COMMISSION DECISION

of 3 March 1977

authorizing the Italian Republic to permit temporarily the marketing of seed not complying with the requirements of Council Directive 66/402/EEC

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(77/221/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 66/402/EEC of 14 June 1966 on the marketing of cereal seed (1), as last amended by Directive 75/444/EEC (2), and in particular Article 17 thereof,

Having regard to the request made by the Italian Republic,

Whereas in the Italian Republic the production of rice seed complying with the requirements of the said Directive has been insufficient in 1976 and therefore will not be adequate to meet that country's needs;

Whereas it is not possible sufficiently to cover this demand with certified seed from other Member States or from third countries, meeting all the requirements laid down in the said Directive;

Whereas the Italian Republic should therefore be authorized to permit, for a period expiring on 30 June 1977, the marketing of seed of the abovementioned species of a category subject to less stringent requirements;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Seed and Propagating Material for Agriculture, Horticulture and Forestry,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The Italian Republic is hereby authorized to permit, for a period expiring on 30 June 1977, the marketing in its territory of a maximum of 6 000 tonnes of rice seed (*Oryza sativa L.*) of the categories 'certified seed of the first generation' or 'certified seed of the second generation' which does not satisfy the requirements laid down in Annex II to Directive 66/402/EEC with regard to minimum germination, under the following conditions:

(a) the minimum germination must be at least 75 % of pure seed;

(b) the official label shall be marked as follows:
— 'Minimum germination 75 %',
— 'Intended exclusively for Italy'.

2. The Italian Republic is hereby authorized to permit, for a period expiring on 30 June 1977, the marketing in its territory of a maximum of 4 000 tonnes of rice seed (*Oryza sativa L.*) of the category 'certified seed of the second generation' which do not satisfy the requirements laid down in Annex II to Directive 66/402/EEC with regard to the maximum number of 'red grains', under the following conditions:

(a) the number of 'red grains' per 500 grams shall not exceed 10;

(b) the official label shall be marked as follows:
— 'Maximum number of red grains: 10 per 500 grams',
— 'Intended exclusively for Italy'.

3. The Italian Republic is hereby authorized to permit, within the maximum quantities under paragraphs 1 and 2, the marketing in its territory of rice seed (*Oryza sativa L.*) of the category 'certified seed of the second generation' which satisfy neither the requirements regarding minimum germination nor those regarding the maximum content of 'red grains', provided that the whole of the requirements referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 are met.

Article 2

The Italian Republic shall notify the Commission before 1 November 1977 of the quantities of seed marketed in its territory pursuant to this Decision. The Commission shall inform the other Member States thereof.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 3 March 1977.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President

(1) OJ No 125, 11. 7. 1966, p. 2309/66.
(2) OJ No L 196, 26. 7. 1975, p. 6.