COMMISSION DECISION

of 16 July 1979

amending Decision 79/277/EEC derogating from Decisions 78/693/EEC, 78/694/EEC, 78/695/EEC and 79/238/EEC concerning animal health conditions and veterinary certification for imports of fresh meat from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay

(79/654/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Directive 72/462/EEC of 12 December 1972 on health and veterinary inspection problems upon importation of bovine animals and swine and fresh meat from third countries (1), as last amended by Directive 77/98/EEC (2), and in particular Articles 16 and 28 thereof,

Whereas animal health conditions concerning imports of fresh meat from Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay were laid down by Decisions 78/693/EEC, 78/694/EEC and 78/695/EEC (3), as last amended by Decision 79/18/EEC (4), and from Paraguay by Decision 79/238/EEC (5);

Whereas difficulties exist in the application of Article 20 (k) of Directive 72/462/EEC which have still to be resolved; whereas, pending the resolution of such difficulties and in order not to disrupt existing trade patterns, the Member States should be allowed, on a temporary basis, to continue to authorize imports of whole masseter muscles of bovine animals;

Whereas Decision 79/277/EEC (6) provided for such temporary authorizations; whereas a further period is necessary to resolve the difficulties referred to above; whereas the Commission will make the necessary proposals before 1 October 1979;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Veterinary Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

In Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Decision 79/277/EEC the date '31 July 1979' is replaced by '31 December 1979'.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 16 July 1979.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President

(1) OJ No L 302, 31. 12. 1972, p. 28.
(2) OJ No L 26, 31. 1. 1977, p. 81.
(3) OJ No L 236, 26. 8. 1978, pp. 19, 29 and 37.
(4) OJ No L 7, 11. 1. 1979, p. 31.
(5) OJ No L 53, 3. 3. 1979, p. 33.
(6) OJ No L 65, 15. 3. 1979, p. 32.