COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 April 1985

on the multiannual guidance programme in respect of aquaculture submitted by France pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83

(Only the French text is authentic)

(85/282/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83 of 4 October 1983 on a common measure for restructuring, modernizing and developing the fishing industry and for developing aquaculture [1], and in particular Article 5 thereof,

Whereas on 31 October 1984 the French Government forwarded a multiannual guidance programme in respect of aquaculture, hereinafter referred to as 'the programme'; whereas on 4 March 1985 it forwarded the latest additional information concerning the programme;

Whereas, in accordance with the first paragraph of Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83, the time required for the execution of the programme covers at least the proposed duration of the common measure;

Whereas the programme contains the information referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83;

Whereas a feature of aquaculture in France is the traditional shellfish farming industry which is of great economic and social importance; whereas, in addition, there are many fish and crustacean farming enterprises utilizing both low and high technology rearing methods;

Whereas the programme proposes to encourage shellfish culture and the rearing of high-market-value species, in particular crustaceans, the rearing technology for which appears well established;

Whereas the programme does allow for public funds for the rearing of trout and carp carried out exclusively in fresh water;

Whereas the programme may, having regard to production potential, the demand for the products concerned and the guidelines of the common fisheries policy, constitute a suitable framework for projects which may qualify for financial support from the Community;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The multiannual guidance programme in respect of aquaculture forwarded by the French Government on 31 December 1984, as last supplemented on 4 March 1985, the main features of which are set out in Annex I hereto, is hereby approved subject to the provisions set out in Annex II hereto.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels, 24 April 1985.

For the Commission
Frans ANDRIESSEN
Vice-President

[1] OJ No L 290, 22. 10. 1983, p. 1.

ANNEX I

MAIN FEATURES OF THE MULTIANNUAL GUIDANCE PROGRAMME IN RESPECT OF AQUACULTURE DRAWN UP BY THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2908/83

1. **Objective of the programme**

Development of aquaculture, taking into account the suitability of species for culture in France, rearing techniques, commercial viability and market prospects.

2. **Duration**

The programme will cover the five years from the beginning of 1984 until the end of 1988.

3. **Areas concerned**

The whole of metropolitan France and the overseas departments.

4. **Development policy**

Future activity will be concentrated on species with good market prospects and with well-established rearing technology. Among these species the most important are:

(a) oysters;

(b) mussels;

(c) fresh water prawn *(Macrobrachium rosenbergii).*

The programme does not allow for rearing of trout and carp in fresh water.

5. **Present output and production targets**

(tonnes)

	Present	1988
Mussels	40 000	59 000
Oysters	136 000	140 000
Macrobrachium	100	1 000

6. **Investment requirement**

To achieve these production targets an investment of about 64 million ECU would be necessary during the period covered by the programme.
National aid to be allocated to these investments may be estimated at 12,5 million ECU.

ANNEX II

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Commission notes that the programme submitted by the French Government as a framework for future Community and national financing schemes constitutes an initial measure to guide investments, to ensure satisfactory economic conditions for aquaculture and to improve the income of those employed in the industry. The Commission shares the French authorities' analysis of the development potential.

2. The Commission points out that the investment requirement contained in the programme does not imply any commitment as regards financial support from the Community.

3. The Commission considers that the programme targets and their attainment should form the subject of a more detailed analysis within the framework of the annual review referred to in Article 6 of the Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83 in the light of developments in the structural and economic situation of fish farms in France.
