II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 17 November 1977

authorizing the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the United Kingdom to permit under certain conditions an additional increase in the alcoholic strength of certain wines and certain products intended for wine making

(Only the French, German and English texts are authentic)

(77/720/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 of 28 April 1970 laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine [1], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2211/77 [2], and in particular Articles 18 (4) and 35 thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 817/70 of 28 April 1970 laying down special provisions relating to quality wines produced in specified regions [3], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2211/77, and in particular the third subparagraph of Article 7 (2) thereof,

Whereas under Article 18 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 the Member States may permit an increase in the actual or potential natural alcoholic strength only within certain limits;

Whereas, because of the exceptionally unfavourable climate conditions in 1977 in parts of wine-growing zones A and B, where there was an abnormally high rainfall and a lack of sunshine, the limits to increasing the natural alcoholic strength as fixed by Article 18 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 in many cases do not allow the wines that are normally required by the market to be produced; whereas this situation has adversely affected certain varieties in particular;

Whereas, therefore, the Member States concerned should be authorized to make an additional increase in the natural alcoholic strength as provided for in Article 18 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 while limiting such authorization to certain vine varieties, to certain products and to the areas affected; whereas provision should be made for Member States to communicate to the Commission certain information, in particular under Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1594/70 of 5 August 1970 on the notification, carrying out and control of the processes of enriching, acidifying and deacidifying wine [4], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2531/77 [5]; whereas this information should be submitted by administrative units within the meaning of Article 5 of Commission Regulation No 26/64/EEC of 28 February 1964 laying down additional provisions for the preparation of the viticultural land register, for its management and for keeping it up to date [6];

Whereas the Management Committee for Wine has not delivered an opinion within the time limit set by its chairman,

[1] OJ No L 99, 5. 5. 1970, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 256, 7. 10. 1977, p. 1.
[3] OJ No L 99, 5. 5. 1970, p. 20.
[4] OJ No L 173, 6. 8. 1970, p. 23.
[5] OJ No L 294, 18. 11. 1970, p. 10.
[6] OJ No 48, 19. 3. 1964, p. 753/64.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

The Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the United Kingdom are hereby authorized for the 1977/78 wine-growing year to allow an increase in the alcoholic strengths laid down, in respect of wine-growing zones A and B, in Article 18 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 and the third subparagraph of Article 7 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 817/70 as regards products listed in the first subparagraph of paragraph 1 of the said Article 18 and the first subparagraph of the said Article 7 (2) which :

1. in the case ot Germany :

(a) are produced from grapes
- — harvested in the Regierungsbezirk Köln,
- — of the Müller-Thurgau, Riesling, Sylvaner and blauer Portugieser varieties,
- — intended for the production of table wines and quality wines psr ;

(b) are produced from grapes
- — harvested in the Saarland and the Regierungsbezirk Trier,
- — of the Müller-Thurgau, Riesling, roter Elbling and weisser Elbling varieties,
- — intended for the production of table wines and quality wines psr ;

(c) are produced from grapes harvested in the Regierungsbezirk Koblenz

(i) in the Ahr specified region and which
- — belong to the blauer Spätburgunder, blauer Portugieser, Müller-Thurgau and Riesling varieties,
- — are intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

(ii) in the Mosel-Saar-Ruwer specified region and which
- — belong to the Müller-Thurgau, Riesling, roter Elbling and weisser Elbling varieties,
- — are intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

(iii) in the Mittelrhein and Nahe specified regions and which
- — belong to the Müller-Thurgau, Riesling and Sylvaner varieties,
- — are intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

(iv) in the Mosel sub-region and which
- — belong to the Müller-Thurgau, Riesling, roter Elbling and weisser Elbling varieties,
- — are intended for the production of table wines ;

(v) in the Walporzheim, Rheinburgengau, Bacharach, Kreuznach and Schloßböckelheim areas of the Rhein sub-region and which
- — belong to the blauer Portugieser, blauer Spätburgunder, Müller-Thurgau, Riesling and Sylvaner varieties,
- — are intended for the production of table wines ;

(d) are produced from grapes harvested in the Regierungsbezirk Rheinhessen-Pfalz

(i) in the Mittelrhein and Nahe specified regions and which
- — belong to the Müller-Thurgau, Riesling and Sylvaner varieties,
- — are intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

(ii) in the Bacharach, Kreuznach and Schlossböckelheim areas of the Rhein sub-region and which
- — belong to the blauer Portugieser, blauer Spätburgunder, Müller-Thurgau, Riesling and Sylvaner varieties,
- — are intended for the production of table wines ;

(e) are produced from grapes harvested in the Regierungsbezirk Stuttgart

(i) in the Badisches Frankenland part of the Baden specified region and which are intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

(ii) in the Oberrhein production area and which are intended for the production of table wines ;

(f) are produced from grapes harvested in the Regierungsbezirk Karlsruhe in the Oberrhein production area and which are intended for the production of table wines ;

(g) are produced from grapes harvested in the Regierungsbezirke Freiburg and Tübingen

(i) in the Bodensee sub-region of the Baden specified region and which are intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

(ii) in the Oberrhein production area and which are intended for the production of table wines ;

2. in the case of France, are produced from grapes
- — harvested in the departments of Bas-Rhin, Haut-Rhin, Meurthe-et-Moselle and Moselle,
- — of the Riesling, Sylvaner, Gutedel, Pinot blanc and Muscat varieties,
- — intended for the production of quality wines psr ;

3. in the case of Luxembourg, are produced from grapes
   — of the Riesling, Elbling and Rivaner varieties,
   — intended for the production of table wines and quality wines psr ;

4. in the case of the United Kingdom, are produced from grapes
   — of all the varieties appearing in the classification of vine varieties for that Member State,
   — intended for the production of table wines.

Article 2

1. On the basis of the declarations referred to in the second subparagraph of Article 22 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70 the Member States concerned shall communicate to the Commission before 31 May 1978 the quantities of sugar and concentrated grape must used to increase the natural alcoholic strength of the products referred to in Article 1, broken down by administrative unit within the meaning of Article 5 of Regulation No 26/64/EEC.

2. These communications shall give estimates of the quantities of sugar and concentrated grape must used to make an additional increase in the alcoholic strength as provided for in Article 18 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 816/70.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the United Kingdom.

Done at Brussels, 17 November 1977.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President