COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 April 1985

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

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(85/288/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 15 February 1985 the Italian 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 Italy is the traditional shellfish and fish farming industry in lagoons referred to as 'valliculture' which is of great economic and social importance; whereas there are also many fish and crustacean farming enterprises utilizing both low- and high-technology rearing methods;

Whereas the programme proposes to encourage, on the one hand, an increase in shellfish culture and the restructuring of the lagoon areas by integrated rearing methods, and on the other hand, the culture, in particular by establishing hatcheries and production units in coastal waters and inland of certain high-market value species of fish and crustaceans, the rearing technology for which appears well established;

Whereas the programme does not 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 Italian Government on 15 February 1985, 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 Italian 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 ITALIAN GOVERNMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2908/83

1. **Objective of the programme**

Development of aquaculture involving marine and catadromous species, by establishing economically viable hatcheries and production units utilizing low- and high-technology methods or integrated techniques.

2. **Duration**

The programme will cover the period from the beginning of 1985 until the end of 1990.

3. **Areas concerned**

The whole of Italy and its coastal waters, excepting hill and mountain areas.

4. **Priorities and development policy**

Future activity will be concentrated by priority on coastal and lagoon areas particularly suited to aquaculture and in areas with ground water supplies. Well established and economically reliable technology must be available.

Among the species covered by the programme, the most important are:

— molluscs: mussels, oysters,

— fish: gilthead bream, sea bass, mullet, eels,

— crustaceans: penaeid shrimps.

This programme does not allow for public funds for rearing trout and carp in fresh water.

5. **Production targets**

The production targets to be achieved by the end of the programme and present estimated production are as follows (between 1995 and 2000):

(tonnes)

	Present	1990
Eels	3 000	8 000
Sea bass	500	2 000
Gilthead bream	800	5 000
Mullet	3 500	9 000
Mussels	15 000	30 000
Oysters	1 000	3 000
Clams (tapes)	50	2 000
Penaeid shrimps	20	2 000

6. **Investment requirement**

To achieve the above production targets an investment of about 175 million ECU would be necessary during the period covered by the programme.

This sum includes an initial phase of works involving infrastructures for lagoon reclamation. The investment requirement for the first phase of the programme coinciding with the first two years 1985 to 1986, is about 59 million ECU.

National aid to be allocated to these investment may be estimated at 10 million ECU.

ANNEX II

FINAL CONCLUSIONS

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

2. The Commission points out that 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 Regulation (EEC) No 2908/83 in the light of developments in the structural and economic situation of fish farms in Italy.