COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 April 1985

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

(Only the English text is authentic)

(85/286/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 5 March 1985 the Irish Government forwarded a multiannual guidance programme in respect of aquaculture, hereinafter referred to as '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 Ireland is the recent development of salmonid culture in salt waters; whereas, in addition shellfish farming offers undoubted potential, partly exploited at present;

Whereas the programme proposes, in particular, to continue the development of salmonid culture to ensure increased production of cultivated shellfish, in particular mussels;

Whereas the programme also proposes to encourage some developments of freshwater trout production; whereas the Commission cannot approve this aspect of the programme in view of the difficult situation on the market for these products at the Community level;

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; except for that part relating to trout reared in fresh water;

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 Irish Government on 5 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 Ireland.

Done at Brussels, 24 May 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 IRISH 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 Ireland, rearing techniques, commercial viability and market prospects.

2. **Duration**

The programme will cover the three years from the beginning of 1985 until the end of 1987.

3. **Areas concerned**

The whole of Ireland including coastal waters and offshore islands.

4. **Priorities and 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:

— salmon,

— oysters,

— mussels,

— trout reared in seawater.

5. **Present output and production targets**

(tonnes)

	Present	1988
Salmon	239	1 500
Oysters	412	1 500
Mussels	6 830	16 500
Trout reared in seawater	191	500

6. **Investment requirement**

To achieve these production targets an investment of about 9,8 million ECU would be necessary during the period covered by the programme.

National aid to be allocated to these investments may be estimated at 2,4 million ECU.

ANNEX II

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

1. The Commission notes that the programme submitted by the Irish Government as a framework for future Community and national financing schemes constitutes an inital measure to guide investments in aquaculture in Ireland; it agrees with the Irish authorities' analysis of the development potential.

2. As far as the rearing of trout in fresh water is concerned, taking account of the existing situation at the Community level concerning the market for these products and in the expectation of the result of an in-depth analysis of the feasible development of the market, the Commission cannot approve that part of the programme.

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

4. 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 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83 in the light of developments in the structural and economic situation of fish farms in Ireland.