COMMISSION DECISION

of 7 May 2001

modifying Decision 98/483/EC establishing the ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to dishwashers

(notified under document number C(2001) 1187)

(Text with EEA relevance)

(2001/397/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 July 2000 on a revised Community eco-label award scheme [1], and in particular Articles 3, 4 and 6 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 provides that the eco-label may be awarded to a product possessing characteristics which enable it to contribute significantly to improvements in relation to key environmental aspects.

(2) Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 provides that specific eco-label criteria shall be established according to product groups.

(3) Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000 provides that the review of the eco-label criteria as well as of the assessment and verification requirements related to the criteria shall take place in due time before the end of the period of validity of the criteria specified for each product group and shall result in a proposal for prolongation, withdrawal or revision.

(4) By Decision 98/483/EC [2], the Commission established ecological criteria for the award of the Community eco-label to dishwashers, which, according to Article 3 thereof, expire 31 July 2001.

(5) One award for the use of the Community eco-label has been made for this product group.

(6) It is appropriate to prolong the period of validity of the definition of the product group and the ecological criteria without change, for a period of 18 months.

(7) The measures set out in this Decision have been developed and adopted under the procedures for the setting of eco-label criteria as laid down in Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000.

(8) The measures set out in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the committee set up under Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 1980/2000,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Article 3 of Decision 98/483/EC shall be replaced by the following text:

'The product group definition and the criteria for the product group shall be valid from 1 August 1998 until 31 January 2003.'

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 May 2001.

For the Commission

Margot WALLSTRÖM

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 237, 21.9.2000, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 216, 4.8.1998, p. 12.