 124/1999 ⁽⁴⁾, the intervention agencies are opening a standing invitation to tender for the granting of aid for concentrated butter; Article 6 of that Regulation provides that in the light of the tenders received in response to each special invitation to tender, a maximum amount of aid is to be fixed for concentrated butter with a minimum fat content of 96 % or a decision is to be taken to make no award; whereas the end-use security must be fixed accordingly.

- (2) In the light of the tenders received, the maximum aid should be fixed at the level specified below and the end-use security determined accordingly.
- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 240th special invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender opened by Regulation (EEC) No 429/90, the maximum aid and the amount of the end-use security shall be as follows:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| — maximum aid: | EUR 117/100 kg |
| — end-use security: | EUR 129/100 kg. |

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 10.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 45, 21.2.1990, p. 8.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 16, 21.1.1999, p. 19.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 169/2001**of 26 January 2001****on the opening of a standing invitation to tender for the resale on the internal market of some 20 000 tonnes of rice held by the Italian intervention agency**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1667/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular the last indent of Article 8(b) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 75/91 ⁽³⁾ lays down the procedures and conditions for the disposal of paddy rice held by intervention agencies.
- (2) The Italian intervention agency has been storing for a very long time now a very significant quantity of paddy rice. A standing invitation to tender should be opened for the resale on the internal market of some 20 000 tonnes of paddy rice held by the Italian intervention agency.
- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The Italian intervention agency shall open, under the conditions laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 75/91, a standing invitation to tender for the resale on the internal market of

some 20 000 tonnes of rice held by that agency, in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 75/91.

Article 2

1. The closing date for the submission of tenders in response to the first partial invitation to tender shall be 7 February 2001.
2. The closing date for the submission of tenders in response to the last partial invitation to tender shall be 27 June 2001.
3. Tenders must be lodged with the Italian intervention agency at the following address:
Ente Nazionale Risi (ENR)
Piazza Pio XI, 1
I-20123 Milan
(Tel. (39) 02 885 51 11; fax (39) 02 86 13 72/86 55 03).

Article 3

By Tuesday of the week following the closing date for the submission of tenders, the Italian intervention agency shall notify the Commission of the quantities and the average prices of the various lots sold.

Article 4

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

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 9, 12.1.1991, p. 15.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 170/2001**of 26 January 2001****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled round grain rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2281/2000**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organization of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1667/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13 (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2281/2000 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The maximum export refund on wholly milled round grain rice to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2281/2000 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 19 to 25 January 2001 at 220,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 260, 14.10.2000, p. 7.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 171/2001**of 26 January 2001****concerning tenders submitted in response to the invitation to tender for the export to certain third European countries of wholly milled round, medium and long grain A rice issued in Regulation (EC) No 2282/2000**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1667/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued under Commission Regulation (EC) No 2282/2000 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to decide, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, to make no award.

(3) On the basis of the criteria laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 a maximum refund should not be fixed.

(4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

No action shall be taken on the tenders submitted from 19 to 25 January 2001 in response to the invitation to tender for the export refund on wholly milled round, medium and long grain A rice to certain third European countries issued in Regulation (EC) No 2282/2000.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 260, 14.10.2000, p. 10.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 172/2001**of 26 January 2001****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled round grain, medium grain and long grain A rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2283/2000**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1667/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2283/2000 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The maximum export refund on wholly milled grain, medium grain and long grain A rice to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2283/2000 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 19 to 25 January 2001 at 232,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 260, 14.10.2000, p. 13.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 173/2001**of 26 January 2001****fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled long grain rice in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2284/2000**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1667/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 13 (3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2284/2000 ⁽³⁾.
- (2) Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 299/95 ⁽⁵⁾, allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 22 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The maximum export refund on wholly milled long grain rice falling within CN code 1006 30 67 to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2284/2000 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 19 to 25 January 2001 at 309,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 3.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 260, 14.10.2000, p. 16.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 35, 15.2.1995, p. 8.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 174/2001**of 26 January 2001****on the issue of import licences for rice against applications submitted during the first 10 working days of January 2001 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 327/98**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 327/98 of 10 February 1998 opening and providing for the administration of certain tariff quotas for imports of rice and broken rice ⁽¹⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 648/98 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 5(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) pursuant to Article 5(2) of Regulation (EC) No 327/98, within 10 days of the closing date for notification by the Member States of licence applications, the Commission must decide to what extent the applications may be accepted and fix the quantities available under the following tranche;
- (2) examination of the quantities for which applications have been submitted for under the January 2001 tranche shows that licences should be issued for the quantities

applied for reduced, where appropriate, by the percentages set out in the Annex hereto,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Import licences for rice against applications submitted during the first 10 working days of January 2001 pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 327/98 and notified to the Commission shall be issued for the quantities applied for reduced, where appropriate, by the percentages set out in the Annex hereto.

2. The quantities available under the following tranche shall be as set out in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 37, 11.2.1998, p. 5.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 88, 24.3.1998, p. 3.

ANNEX

Reduction percentages to be applied to quantities applied for under the tranche for January 2001 and quantities available for the following tranche:

(a) quantity referred to in Article 2: semi-milled and wholly-milled rice falling within CN code 1006 30

Origin	Reduction (%)	Quantity available for the additional tranche for April 2001 (in t)
United States of America	0 ⁽¹⁾	1 974,85
Thailand	79,8419	—
Australia	—	—
Other origins	—	—

⁽¹⁾ Issue for the quantity applied for.

(b) quantity referred to in Article 2: husked rice falling within CN code 1006 20

Origin	Reduction (%)	Quantity available for the additional tranche for April 2001 (in t)
Australia	0 ⁽¹⁾	2 176,10
United States of America	0 ⁽¹⁾	—
Thailand	100,0000	—
Other origins	—	—

⁽¹⁾ Issue for the quantity applied for.

(c) quantity referred to in Article 2: broken rice falling within CN code 1006 40 00

Origin	Reduction (%)	Quantity available for the additional tranche for July 2001 (in t)
Thailand	25,2716	—
Australia	0 ⁽¹⁾	—
Guyana	0 ⁽¹⁾	4 251,00
United States of America	97,3684	—
Other origins	91,6667	—

⁽¹⁾ Issue for the quantity applied for.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 175/2001
of 26 January 2001
laying down the marketing standard for walnuts in shell

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 of 28 October 1996 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2826/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 2(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Walnuts are among the products listed in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 for which standards must be adopted. To that end and in the interests of preserving transparency on the world market, account should be taken of the standard for walnuts in shell recommended by the Working Party on Standardisation of Perishable Produce and Quality Development of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UN/ECE).
- (2) Applying this standard should result in products of unsatisfactory quality being removed from the market, bringing production into line with consumer requirements and facilitating trade relationships based on fair competition, thereby helping to improve the profitability

of production. Therefore it applies at all marketing stages.

- (3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Fruit and Vegetables,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The marketing standard for walnuts in shell falling within CN code 0802 31 00 shall be as set out in the Annex.

The standard shall apply at all stages of marketing, under the conditions laid down in Regulation (EC) No 2200/96.

Article 2

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

It shall apply from 1 September 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 328, 23.12.2000, p. 2.

ANNEX

STANDARD FOR WALNUTS IN SHELL

I. DEFINITION OF PRODUCE

This standard applies to walnuts in shell free from outer husks, from varieties (cultivars) grown from *Juglans regia* L., to be supplied to the consumer, walnuts for industrial processing being excluded.

The expression 'fresh walnuts' or 'early walnuts' means walnuts which have been marketed soon after harvesting and cannot be preserved for a long time, from which the husk has been removed and which have not been treated in any way that tends to change their natural moisture content.

The expression 'dry walnuts' means walnuts which can be preserved for a long time under normal conditions of storage ⁽¹⁾.

II. PROVISIONS CONCERNING QUALITY

The purpose of the standard is to define the quality requirements of walnuts in shell, after preparation and packaging.

A. Minimum requirements ⁽²⁾

- (i) In all classes, subject to the special provisions for each class and the tolerances allowed, the walnuts in shell must be:

(a) *Characteristics of the shell:*

- intact; slight superficial damage is not considered as a defect; partially open walnuts are considered to be intact provided that the kernel is physically protected,
- sound; free from defects likely to affect the natural keeping quality of the fruits,
- free of damage caused by pests,
- clean; practically free of any visible foreign matter,
- dry; free from abnormal external moisture,
- free from residues of husk.

The shells of dry walnuts must show no trace of hulling.

(b) *Characteristics of the kernels:*

- sound; produce affected by rotting or deterioration such as to make it unfit for consumption is excluded,
- firm,
- clean, practically free of any visible foreign matter,
- free from insects or mites whatever their stage of development,
- free of damage caused by pests,
- free from rancidity and/or oily appearance,
- free from mould,
- free of abnormal external moisture;
- free of foreign smell and/or taste,
- normally developed, shrivelled kernels are to be excluded.

- (c) The walnuts in shell must be gathered when sufficiently mature.

Walnuts must not be empty.

In the case of 'fresh walnuts', it must be possible to peel off the skin of the kernel easily and the internal central partition must show signs of turning brown.

In the case of 'dry walnuts', the internal central partition must be dry and brittle.

⁽¹⁾ In the case of transport by closed container, special attention should be paid to air circulation in the container and to the moisture content of the produce.

⁽²⁾ The definition of defects is given in Appendix II to this Annex.

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 2 of European Parliament and Council Directive 95/2/EC ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Directive 98/72/EC ⁽²⁾, the shells may be washed and bleached provided that the treatment applied does not affect the quality of the kernels.

The condition of the walnuts in shell should be such as to enable them:

- to withstand normal transport and handling, and
- to arrive in a satisfactory condition at the place of destination.

(ii) Moisture content

Dry walnuts shall have a moisture content not greater than 12 % for the whole nut and 8 % for the kernel ⁽³⁾.

The natural moisture content of whole fresh walnuts shall be equal to or greater than 20 %.

B. Classification

Walnuts in shell are classified in three classes defined below.

(i) 'Extra' class

Walnuts in shell in this class must be of superior quality. They must have the characteristics of the variety or of the mixture of certain varieties officially defined by the producing country and specified in the marking.

They must be practically free from defects with the exception of very slight superficial defects provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package.

This class may not include walnuts in shell whose variety cannot be guaranteed, nor a mixture which is not defined.

Furthermore, only walnuts of the most recent harvest can be included in this class.

(ii) Class I

Walnuts in shell in this class must be of good quality. They must be characteristic of the variety, of a commercial type or of a mixture of certain varieties officially defined by the producing country and specified in the marking.

Slight defects may be allowed provided these do not affect the general appearance of the produce, the quality, the keeping quality and presentation in the package.

This class may not include walnuts in shell whose variety cannot be guaranteed, nor a mixture which is not defined.

(iii) Class II

This class includes walnuts in shell which do not qualify for inclusion in the higher classes, but satisfy the minimum requirements specified above.

Defects may be allowed provided the walnuts in shell retain their essential characteristics as regards the quality, keeping quality and presentation.

III. PROVISIONS CONCERNING SIZING

Size is determined either by an interval determined by the minimum diameter and the maximum diameter (sizing) or by an indication of the minimum diameter followed by 'and above' or 'and +' (screening).

Class	Sizing ⁽⁴⁾	Screening ⁽⁴⁾
Extra, I and II		34 mm and above
	32-34 mm	32 mm and above
	30-32 mm	30 mm and above
	28-30 mm	28 mm and above
I and II	26-28 mm	26 mm and above
II	24-26 mm	24 mm and above

⁽⁴⁾ In addition to this sizing and screening table, provided that the size is also expressed in the marking, any size name may be used optionally.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 61, 18.3.1995, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 295, 4.11.1998, p. 18.

⁽³⁾ The moisture content is determined by the method given in Appendix I to this Annex.

IV. PROVISIONS CONCERNING TOLERANCES

Tolerances in respect of quality and size shall be allowed in each package for produce not satisfying the requirements of the class indicated.

A. **Quality tolerances**

In the calculation of tolerances, whatever the class, two half empty walnuts or four quarter-empty walnuts are counted as one empty walnut.

Defects allowed ^(a)	Tolerances allowed (percentage by number or weight of defective fruit)		
	Extra	Class I	Class II
(a) Total tolerances for defects of the shell	7	10	15
(b) Total tolerances for defects of the edible part ^(b)	8	10	15
of which rancid, rotten or damaged by insects ^(c)	3	6	8
of which mouldy walnuts	3	4	6

^(a) The definitions of defects are listed in Appendix II to this Annex.

^(b) For fresh walnuts, the tolerances for defects of the kernel are as follows: 'Extra' class: 8 %; class I: 12 %; class II: 15 %.

^(c) Living insects or animal pests are not permitted in any class.

B. **Mineral impurities**

Ashes insoluble in acid must not exceed 1 g/kg.

C. **Size tolerances**

For all classes, a maximum of 10 %, by number or weight, of walnuts in shell not conforming to the size indicated in the marking is tolerated within the limits such that:

- the nuts correspond to the sizes immediately below or above when the size is designated by an interval determined by the minimum diameter and the maximum diameter (sizing),
- the nuts correspond to the size immediately below when the size is designated by an indication of the minimum diameter followed by 'and above' or 'and +' (screening).

V. PROVISIONS CONCERNING PRESENTATION

A. **Uniformity**

The contents of each package must be uniform and contain only walnuts in shell of the same origin, crop year, quality and size (if sized). In a single package stated to contain a given variety, a defined mixture of varieties or commercial type, a maximum of 10 %, by number or weight, of walnuts in shell may belong to other varieties or commercial types.

The visible part of the contents of the package must be representative of the entire contents.

B. **Packaging**

Walnuts in shell must be packed in such a way as to protect the produce properly.

The materials used inside the package must be new, clean and of a quality such as to avoid causing any external or internal damage to the produce. The use of materials, particularly of paper or stamps bearing trade specifications, is allowed provided the printing or labelling has been done with non-toxic ink or glue.

Packages must be free of all foreign matter.

C. Presentation

The weight of the packages constituting a batch must be identical.

VI. PROVISIONS CONCERNING MARKING

Each package must bear the following particulars, in letters grouped on the same side, legibly and indelibly marked, and visible from the outside:

A. Identification

Packer and/or dispatcher: name and address or officially issued or accepted code mark. However, in the case where a code mark is used, the reference 'packer and/or dispatcher (or equivalent abbreviations)' has to be indicated in close connection with the code mark.

B. Nature of produce

- 'Fresh walnuts' or 'Early walnuts' (in the case of fresh walnuts); 'Walnuts' or 'Dry walnuts' (in the case of dry walnuts).
- Name of the variety or of the mixture defined for the 'Extra' class; name of the variety, defined mixture or commercial type for class I.

C. Origin of produce

Country of origin and, optionally, district where grown, or the national, regional or local place name.

D. Commercial specifications

- Class
- Size, which may be given either:
 - by the minimum and maximum diameters, or
 - by the minimum diameter followed by the words 'and above' or 'and +'.
- Size name (optional).
- Crop year (mandatory for 'Extra' class and class I, optional for class II).
- Net weight
- Date of packaging mandatory for fresh walnuts and optional for dry walnuts.
- 'Best before' followed by the date (optional); for fresh walnuts the indication 'To be consumed quickly, store preferably in a cool place', or the indication 'Preservation very limited, store preferably in a cool place'.

E. Official control mark (optional)

APPENDIX I

DETERMINATION OF THE MOISTURE CONTENT

METHOD I — LABORATORY REFERENCE METHOD

1. Principle

Determination of the moisture content of dried fruits by loss of mass after drying at a temperature of 103 °C (± 2 °C) in a temperature-controlled oven at ambient pressure for six hours.

2. Apparatus

- 2.1. Ceramic mortar with appropriate pestle or food chopper.
- 2.2. Analytical balance sensitive to 1 mg.
- 2.3. Cylindrical, flat-bottomed glass or metal containers, 12 cm in diameter and 5 cm in depth, provided with well-fitting lids.
- 2.4. Electrically heated temperature-controlled oven with good natural ventilation, regulated so that the temperature is maintained at 103 °C (± 2 °C).
- 2.5. Dessicator containing an effective dessicant (e.g. calcium chloride) and provided with a metal plate which allows the containers to cool rapidly.

3. Preparation of the sample

Shell the sample if required and crush the kernels in the mortar, or chop them finely, to obtain fragments of 2 to 4 mm across.

4. Test portion and determination

- 4.1. Dry the containers and their lids in the oven for at least two hours and transfer to the dessicator. Allow the containers and lids to cool to room temperature.
- 4.2. Carry out the determination on four test portions of approximately 50 g each.
- 4.3. Weigh the empty container and lid to the nearest 0,001 g (M_0).
- 4.4. Weigh approximately 50 g of the test material into the container to the nearest 0,001 g. Spread the material all over the base of the container, seal the container quickly with the lid and weigh the whole (M_1). Perform these operations as quickly as possible.
- 4.5. Place the open containers, with their lids beside them, in the oven. Close the oven and allow to dry for six hours. Open the oven, quickly cover the containers with their individual lids, and place them in the dessicator to cool. After cooling to ambient temperature, weigh the covered dish to the nearest 0,01 g (M_2).
- 4.6. The moisture content of the sample, as percentage by mass is given by the expression:

$$\text{Moisture content} = \frac{M_1 - M_2}{M_1 - M_0} \times 100$$

- 4.7. Report the average value obtained from the four determinations.

METHOD II — RAPID METHOD

1. Principle

Determination of the moisture content using a measuring instrument based on the principle of electrical conductivity. The measuring instrument must be calibrated against the laboratory method.

2. Apparatus

- 2.1. Ceramic mortar with appropriate pestle or food chopper.
- 2.2. Measuring instrument based on the principle of electrical conductivity.

3. Determination

- 3.1. Fill the glass with the substance to be examined (previously ground in the mortar) and tighten the press until a constant pressure is obtained.
- 3.2. Read the values of the scale.
- 3.3. After each determination, clean the glass thoroughly with a spatula, stiff bristled brush paper napkin, or compressed air pump.

APPENDIX II

DEFINITION OF DEFECTS FOR WALNUTS IN SHELL

A. Defects of the shell

Any defect affecting the appearance including:

- staining or discolouration: abnormal colour which covers 20 % of the surface of the shell of an individual nut and which is of a brown, reddish brown, grey or other colour in pronounced contrast with the colour of the rest of the shell or the majority of shells in the lot,
- adhering dirt, when affecting more than 5 % of the shell surface,
- adhering husk, when affecting more than 10 % of the shell surface,
- husking damages: pronounced marks on the shell caused by the operation of mechanically removing the husk.

B. Defects of the edible part (kernel)

Any defects affecting the appearance of the kernel, including blemishes or areas of discolouration: discolouration which affects more than one quarter of the kernel and which is in pronounced contrast with the colour of the rest of the kernel.

Shrivelled kernels:	kernel which is seriously shrunken, wrinkled and tough.
Ripening defects for fresh nuts:	kernel which is not sufficiently firm, of which the skin cannot easily be peeled off and/or of which the internal central partition does not show signs of turning brown.
Rancidity:	oxidation of lipids or free fatty acid production producing a disagreeable flavour.
Empty nuts:	condition of the walnut in which the kernel has not developed.

C. Defects of the shell and kernel

Mould:	mould filaments visible to the naked eye.
Decay:	significant decomposition caused by the action of micro-organisms.
Insect damage:	visible damage caused by insects or other animal parasites or the presence of dead insects or insect debris.
Foreign matter:	any matter or material not usually associated with the produce.
Mineral impurities:	acid insoluble ash.
Foreign smell or taste:	any odour or flavour that is not characteristic of the produce.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 176/2001

of 26 January 2001

fixing the maximum buying-in price and the quantities of beef to be bought in under the 260th partial invitation to tender as a general intervention measure pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 1627/89

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in beef and veal ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 17(8) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 562/2000 of 15 March 2000 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999 as regards the buying-in of beef ⁽²⁾, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2734/2000 ⁽³⁾, lays down buying standards. Pursuant to the above Regulation, an invitation to tender was opened under Article 1(1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1627/89 of 9 June 1989 on the buying-in of beef by invitation to tender ⁽⁴⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 121/2001 ⁽⁵⁾.

(2) Article 13(1) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2000 lays down that a maximum buying-in price is to be fixed for quality R3, where appropriate, under each partial invitation to tender in the light of tenders received while Article 13(2) of that Regulation states that a decision may be taken to make no award. In accordance with Article 36 of that Regulation, only tenders quoting prices not exceeding the maximum buying-in price and not exceeding the average national or regional market price, plus the amount referred to in Article 6(2) of Regulation (EC) No 2734/2000 are to be accepted.

(3) Once tenders submitted in respect of the 260th partial invitation to tender have been considered pursuant to Article 47(8) of Regulation (EC) No 1254/1999, and taking account of the requirements for reasonable support of the market and the seasonal trend in slaughtering and prices, the maximum buying-in price and the quantities which may be bought in should be fixed for category A and no award made for category C.

(4) As the quantities offered at present exceed the quantities which may be bought in, a reducing coefficient should therefore be applied in accordance with Article 13(3) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2000.

(5) Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 2734/2000 also opens buying-in of carcasses and half-carcasses of store cattle

and lays down special rules in addition to those laid down for the buying-in of other products.

(6) In view of the scale of the quantities awarded, the application of the possibility provided for in Article 16(2) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2000 of extending the period during which the intervention products are to be delivered is warranted.

(7) In the light of developments, this Regulation should enter into force immediately.

(8) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Beef and Veal,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Under the 260th partial invitation to tender opened pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 1627/89:

(a) for category A:

- the maximum buying-in price shall be EUR 241,00/100 kg of carcasses or half-carcasses of quality R3,
- the maximum quantity of carcasses and half-carcasses accepted shall be 18 491 t,
- the quantities offered at a price of EUR 227,00 or more shall be multiplied by a coefficient of 50 % in accordance with Article 13(3) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2000;

(b) for category C no award shall be made;

(c) for carcasses and half-carcasses of store cattle as referred to in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 2734/2000:

- the maximum buying-in price shall be EUR 382,00/100 kg of carcasses or half-carcasses,
- the maximum quantity of carcasses and half-carcasses shall be 193 t.

Article 2

The first sentence of Article 16(2) of Regulation (EC) No 562/2000 notwithstanding, the time limit for delivery to intervention stores is extended to 24 calendar days.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on 28 January 2001.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 21.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 68, 16.3.2000, p. 22.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 316, 15.12.2000, p. 45, Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC) No 3/2001 (OJ L 1, 4.1.2000, p. 6).

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 159, 10.6.1989, p. 36.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 19, 20.1.2001, p. 24.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 177/2001
of 26 January 2001
on the issue of system B export licences in the fruit and vegetables sector

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2190/96 of 14 November 1996 on detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 as regards export refunds on fruit and vegetables ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 298/2000 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 5(5) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2/2001 ⁽³⁾ fixes the indicative quantities for system B export licences other than those sought in the context of food aid.
- (2) In the light of the information available to the Commission today, there is a risk that the indicative quantities laid down for the current export period for apples will shortly be exceeded. This overrun will prejudice the

proper working of the export refund scheme in the fruit and vegetables sector.

- (3) To avoid this situation, applications for system B licences for apples exported after 26 January 2001 should be rejected until the end of the current export period,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Applications for system B export licences for apples submitted pursuant to Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 2/2001, export declarations for which are accepted after 26 January 2001 and before 17 March 2001 are hereby rejected.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 27 January 2001.

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

Done at Brussels, 26 January 2001.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 292, 15.11.1996, p. 12.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 34, 9.2.2000, p. 16.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 1, 4.1.2001, p. 3.

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

**COUNCIL DECISION
of 19 January 2001
appointing a Spanish member of the Economic and Social Committee**

(2001/71/EC, Euratom)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 258 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 166 thereof,

Having regard to the Council Decision of 15 September 1998 appointing the members of the Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 1998 to 20 September 2002 ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas a member's seat on that Committee has fallen vacant following the resignation of Ms Juana BORREGO IZQUIERDO, of which the Council was informed on 13 April 2000;

Having regard to the nominations submitted by the Spanish Government,

Having obtained the opinion of the Commission of the European Communities,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Mr Fernando MORALEDA QUILEZ is hereby appointed a member of the Economic and Social Committee in place of Ms Juana BORREGO IZQUIERDO for the remainder of her term of office, which runs until 20 September 2002.

Done at Brussels, 19 January 2001.

For the Council

The President

B. RINGHOLM

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 257, 19.9.1998, p. 37.

COUNCIL DECISION
of 19 January 2001
appointing an Italian member of the Economic and Social Committee

(2001/72/EC, Euratom)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 258 thereof,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community, and in particular Article 166 thereof,

Having regard to the Council Decision of 15 September 1998 appointing the members of the Economic and Social Committee for the period from 21 September 1998 to 20 September 2002 ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas a member's seat on that Committee has fallen vacant following the resignation of Mr Flavio PASOTTI, of which the Council was informed on 23 June 2000;

Having regard to the nominations submitted by the Italian Government,

Having obtained the opinion of the Commission of the European Communities,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Mr Mario MINOJA is hereby appointed a member of the Economic and Social Committee in place of Mr Flavio PASOTTI for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 20 September 2002.

Done at Brussels, 19 January 2001.

For the Council

The President

B. RINGHOLM

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 257, 19.9.1998, p. 37.

COUNCIL DECISION
of 19 January 2001
appointing a German full member of the Committee of the Regions

(2001/73/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 263 thereof,

Having regard to the Council Decision of 26 January 1998 appointing the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions ⁽¹⁾,

Whereas a seat as a full member of the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the resignation of Mr Franz Josef JUNG, notified to the Council on 28 November 2000;

Having regard to the proposal from the German Government,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Mr Jochen RIEBEL is hereby appointed a full member of the Committee of the Regions in place of Mr Franz Josef JUNG for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 25 January 2002.

Done at Brussels, 19 January 2001.

For the Council

The President

B. RINGHOLM

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 28, 4.2.1998, p. 19.

COUNCIL DECISION
of 19 January 2001
appointing a United Kingdom alternate member of the Committee of the Regions
(2001/74/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 263 thereof,

Having regard to the Council Decision of 26 January 1998 ⁽¹⁾ appointing the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions,

Whereas a seat as an alternate member of the Committee of the Regions has become vacant following the resignation of Mr Keith BILLINGTON, alternate member, notified to the Council on 6 December 2000,

Having regard to the proposal from the United Kingdom Government,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

Mr Mark EDGELL is hereby appointed an alternate member of the Committee of the Regions in place of Mr Keith BILLINGTON, for the remainder of his term of office, which runs until 25 January 2002.

Done at Brussels, 19 January 2001.

For the Council
The President
B. RINGHOLM

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 28, 4.2.1998, p. 19.

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 18 January 2001

for safety and potency testing of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines and bluetongue vaccines

(notified under document number C(2001) 118)

(2001/75/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Decision 90/424/EEC of 26 June 1990 on expenditure in the veterinary field ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1258/1999 ⁽²⁾, and in particular Articles 6 and 14 thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 91/666/EEC of 11 December 1991 establishing Community reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines ⁽³⁾, as last amended by Decision 1999/762/EC ⁽⁴⁾, and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In conformity with Decision 91/666/EEC, the purchase of antigens is a part of the Community action to establish Community reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines.
- (2) By Commission Decision 93/590/EC of 5 November 1993 for the purchase by the Community of foot-and-mouth disease antigens within the framework of the Community action concerning reserves of foot-and-mouth disease vaccines ⁽⁵⁾, as last amended by Decision 95/471/EC ⁽⁶⁾, arrangements were made for purchase of A5, A22 and O1 foot-and-mouth disease antigen.
- (3) Foot-and-mouth disease virus antigens kept in the emergency stock since 1993 must be tested with regard to safety and potency to ensure that the antigen reserves kept for emergency use are of high quality.
- (4) By Commission Decision 98/64/EC of 9 December 1997 on a Community financial contribution for improving the foot-and-mouth disease control

programme in Turkey ⁽⁷⁾, it was agreed as a part of a work plan that the European Commission would make arrangements for testing of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine produced in Turkey.

- (5) By Commission Decision 2000/292/EC of 6 April 2000 for purchase by the Community of bluetongue vaccine for emergency stock ⁽⁸⁾, arrangements were made for purchase of bluetongue vaccine for emergency.
- (6) No bluetongue vaccine is produced by the pharmaceutical industry based in the Member States of the European Union (EU).
- (7) Bluetongue vaccine purchased abroad for emergency use should be tested with the objective of obtaining information of importance for the use of the vaccine under different epidemiological conditions.
- (8) Safety and potency testing of foot-and-mouth disease vaccine and bluetongue vaccine can only be carried out at laboratories being operated under approved biosecurity levels.
- (9) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The Community shall make arrangements for appropriate safety and potency testing of:

— foot-and-mouth disease virus antigens purchased in 1993 and since then kept as a part of the EU emergency stock,

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 224, 18.8.1990, p. 19.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 103.

⁽³⁾ OJ L 368, 31.12.1991, p. 21.

⁽⁴⁾ OJ L 301, 24.11.1999, p. 6.

⁽⁵⁾ OJ L 280, 13.11.1993, p. 33.

⁽⁶⁾ OJ L 269, 11.11.1995, p. 29.

⁽⁷⁾ OJ L 16, 21.1.1998, p. 45.

⁽⁸⁾ OJ L 95, 15.4.2000, p. 39.

- foot-and-mouth disease vaccine produced in Turkey and used in a prophylactic vaccination programme which includes vaccination of susceptible animals kept in the area of Turkish Thrace,
- bluetongue vaccines produced outside the European Community and purchased for an emergency stock.

2. The maximum cost of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 shall be up to EUR 430 000.

Article 2

The measures mentioned in Article 1 shall be carried out by the Commission in cooperation with the supplier designated by call for tender.

Article 3

1. To meet the objectives of Articles 1 and 2 the Commission shall conclude contracts without delay.
2. The Director-General of the Directorate-General for Health and Consumer Protection shall be authorised to sign the contracts on behalf of the European Commission.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 January 2001.

For the Commission

David BYRNE

Member of the Commission

CORRIGENDA

Corrigendum to Council Directive 2001/41/EC of 19 January 2001 amending the sixth Directive (77/388/EEC) on the common system of value added tax, with regard to the length of time during which the minimum standard rate is to be applied

(Official Journal of the European Communities L 22 of 24 January 2001)

In the contents, on the second page of the cover, and on page 17, in the title:

for: '2001/41/EC',

read: '2001/4/EC'.
