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REGULATION (EEC) No 2398/71 OF THE COUNCIL

of 8 November 1971

on assistance from the European Social Fund for persons who are to pursue activities in a self-employed capacity

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 127 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Having regard to the Opinion of the Economic and Social Committee;

Whereas under Article 3 (2) of the Council Decision of 1 February 1971 on the reform of the European Social Fund[1] the assistance of the Fund may likewise be granted in special cases to be decided by the Council for persons who are to pursue activities in a self-employed capacity;

Whereas handicapped persons should be afforded the widest opportunities to enter employment; whereas persons who are directly engaged in agriculture in a self-employed capacity should be afforded the opportunity of pursuing a trade or profession in an independent capacity;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Subject to the conditions of Article 5 of the Council Decision of 1 February 1971, the assistance of the Social Fund may be granted in accordance with the provisions for implementing this Article, for operations carried out for the benefit of:

— handicapped persons; or

— persons directly engaged in agriculture in a self-employed capacity;

who, after having benefited from one of such operations, will pursue their activities in a self-employed capacity.

2. Every six months, the Commission shall report to the Council on the operations carried out pursuant to this Article.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the date on which Council Regulation (EEC) No 2396/71[2] of 8 November applying the Council Decision of 1 February 1971 on the reform of the European Social Fund enters into force.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels, 8 November 1971.

For the Council

The President

A. MORO

[1] OJ No L 28, 4.2.1971, p. 15.

[2] OJ No L 249, 10.11.1971, p. 54.