COMMISSION DECISION

of 28 August 1985

on the clearance of the accounts presented by the Kingdom of Belgium in respect of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section, expenditure for 1981

(Only the Dutch and French texts are authentic)

(85/449/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the financing of the common agricultural policy (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 870/85 (2), and in particular Article 5 (2) thereof,

After consulting the Fund Committee,

Whereas, under Article 5 (2) (b) of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70, the Commission, on the basis of the annual accounts presented by the Member States, clears the accounts of the authorities and bodies referred to in Article 4 of that Regulation;

Whereas Belgium has transmitted to the Commission the documents required to clear the accounts for 1981; whereas the latter has carried out on-the-spot inspections as provided for in Article 9 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70;

Whereas according to documents sent by Belgium the total amount of declared expenditure comes to Bfrs 20 571 377 945; whereas expenditure declared in respect of premium for leaf tobacco will be the subject of a subsequent clearance decision and is therefore excluded from the present Decision which consequently relates to an amount of Bfrs 20 479 838 562;

Whereas Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1723/72 of 26 July 1972 on the clearance of the accounts of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section (3), provides that the Decision to clear the accounts must include the determination of the amount of expenditure incurred in each Member State during the financial year in question recognized as chargeable to the Fund, Guarantee Section, and also the determination of the amount of the Community's financial resources still available in each Member State;

Whereas, under Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70, only refunds on exports to non-member countries and intervention intended to stabilize agricultural markets, respectively granted and undertaken according to Community rules within the framework of the common organization of agricultural markets, may be financed; whereas the inspections carried out show that a part of the expenditure declared, amounting to Bfrs 17 172 015 does not satisfy the requirements of these provisions and therefore cannot be financed; whereas the Member State has been fully informed of this correction and has been able to give its views thereon;

Whereas expenditure declared in respect of the premium for leaf tobacco is nevertheless excluded from the present Decision and will be the subject of a subsequent clearance Decision; whereas it is therefore necessary to extend the negative reserve concerning the financial years 1978 and 1979;

Whereas, under Council Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77 of 17 May 1977 introducing a system of premiums for the non-marketing of milk and milk products and for the conversion of dairy herds (4), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1300/84 (5), 60 % of expenditure on those measures is borne by the Guarantee Section of the EAGGF and 40 % by the Guidance Section; whereas the said measures count as intervention within the meaning of Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 and constitute a common measure within the meaning of Article 6 (1) of that Regulation; whereas it is therefore necessary to include Guidance Section expenditure when clearing the accounts in respect of expenditure financed by the EAGGF;

Whereas the present Decision does not prejudge the financial consequences which may be drawn in any subsequent clearance of accounts for national aids in accordance with Article 93 of the Treaty or infringement procedures under Article 169 of the Treaty currently in progress or concluded after the date of 31 March 1985 or as a result of

(1) OJ No L 94, 28. 4. 1970, p. 13.
(2) OJ No L 95, 2. 4. 1985, p. 1.
(3) OJ No L 186, 16. 8. 1972, p. 1.
(4) OJ No L 131, 26. 5. 1977, p. 1.
(5) OJ No L 125, 12. 5. 1984, p. 3.

infringements in 1981 or national aids incompatible with the Treaty paid in 1981 having affected the expenditure charged to the EAGGF in any financial year subsequent to that of 1981;

Whereas the present Decision does not prejudge the financial consequences which may be drawn in any subsequent clearance of accounts relating to current investigations, financial losses resulting from irregularities in the meaning of Article 8 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 or judgments by the Court of Justice on cases currently under consideration and concerning matters which are also the subject of this Decision,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

1. The expenditure by Belgium recognized as chargeable to the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, Guarantee Section, in respect of the 1981 financial year amounts, in accordance with Annex I, to Bfrs 20 462 666 547.

2. The expenditure recognized as chargeable to the EAGGF, pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77, amounts, in accordance with Annex II, to Bfrs 94 493 454.

3. The amount of Bfrs 91 539 383 relating to expenditure declared in respect of premium for leaf tobacco is not the subject of the present Decision.

Article 2

The financial resources available at the end of 1981 amount, in accordance with Annex I, to Bfrs 1 462 903 966 and, in accordance with Annex II, to Bfrs 1 754.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium.

Done at Brussels, 28 August 1985.

For the Commission

Frans ANDRIESSEN

Vice-President

ANNEX I

Clearance of the accounts concerning the expenditure financed by the EAGGF, Guarantee Section, for 1981 (1)

		(Bfrs)
1. Funds available after clearance of the accounts for 1980 excluding declared expenditure in the tobacco sector		2 272 109 896
2. Advances received for 1981		19 653 460 617
3. Total funds available to cover expenditure for 1981		21 925 570 513
4. Expenditure recognized for 1981:		
(a) Expenditure declared	20 479 838 562	
(b) Expenditure not recognized:	– 17 172 015	
—of which definitive decision deferred to 1982	(– 41 275)	
(c) Elimination of reserves for previous years	—	
(d) Expenditure recognized		20 462 666 547
5. Funds available after the clearance of accounts for the financial year 1981 excluding clearance of accounts relating to the premium for leaf tobacco		1 462 903 966

(1) Excluding expenditure on measures under Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77.

PM: The amount of Bfrs 91 539 383 relating to expenditure declared in respect of the premium for leaf tobacco is not the subject of the present decision; this amount is consequently excluded from the amount shown above under 2, 3, 4 (a), 4 (b) and 4 (d).

ANNEX II

Clearance of the accounts concerning the expenditure financed by the EAGGF under Regulation (EEC) No 1078/77 for 1981

		(Bfrs)
1. Funds available after clearance of the accounts for 1980		495 208
2. Advances received for 1981		94 000 000
3. Total to cover expenditure in 1981		94 495 208
4. Expenditure incurred in 1981 chargeable to the EAGGF of which:		94 493 454
(a) Guarantee Section	56 696 072	
(b) Guidance Section	37 797 382	
5. Funds available after clearance of the accounts for 1981		1 754