COMMISSION DECISION

of 17 December 1980

approving a programme for the livestock, meat and meat products sector in Belgium pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 355/77

(Only the French and Dutch texts are authentic)

(80/1317/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 of 15 February 1977 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed (1), and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Whereas, on 29 August 1980, the Belgian Government forwarded a programme for the livestock, meat and meat products sector and on 25 September 1980 provided additional details;

Whereas this programme relates to the restructuring and modernization as well as in certain cases the development of facilities for:

— the marketing and export of live pigs and cattle,

— the slaughter of pigs, fat cattle and calves,

— cutting, cold stores and freezing either ancillary to or independent of slaughter houses,

— meat processing,

in order to increase profitability in the sector and increase producers' incomes; whereas it is therefore a programme within the meaning of Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 355/77;

Whereas approval of the programme does not affect decisions to be taken under Article 14 of Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 in the matter of Community financing of projects, in particular as regards projects involving an increase in slaughtering capacity, particularly in view of the low utilization rate of a large number of existing slaughterhouses;

Whereas, with the exception of the elements relating to the export of live animals (for which there are gaps in the information), the programme contains the details required under Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 355/77, showing that the objectives laid down in Article 1 of that Regulation can be achieved in respect of the abovementioned sector; whereas the schedule for implementation of the programme does not exceed the time limit laid down in Article 3 (1) (g) of the Regulation;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The programme for the livestock, meat and meat products sector submitted by the Belgian Government pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 on 29 August 1980 and supplemented on 25 September 1980 is hereby approved with the exception of the parts relating to the export of live animals.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 1980.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Vice-President

(1) OJ No L 51, 23. 2. 1977, p. 1.