COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 18 November 1997

suspending the buying-in of butter in all Member States

(97/785/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European 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 (EC) No 1587/96 [2], and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 7a (1) and Article 7a (3) thereof,

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 777/87 [3], as last amended by the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden, sets out the circumstances under which the buying-in of butter and skimmed-milk powder may be suspended and subsequently resumed and, where suspension takes place, the alternative measures that may be taken;

Whereas Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1547/87 [4], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1802/95 [5], lays down the criteria for opening and suspending the buying-in of butter by invitation to tender in the Member States or, in the case of the United Kingdom and Germany, in a region thereof;

Whereas Commission Decision 97/760/EC [6] suspends the buying-in of butter in certain Member States; whereas information on market prices shows that the condition laid down in Article 1 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 1547/87 is currently met in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, Great Britain and Northern Ireland; whereas the list of Member States in which that suspension applies must be adjusted accordingly;

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

The buying-in of butter by invitation to tender as provided for in Article 1 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 777/87 is hereby suspended in Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden, Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Article 2

Decision 97/760/EC is hereby repealed.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 18 November 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
[2] OJ L 206, 16. 8. 1996, p. 21.
[3] OJ L 78, 20. 3. 1987, p. 10.
[4] OJ L 144, 4. 6. 1987, p. 12.
[5] OJ L 174, 26. 7. 1995, p. 27.
[6] OJ L 310, 13. 11. 1997, p. 26.