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I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 410/2005

of 11 March 2005

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), 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 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

For the Commission
J. M. SILVA RODRÍGUEZ
Director-General for Agriculture and
Rural Development

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 337, 24.12.1994, p. 66. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1947/2002 (OJ L 299, 1.11.2002, p. 17).

ANNEX to Commission Regulation of 11 March 2005 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	122,2	
	204	74,0	
	212	143,7	
	624	159,5	
	999	124,9	
0707 00 05	052	175,4	
	096	128,5	
	204	98,3	
	999	134,1	
0709 10 00	220	18,4	
	999	18,4	
0709 90 70	052	182,3	
0,0,,0,	204	106,0	
	999	144,2	
0805 10 20	052	54,9	
0803 10 20	204	45,1	
	212	57,2	
	220	48,9	
	400	51,1	
	421	39,1	
	624	61,2	
	999	51,1	
0805 50 10	052	57,3	
	220	70,4	
	400	67,6	
	999	65,1	
0808 10 80	388	78,8	
	400	96,8	
	404	75,0	
	508	62,1	
	512	67,2	
	528	65,9	
	720	65,8	
	999	73,1	
0808 20 50	052	186,2	
0000 20 70	388	63,0	
	400	93,4	
	512	51,4	
	528	58,1	
	999	90,4	
	777	90, 4	

⁽¹) Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2081/2003 (OJ L 313, 28.11.2003, p. 11). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 411/2005

of 11 March 2005

fixing the maximum aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for the 159th 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), 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 (²), to sell by invitation to tender certain quantities of butter of intervention stocks 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 maximum aid and processing securities applying for the 159th 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 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽i) OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 186/2004 (OJ L 29, 3.2.2004, p. 6).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 350, 20.12.1997, p. 3. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2250/2004 (OJ L 381, 28.12.2004, p. 25).

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 11 March 2005 fixing the maximum aid for cream, butter and concentrated butter for the 159th individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97

(EUR/100 kg)

Formula		A		В	
Incorporation procedure		With tracers	Without tracers	With tracers	Without tracers
Maximum aid	Butter ≥ 82 %	56	52	55,5	52
	Butter < 82 %	53,5	50,8	_	_
	Concentrated butter	67,5	63,5	67	63,5
	Cream			26	22
Processing security	Butter	62	_	61	_
	Concentrated butter	74	_	74	_
	Cream	_	_	29	_

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 412/2005

of 11 March 2005

fixing the minimum selling prices for butter for the 159th 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), 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 (²), to sell by invitation to tender certain quantities of butter from intervention stocks 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 of butter from intervention stocks and processing securities applying for the 159th 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 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽l) OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 186/2004 (OJ L 29, 3.2.2004, p. 6)

⁽²⁾ OJ L 350, 20.12.1997, p. 3. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2250/2004 (OJ L 381, 28.12.2004, p. 25).

ANNEX

to the Commission Regulation of 11 March 2005 fixing the minimum selling prices for butter for the 159th individual invitation to tender under the standing invitation to tender provided for in Regulation (EC) No 2571/97

(EUR/100 kg)

Formula		A		В		
Incorporation procedure		With tracers	Without tracers	With tracers	Without tracers	
Minimum selling price	Butter ≥ 82 %	Unaltered	206	210	_	210
		Concentrated	_	_	_	_
Processing security		Unaltered	73	73	_	73
		Concentrated	_	_	_	_

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 413/2005

of 11 March 2005

fixing the maximum aid for concentrated butter for the 331st 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), 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 (²), 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; 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 enduse 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 331st tender under the standing invitation to tender opened by Regulation (EEC) No 429/90 the maximum aid and the end-use security are fixed as follows:

— maximum aid:

66,6 EUR/100 kg,

- end-use security:

74 EUR/100 kg.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 186/2004 (OJ L 29, 3.2.2004, p. 6)

<sup>p. 6).
(2) OJ L 45, 21.2.1990, p. 8. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2250/2004 (OJ L 381, 28.12.2004, p. 25).</sup>

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 414/2005

of 11 March 2005

concerning the 78th special invitation to tender issued under the standing invitation to tender referred to in Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999

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), and in particular Article 10 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 26 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999 of 17 December 1999 laying down detailed rules for applying Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 as regards the grant of aid for skimmed-milk and skimmed-milk powder intended for animal feed and the sale of such skimmed-milk powder (²), intervention agencies have put up for sale by standing invitation to tender certain quantities of skimmed-milk powder held by them.
- (2) According to Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999, in the light of the tenders received in

- response to each individual invitation to tender a minimum selling price shall be fixed or a decision shall be taken to make no award.
- (3) On the basis of the examination of the offers received, the tendering procedure should not be proceeded with.
- (4) 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 78th individual invitation to tender pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2799/1999, in respect of which the time limit for the submission of tenders expired on 8 March 2005, no award shall be made.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48. Regulation as amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 186/2004 (OJ L 29, 3.2.2004, p. 6).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 340, 31.12.1999, p. 3. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2250/2004 (OJ L 381, 28.12.2004, p. 25).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 415/2005

of 11 March 2005

concerning the 15th individual invitation to tender effected under the standing invitation to tender referred to in 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), and in particular Article 10(c) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 21 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 (²), intervention agencies have put up for sale by standing invitation to tender certain quantities of butter held by them.
- (2) In the light of the tenders received in response to each individual invitation to tender a minimum selling price shall be fixed or a decision shall be taken to make no

award, in accordance with Article 24a of Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999.

- (3) On the basis of the examination of the offers received, the tendering procedure should not be proceeded with.
- (4) 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 15th individual invitation to tender pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 2771/1999, in respect of which the time limit for the submission of tenders expired on 8 March 2005, no award shall be made.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 48. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 186/2004 (OJ L 29, 3.2.2004, p. 6)

⁽²⁾ OJ L 333, 24.12.1999, p. 11. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2250/2004 (OJ L 381, 28.12.2004, p. 25).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 416/2005

of 11 March 2005

amending Annex XI to Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council, as regards the importation from Japan of certain animal by-products intended for technical purposes

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 October 2002 laying down health rules concerning animal by-products not intended for human consumption (1), and in particular Article 29(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 lays down requirements for the importation into the Community of blood products and other animal by-products intended for technical purposes including pharmaceutical use. Member States are to authorise the importation of those by-products if they comply with the relevant requirements laid down in Chapter IV or Chapter XI respectively of Annex VIII to that Regulation.
- (2) Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 provides that the by-products must come from a third country or part of a third country included on a list set out in part VI of its Annex XI. Japan is not included in that Part VI of Annex XI.
- (3) The competent authority of Japan (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Animal Health and Animal Products Safety Division has given the Commission the necessary guarantees that blood products and other by-products for technical uses from Japan can be obtained and consigned to the Community in accordance with the relevant import requirements. In particular, Japan has approved and registered the relevant plants in accordance with Article 29(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002.
- (4) It is, therefore, appropriate to include Japan in Part VI of Annex XI.
- (5) It is also appropriate to amend part VI of Annex XI in order to use the same terminology as in Chapter XI of Annex VIII of the same Regulation.
- OJ L 273, 10.10.2002, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 93/2005 (OJ L 19, 21.1.2005, p. 34).

(6) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Amendment to Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002

Part VI of Annex XI to Regulation (EC) No 1774/2002 is replaced by the following:

'PART VI

List of third countries from which Member States may authorise imports of animal by-products and blood products (with the exception of blood products of equidae) intended for technical purposes including pharmaceuticals (health certificate Chapters 4(C) and 8(B)).

- A. Blood products:
 - 1. blood products from ungulates:

third countries or parts of third countries listed in Part 1 of Annex II to Council Decision 79/542/EEC, from which imports of all categories of fresh meat of the respective species are authorised and the following countries:

- (JP) Japan;
- 2. blood products of other species:

third countries listed in Part 1 of Annex II to Council Decision 79/542/EEC and the following countries:

— (JP) Japan.

B. Animal by-products for pharmaceutical use:

third countries listed in Part 1 of Annex II to Council Decision 79/542/EEC, in the Annex to Commission Decision 94/85/EEC(*) or in Annex I to Commission Decision 2000/585/EC(**) and the following countries:

- (JP) Japan,
- (PH) Philippines, and
- (TW) Taiwan.
- C. Animal by-products for technical purposes other than pharmaceutical uses:

third countries listed in Part 1 of Annex II to Council Decision 79/542/EEC from which imports of that category of fresh meat of the respective species is authorised, in the Annex to Commission Decision 94/85/EEC or in Annex I to Commission Decision 2000/585/EC.

(*) OJ L 44, 17.2.1994, p. 31. (**) OJ L 251, 6.10.2000, p. 1.

Article 2

Entry into force

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

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

For the Commission Markos KYPRIANOU Member of the Commission

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 417/2005

of 11 March 2005

fixing the maximum export refund on wholly milled and parboiled long grain B rice to certain third countries in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2032/2004

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 of 29 September 2003 on the common organisation of the market in rice (1), and in particular Article 14(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2032/2004 (2).
- Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 (3) (2)allows the Commission to fix, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 26(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, a maximum export refund. In fixing this maximum, the criteria provided for in Article 14(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 must be taken into account. A contract is awarded to any tenderer whose tender is equal to or less than the maximum export refund.

- The application of the abovementioned criteria to the (3)current market situation for the rice in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.
- 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 and parboiled long grain B rice to be exported to certain third countries pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 2032/2004 is hereby fixed on the basis of the tenders submitted from 7 to 10 March 2005 at 57,00 EUR/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 270, 21.10.2003, p. 96. (2) OJ L 353, 27.11.2004, p. 6. (3) OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (ÉC) No 1948/2002 (OJ L 299, 1.11.2002, p. 18).

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 418/2005

of 11 March 2005

concerning tenders submitted under tendering procedure for the refund on consignment of husked long grain B rice to the island of Réunion referred to in Regulation (EC) No 2033/2004

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 of 29 September 2003 on the common organisation of the market in rice (¹), and in particular Article 5(3) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2692/89 of 6 September 1989 laying down detailed rules for exports of rice to Réunion (2), and in particular Article 9(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 2033/2004 (3) opens an invitation to tender for the subsidy on rice exported to Réunion.
- (2) Article 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 2692/89 allows the Commission to decide, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 2b(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, to make no award.

- (3) On the basis of the criteria laid down in Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 2692/89, a maximum subsidy 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 7 to 10 March 2005 in response to the invitation to tender referred to in Regulation (EC) No 2033/2004 for the subsidy on exports to Réunion of husked long grain B rice falling within CN code 1006 20 98.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 270, 21.10.2003, p. 96.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 261, 7.9.1989, p. 8. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1275/2004 (OJ L 241, 13.7.2004, p. 8).

⁽³⁾ OJ L 353, 27.11.2004, p. 9.

COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 419/2005

of 11 March 2005

concerning tenders submitted in response to the invitation to tender for the export to certain third countries of wholly milled and medium and long grain A rice issued in Regulation (EC) No 2031/2004

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 of 29 September 2003 on the common organisation of the market in rice (1), and in particular Article 14(3) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1)An invitation to tender for the export refund on rice was issued pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 2031/2004 (²).
- Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 584/75 (3), (2)allows the Commission to decide, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 26(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003 and on the basis of the tenders submitted, to make no award.

- On the basis of the criteria laid down in Article 14(4) of (3)Regulation (EC) No 1785/2003, a maximum refund should not be fixed.
- The measures provided for in this Regulation are in (4)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 7 to 10 March 2005 in response to the invitation to tender for the export refund on wholly milled rand, medium and long grain A rice to certain third European countries issued in Regulation (EC) No 2031/2004.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 12 March 2005.

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

Done at Brussels, 11 March 2005.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 270, 21.10.2003, p. 96. (2) OJ L 353, 27.11.2004, p. 3. (3) OJ L 61, 7.3.1975, p. 25. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (ÉC) No 1948/2002 (OJ L 299, 1.11.2002, p. 18).

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COUNCIL

DECISION No 5/2004 OF THE EU-MEXICO JOINT COUNCIL

of 15 December 2004

adopting, pursuant to Article 17(3) of Decision No 2/2000, an Annex to the said Decision on mutual administrative assistance in customs matters

(2005/201/EC)

THE JOINT COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part (¹) (hereinafter the 'Agreement'),

Having regard to the EU-Mexico Joint Council Decision No 2/2000 (2), and in particular Article 17(3) thereof,

Whereas Article 17(3) of Decision No 2/2000 envisages that the administrations of both Parties are to provide mutual administrative assistance in customs matters in accordance with the provisions of an Annex on mutual administrative assistance on customs matters to be adopted by the Joint Council no later than one year from the entry into force of Decision No 2/2000,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Annex on mutual administrative assistance in customs matters to Council Decision No 2/2000 set out in the Annex hereto is hereby adopted.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the first day of the month following that in which it is adopted by the Joint Council.

Done at Brussels, 15 December 2004.

For the Joint Council
The President
L. E. DERBEZ

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 276, 28.10.2000, p. 45.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 157, 30.6.2000, p. 10.

ANNEX

'ANNEX

ON MUTUAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANCE IN CUSTOMS MATTERS

Article 1

Definitions

For the purposes of this Annex:

- (a) "customs legislation" shall mean any legal or regulatory provisions adopted by the European Community and Mexico governing the import, export, and transit of goods and their placing under any other customs regime or procedure, including measures of prohibition, restriction and control;
- (b) "applicant authority" shall mean a competent customs authority which has been designated by a Party for this purpose and which makes a request for assistance on the basis of this Annex;
- (c) "requested authority" shall mean a competent customs authority which has been designated by a Party for this purpose and which receives a request for assistance on the basis of this Annex;
- (d) "customs authority" shall mean for the European Community, the competent services of the Commission of the European Communities and the customs authorities of its Member States; and for Mexico, the Secretaria de Hacienda y Crédito Público or its successor;
- (e) "personal data" shall mean all information relating to an identified or identifiable individual;
- (f) "operation in breach of customs legislation" shall mean any violation or attempted violation of customs legislation;
- (g) "information" shall mean any data, documents, reports, certified or authenticated copies thereof or other communications, including information which has been processed and/or analysed to provide an indication relevant to an operation in breach of customs legislation.

Article 2

Scope

- 1. This Annex is intended solely for the mutual administrative assistance between the Parties, the provisions of this Annex shall not give rise to a right on the part of any private person to obtain, suppress or exclude any evidence or to impede the execution of a request.
- 2. The Parties shall assist each other, in the areas within their competence, in the manner and under the conditions laid down in this Annex, to ensure the correct application of the customs legislation, in particular by preventing, investigating and combating operations in breach of that legislation.
- 3. Assistance in customs matters, as provided for in this Annex, shall apply to any administrative authority of the Parties which is competent for the application of this Annex. It shall not prejudice the rules governing mutual assistance in criminal matters. Nor shall it cover information obtained under powers exercised at the request of a judicial authority, except where communication of such information is authorised by that authority.

4. Assistance to recover duties, taxes or fines is not covered by this Annex.

Article 3

Assistance on request

- 1. At the request of the applicant authority, the requested authority shall provide it with all relevant information which may enable it to ensure that customs legislation is correctly applied, including information regarding activities noted or planned which are or could be operations in breach of customs legislation.
- 2. At the request of the applicant authority, the requested authority shall inform it:
- (a) whether goods exported from the territory of one of the Parties have been properly imported into the territory of the other Party, specifying, where appropriate, the customs procedure applied to the goods;
- (b) whether goods imported into the territory of one of the Parties have been properly exported from the territory of the other Party, specifying, where appropriate, the customs procedure applied to the goods.
- 3. At the request of the applicant authority, the requested authority shall, within the framework of its legal or regulatory provisions, take the necessary steps to ensure special surveillance of:
- (a) natural or legal persons in respect of whom there are reasonable grounds for believing that they are or have been involved in operations in breach of customs legislation;
- (b) places where stocks of goods have been or may be assembled or subject to operations in such a way that there are reasonable grounds for believing that these goods are intended to be used in operations in breach of customs legislation;
- (c) goods in transport or in storage in such a way that there are reasonable grounds for believing that they are intended to be used in operations in breach of customs legislation;
- (d) means of transport that are, have been or may be used in such a way that there are reasonable grounds for believing that they are intended to be used in operations in breach of customs legislation.

Article 4

Spontaneous assistance

The Parties shall assist each other, at their own initiative and in accordance with their legal or regulatory provisions, if they consider that to be necessary for the correct application of customs legislation, particularly by providing information obtained pertaining to:

- (a) activities, which are or appear to be operations in breach of customs legislation and which may be of interest to the other Party;
- (b) new means or methods employed in carrying out operations in breach of customs legislation;
- (c) goods known to be subject to operations in breach of customs legislation;
- (d) natural or legal persons in respect of whom there are reasonable grounds for believing that they are or have been involved in operations in breach of customs legislation;
- (e) means of transport in respect of which there are reasonable grounds for believing that they have been, are, or may be used in operations in breach of customs legislation.

Delivery, notification

At the request of the applicant authority, the requested authority shall, in accordance with legal or regulatory provisions applicable to the latter, take all necessary measures in order:

- (a) to deliver any documents; or
- (b) to notify any decisions,

emanating from the applicant authority and falling within the scope of this Annex, to an addressee residing or established in the territory of the requested authority.

Requests for delivery of documents or notification of decisions shall be made in writing in an official language of the requested authority or in a language acceptable to that authority.

Article 6

Form and substance of requests for assistance

- 1. Requests pursuant to this Annex shall be made in writing. They shall be accompanied by the documents necessary to enable compliance with the request. When required because of the urgency of the situation, oral requests may be accepted, but must be confirmed in writing immediately.
- 2. Requests pursuant to paragraph 1 shall include the following information:
- (a) the applicant authority;
- (b) the measure requested;
- (c) the object of and the reason for the request;
- (d) the legal or regulatory provisions and other legal elements involved;
- (e) indications as exact and comprehensive as possible on the natural or legal persons who are the target of the investigations;
- (f) a summary of the relevant facts and of the enquiries already carried out.
- 3. Requests shall be submitted in an official language of the requested authority or in a language acceptable to that authority. This requirement shall not apply to any documents that accompany the request under paragraph 1.
- 4. If a request does not meet the formal requirements set out above, its correction or completion may be requested; in the meantime precautionary measures may be ordered.

Article 7

Execution of requests

- 1. In order to comply with a request for assistance, the requested authority shall proceed, within the limits of its competence and available resources, as though it were acting on its own account or at the request of other authorities of that same Party, by supplying information already possessed, by carrying out appropriate enquiries, including verifications, inspections and the examination of records, or by arranging for them to be carried out. This provision shall also apply to any other authority to which the requested authority has addressed the request when the latter cannot act on its own.
- 2. Requests for assistance shall be executed in accordance with the legal or regulatory provisions of the requested Party.
- 3. Duly authorised officials of a Party may, with the agreement of the other Party and subject to the domestic law of the requested authority and within the conditions laid down by the latter, be present to obtain from the offices of the requested authority, or any other authority as laid down in paragraph 1, the relevant books, registers and other documents or data media held in those offices, make copies thereof, or extract any information or particulars relating to operations in breach of customs legislation which the applicant authority needs for the purposes of this Agreement.

- 4. Subject to the domestic law of the requested authority and to the conditions laid down by the latter, duly authorised officials of a Party may, with the agreement of the other Party and subject to the conditions laid down by the latter, be present at enquiries carried out in the latter's territory.
- 5. A request by either customs authority that a certain procedure be followed shall be complied with, subject to the national legal and administrative provisions of the requested authority.

Form in which information is to be communicated

- 1. The requested authority shall communicate the results of enquiries and provide any information requested, subject to Article 9, to the applicant authority in writing together with relevant documents, certified copies or other items and may, where appropriate, include any relevant information for interpreting or using it.
- 2. This information may be in computerised form.
- 3. Originals of files, documents and other materials, or certified or authenticated copies thereof, shall be transmitted only in cases where copies would be insufficient.
- 4. Originals of files, documents and other materials that have been transmitted shall be returned at the earliest opportunity; rights of the Parties or of third parties relating thereto shall remain unaffected.

Article 9

Exceptions to the obligation to provide assistance

- 1. Assistance may be refused or may be subject to the satisfaction of certain conditions or requirements, in cases where a Party is of the opinion that assistance under this Annex would:
- (a) be likely to prejudice the sovereignty of the Party which has been requested to provide assistance under this Annex; or
- (b) be likely to prejudice public policy, security or other essential interests, in particular in the cases referred to under Article 10 (2); or
- (c) violate an industrial, commercial or professional secret.
- 2. The requested authority may postpone assistance on the ground that it will interfere with an ongoing investigation, prosecution or proceeding. In such a case, the requested authority shall consult with the applicant authority to determine if assistance can be given subject to such terms or conditions as the requested authority may require.
- 3. Where the applicant authority seeks assistance which it would (itself) be unable to provide if so requested, it shall draw attention to that fact in its request. It shall then be for the requested authority to decide how to respond to such a request.
- 4. In the event that a request cannot be complied with, the applicant authority shall be promptly notified of that fact with a statement of the reasons and circumstances, which might be of importance for the further pursuit of the matter.
- 5. For the cases referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2, the decision of the requested authority and the reasons therefor must be communicated to the applicant authority without delay.

Information exchange and confidentiality

- 1. Any information communicated in whatsoever form pursuant to this Annex shall be of a confidential or restricted nature, depending on the rules applicable in each of the Parties. It shall be covered by the obligation of official secrecy and shall enjoy the protection extended to similar information under the relevant laws of the Party that received it and the corresponding provisions applying to the Community authorities.
- 2. Personal data may be exchanged only where the Party, which may receive them, undertakes to protect such data in at least an equivalent way to the one applicable to that particular case in the Party that may supply them. To this end, the Parties shall communicate to each other information on their applicable rules, including, where appropriate, legal provisions in force in the Member States of the Community, including any change therein occurring after the entry into force of this Annex.
- 3. The use, in judicial or administrative proceedings instituted in respect of operations in breach of customs legislation, of information obtained under this Annex, is considered to be for the purposes of this Annex. Therefore, the Parties may, in their records of evidence, reports and testimonies and in proceedings, and charges brought before the courts, use as evidence information obtained and documents consulted in accordance with the provisions of this Annex. The competent authority, which supplied that information or gave access to those documents, shall be notified of such use.
- 4. Information obtained shall be used solely for the purposes of this Annex. Where one of the Parties wishes to use such information for other purposes, it shall obtain the prior written consent of the authority which provided the information. Such use shall then be subject to any restrictions laid down by that authority.

Article 11

Experts and witnesses

An official of a requested authority may be authorised to appear, within the limitations of the authorisation granted, as an expert or witness in judicial or administrative proceedings instituted in the territory of the other Party regarding the matters covered by this Annex, and produce such objects, documents or certified copies thereof, as may be needed for the proceedings. The request for appearance must indicate specifically before which judicial or administrative authority the official will have to appear, on what matters and by virtue of what title or qualification the official will be questioned.

Article 12

Assistance expenses

- 1. The Parties shall waive all claims on each other for the reimbursement of expenses incurred pursuant to this Annex, except, as appropriate, for expenses to experts and witnesses, and those to interpreters and translators who are not public service employees.
- 2. If expenses of a substantial and extraordinary nature are, or will be required to execute the request, the Parties may consult to determine the terms and conditions under which the request will be executed as well as the manner in which the costs shall be borne.

Article 13

Implementation

- 1. Without prejudice to the terms of Article 14(3) the Parties agree that any matter arising from the implementation of this Annex may be entrusted on the one hand, to the customs authority of Mexico, and on the other hand to the competent services of the Commission of the European Communities and the customs authorities of the Member States as appropriate. They shall decide on all practical measures and arrangements necessary for its application, taking into consideration the rules in force in particular in the field of data protection. They may recommend to the competent bodies amendments which they consider should be made to this Annex.
- 2. The Parties shall consult each other and subsequently keep each other informed of the detailed rules of implementation which are adopted in accordance with the provisions of this Annex. In particular, before the entry into force of this Annex, the Parties shall communicate to each other the competent customs authority designated for the implementation of this Annex. Any changes thereafter shall be notified.

Other agreements

- 1. Taking into account the respective competencies of the European Community and the Member States, the provisions of this Annex shall:
- (a) not affect the obligations of the Parties under any other international agreement or convention;
- (b) be deemed complementary to agreements on mutual assistance which have been or may be concluded between individual Member States and Mexico; and shall
- (c) not affect the Community provisions governing the communication between the competent services of the Commission of the European Communities and the customs authorities of the Member States of any information obtained under this Annex which could be of interest to the Community.
- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, the provisions of this Annex shall take precedence over the provisions of any bilateral agreement on mutual assistance which has been or may be concluded between individual Member States and Mexico in so far as the provisions of the latter are incompatible with those of this Annex.
- 3. In respect of questions relating to the applicability of this Annex, the Parties shall consult each other to resolve the matter in the framework of the Special Committee on Customs Cooperation set up under Article 17 of Decision No 2/2000 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council.'

COUNCIL DECISION

of 31 January 2005

on the conclusion of an Additional Protocol to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia, and the Slovak Republic to the European Union

(2005/202/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Articles 57(2), 71, 80(2), 133(1), 133(5) and 181 in conjunction with Article 300(2) first subparagraph, first and second sentence, and the first subparagraph of Article 300(3) thereof,

Having regard to the 2003 Act of Accession, and in particular to Article 6(2)(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament,

Whereas:

- (1) The Additional Protocol to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia, and the Slovak Republic to the European Union (2) has been signed on behalf of the European Community and its Member States on 29 April 2004.
- (2) The Additional Protocol should be approved,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Additional Protocol to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia, and the Slovak Republic to the European Union, is hereby approved on behalf of the European Community and its Member States.

The text of the Additional Protocol is attached to this Decision.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 236, 23.9.2003, p. 34.

⁽²⁾ See page 24 of this Official Journal.

The President of the Council shall give the notification provided for in Article 5 of the Additional Protocol.

Done at Brussels, 31 January 2005.

For the Council The President J. ASSELBORN

ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL

to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, to take account of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia, and the Slovak Republic to the European Union

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM,

THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK,

THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,

THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC,

THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN,

THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,

IRELAND,

THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC,

THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG,

THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS,

THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA,

THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC,

THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND,

THE KINGDOM OF SWEDEN,

THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,

hereinafter referred to as 'European Community Member States',

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,

hereinafter referred to as the 'Community',

THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES,

hereinafter referred to as 'Mexico',

and

THE CZECH REPUBLIC,

THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA,

THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS,

THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA,

THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA,

THE REPUBLIC OF HUNGARY,

THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA,

THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND,

THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA.

THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC,

hereinafter referred to as 'the New Member States',

WHEREAS the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the Community and its Member States, of the one part, and Mexico, of the other part, hereinafter referred to as 'the Agreement', was signed in Brussels on 8 December 1997 and entered into force on 1 October 2000;

WHEREAS the Treaty concerning the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovak Republic to the European Union (hereinafter referred to as 'Treaty of Accession') was signed in Athens on 16 April 2003;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 6(2) of the Treaty of Accession the incorporation of the New Member States to the Agreement shall be formalised by the conclusion of a protocol to the Agreement;

WHEREAS Article 55 of the Agreement states: 'For the purposes of this Agreement, "the parties" shall mean, on the one hand, the Community or its Member States or the Community and its Member States, in accordance with their respective areas of competence, as derived from the Treaty establishing the European Community and, on the other hand, Mexico';

WHEREAS Article 56 of the Agreement states: 'This Agreement shall apply to the territory in which the Treaty establishing the European Community is applied under the conditions laid down in that Treaty, on the one hand, and to the territory of the United Mexican States, on the other';

WHEREAS Article 59 of the Agreement states: 'This Agreement is drawn up in duplicate in the Danish, Dutch, English, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and Swedish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic';

WHEREAS the Community, in view of the date of accession of the New Member States to the European Union, may need to apply the provisions of this Protocol before having completed all internal procedures required for its entry into force;

WHEREAS Article 5(3) of the present Protocol would allow for the provisional application of the Protocol by the European Community and its Member States before having completed their internal procedures required for its entry into force:

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Czech Republic, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Cyprus, the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Lithuania, the Republic of Hungary, the Republic of Malta, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Slovenia, and the Slovak Republic are hereby incorporated as Parties to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part.

versions of the Agreement. Subject to the entry into force of this Protocol the new language versions shall become authentic under the same conditions as the versions drawn up in the present languages of the Agreement.

Article 3

This Protocol shall form an integral part of the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement.

Article 4

This Protocol is drawn up in duplicate in the Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish languages, each of these texts being equally authentic.

Article 2

Within six months of the initialling of this Protocol the European Community shall communicate to the Member States and to Mexico the Czech, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Slovak and Slovenian language

- 1. This Protocol shall be approved by the European Community, by the Council of the European Union on behalf of the Member States and by the United Mexican States in accordance with their own procedures.
- 2. This Protocol shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date on which the Parties notify each other of the completion of the procedures necessary for this purpose.
- 3. Notwithstanding paragraph 2, the Parties agree that, pending the completion of the internal procedures of the

European Community and its Member States for the entry into force of the Protocol, they shall apply the provisions of this Protocol for a maximum period of 12 months from the first day of the month following the date on which the European Community and its Member States give notification of the completion of their procedures necessary for that purpose and Mexico gives notification of the completion of its procedures necessary for entry into force of the Protocol.

4. Notification shall be sent to the Secretary General of the Council of the European Union who shall be the depositary for the Agreement.

DECISION No 1/2005 OF THE EUROPEAN UNION-MEXICO JOINT COUNCIL of 21 February 2005

introducing a corrigendum in Decision No 3/2004 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council

(2005/203/EC)

THE JOINT COUNCIL,

Having regard to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part (1), signed in Brussels on 8 December 1997, and in particular Article 47 thereof,

Having regard to Decision No 3/2004 (2) and in particular Article 1(1) and (2) thereof,

Whereas:

It is necessary to introduce a corrigendum with regard to the entry into force of the two Community tariff quotas included in Decision No 3/2004,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The following wording shall be inserted below the tariff quotas included in Annex I and II to Decision No 3/2004:

'This quota will be open from 1 May 2004 to 31 December 2004 and from 1 January to 31 December of each calendar year thereafter, for as long as the quota remains applicable'.

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on an exchange of written notifications certifying the completion of the necessary legal procedures. The date of entry into force shall be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and in the Official Journal of the United Mexican States.

Done at Brussels, 21 February 2005.

For the Joint Council
The President
L. E. DERBEZ

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 276, 28.10.2000, p. 45.

⁽²⁾ OJ L 293, 16.9.2004, p. 15.

Notice of the date of entry into force of the Additional Protocol to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the United Mexican States, of the other part, to take account of the accession of new Member States to the European Union

The contracting parties having notified one another of the completion of the procedures required for entry into force of the Additional Protocol to the Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation Agreement, as approved by the Council of the European Union at its meeting on 31 January 2005, the Additional Protocol will enter into force with effect from 1 February 2005, in accordance with Article 5(2) thereof.

Notice of the date of entry into force of Decision No 1/2005 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council, concerning a corrigendum to Decision No 3/2004 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council of 29 July 2004

The contracting parties having notified one another of the completion of the procedures required for entry into force of Decision No 1/2005 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council, concerning a corrigendum to Decision No 3/2004 of the EU-Mexico Joint Council of 29 July 2004, as approved by the Council of the European Union at its meeting on 31 January 2005. The Decision will enter into force with effect from 21 February 2005, in accordance with Article 2 thereof.