COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 February 1984

on the sale of butter to certain classes of consumers receiving social assistance

(84/119/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1600/83 (2), and in particular Articles 12 (3) and 28 thereof,

Whereas, under Council Regulation (EEC) No 2990/82 of 9 November 1982 on the sale of butter at reduced prices to persons receiving social assistance (3), aid may be granted for the purchase of butter at reduced prices by persons receiving social assistance;

Whereas, in order to ensure that the butter in fact reaches those for whom it is intended, provision should be made for it to be sold only upon production of documentary evidence of the purchaser's entitlement to the butter, and a maximum monthly quantity per consumer should be fixed;

Whereas the aid provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 2990/82 is granted in addition to the price reductions on butter sold for direct consumption pursuant to other Community measures, and in particular pursuant to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 649/78 of 31 March 1978 on the sale at reduced prices of intervention butter for direct consumption as concentrated butter (4), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1447/83 (5), and Council Regulation (EEC) No 1269/79 of 25 June 1979 on the marketing of reduced-price butter for direct consumption (6), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1208/83 (7);

Whereas the Member States should inform the Commission of the arrangements proposed by them and of the quantities of butter sold pursuant to this Decision;

Whereas this Decision is intended to replace Commission Decision 78/737/EEC (8), adopted pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1762/78 (9), which was repealed by Regulation (EEC) No 2990/82;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The aid provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 2990/82 shall be granted only to individual consumers belonging to the classes defined by the Member State concerned who, because of their economic situation, receive social assistance from a public authority in the Member State concerned.

2. The butter may be obtained by recipients only:

— on production of a document establishing their entitlement thereto, issued by the competent authority designated by the Member State concerned, and

— subject to a maximum of one kilogram per month.

3. The aid shall be paid to suppliers of butter upon submission of the document referred to in paragraph 2, collected by them at the time of sale to the consumers concerned.

Documents must be submitted, on pain of refusal of payment, within 18 months of the expiry date set by the Member State concerned for the period of validity of the document in question.

(1) OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
(2) OJ No L 163, 22. 6. 1983, p. 56.
(3) OJ No L 314, 10. 11. 1982, p. 26.
(4) OJ No L 86, 1. 4. 1978, p. 33.
(5) OJ No L 146, 4. 6. 1983, p. 19.
(6) OJ No L 161, 29. 6. 1979, p. 8.
(7) OJ No L 132, 21. 5. 1983, p. 5.
(8) OJ No L 245, 7. 9. 1978, p. 31.
(9) OJ No L 204, 28. 7. 1978, p. 7.

Article 2

Member States which avail themselves of the authorization provided for in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 2990/82 shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that :

(a) the distribution of butter and the granting of aid take place according to the conditions specified in Article 1 of this Decision ;

(b) the consumers concerned may also buy under the conditions of this Decision butter on sale at reduced prices for direct consumption pursuant to other Community measures.

Article 3

Member States shall notify the Commission which shall then inform the other Member States :

(a) of the criteria envisaged for determining the classes of consumers referred to in Article 1 (1), the number of potential recipients and an estimate of the corresponding monthly quantities of butter to be distributed ;

(b) of the measures taken in accordance with Article 2 ;

(c) before the end of the first month of each quarter of the calendar year and in respect of the previous quarter :

— of the quantities of butter corresponding to the documents issued by the competent authority in accordance with Article 1 (2),

— of the quantities of butter in respect of which aid has been paid in accordance with Article 1 (3).

Article 4

Decision 78/737/EEC is hereby repealed.

Article 5

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 24 February 1984.

For the Commission

Poul DALSAGER

Member of the Commission