II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 6 August 1973

adopting safeguard measures applicable to common wheat exported outside the Community

(73/237/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community ;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 120/67/EEC (1) on the common organization of the market in cereals, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1346/73 (2), and in particular Article 20 (2) thereof ;

Whereas one of the features of the world market in common wheat is that it is difficult to determine its future development from figures now available ; whereas there is, however, concrete information to indicate that, in the immediate future at least, demand for this product on the world market will continue to be in excess of demand ;

Whereas prices on the world market are climbing steadily ; whereas under these circumstances Community traders will be encouraged, even if no refund is payable, to dispose of their stocks of common wheat outside the Community ;

Whereas applications for export licences covering significant quantities of this product have been lodged, particularly in France, over the past few days ; whereas this development has caused a disquieting increase in prices on the Community market which cannot be controlled by the usual market regulation measures ;

Whereas, if this trend continues there is a danger that the Community market might be seriously disturbed both as regards supplies and as regards prices ;

Whereas, because of the Community's food aid commitments, a large proportion of supplies still available within the Communities must be earmarked for this purpose ;

Whereas it follows from all the factors indicated above that exports might jeopardize the objectives of Article 39 (1) of the Treaty and in particular those set out in subparagraphs (c) (d) and (e) of that paragraph ; whereas in particular there is a risk that continued exports might endanger Community supplies in the months ahead and, as an indirect consequence, make it impossible to guarantee supplies of products processed from common wheat, and bread in particular, to consumers at a reasonable price ;

Whereas it is, therefore, necessary to adopt with immediate effect special measures which would make it possible to protect the Community interest, whereas these measures should be adopted within the framework of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2591/69 (3) of 18 December 1969 defining the conditions for applying safeguard measures in the cereals sector ; whereas market conditions at the present time are such that only a complete ban on the issue of export licences can improve the situation ;

(1) OJ No 117, 19. 6. 1967, p. 2269/67.
(2) OJ No L 141, 28. 5. 1973, p. 8.
(3) OJ No L 324, 27. 12. 1969, p. 1.

Whereas the Community's food aid commitments already mentioned mean that exports effected for that purpose must be excluded from the safeguard arrangements ;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

No further export licences shall be issued for the products falling within subheading 10.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff. This provision shall apply to licences applied for within the meaning of Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 1373/70 (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1796/73 (2), after 6 August 1973.

Article 2

The provisions of Article 1 shall not apply to products mobilized for food-aid purposes in application of Article 22a of Regulation No 120/67/EEC.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 6 August 1973.

For the Commission

P. J. LARDINOIS

Member of the Commission

(1) OJ No L 158, 20. 7. 1970, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 183, 5. 7. 1973, p. 1.