REGULATION (EEC) No 1405/73 OF THE COMMISSION

of 25 May 1973

laying down the safeguard measures applicable to the export of rice and broken rice from the Community

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community ;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 359/67/EEC (1), of 25 July 1967, on the common organization of the market in rice, as last amended by the Act (2), annexed to the Treaty (3) on the Accession of new Member States to the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, signed at Brussels on 22 January 1973, and in particular Article 22 (2) thereof ;

Whereas the present situation in the market for rice and broken rice is characterized by a move to higher prices, both on the world market and within the Community ; whereas this rise in prices, begun several months ago, has led to a price level on the world market which considerably exceeeds, at the present time and for almost all products, the level at which, on average, imports into the Community are affected under normal conditions ; whereas in particular the price level on the world market has led to the discontinuance, from February 1973, of export refunds ;

Whereas notwithstanding the absence of these refunds exports of rice have continued in considerable quantities ;

Whereas the available quantities of rice and broken rice on Community markets have become extremely low ; whereas the available quantities must be increased having regard to the obligations of the Community in relation to food aid which involve considerable exports in the near future ;

Whereas, moreover, on the Community market the price is now, for all the products concerned, at a level exceeding the threshold price by from 25 % to 35 % ;

Whereas having regard to the meteorological conditions in the Community at the time of planting, it is to be expected that the Community harvest will be late ;

Whereas all of the above elements lead to the conclusion that the Community market for these products is seriously disturbed ; whereas by exporting them the objective of Article 39 (1) of the Treaty, subparagraphs (c), (d) and (e) in particular, are endangered ; whereas in particular it will be impossible to ensure delivery to consumers at reasonable prices if exports are continued ; whereas, moreover, the continuation of exports could prejudice the Community's own supplies during the coming months ;

Whereas it is thus necessary to pass special measures, having immediate effect, which will allow the interests of the Community to be safeguarded ; whereas these measures must be taken in the framework of the provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2592/69 (4) of 18 December 1969, defining the conditions for applying the safeguard measures in the rice sector ; whereas the conditions now governing the market are such that only the ending of the issue of export certificates is capable of improving the situation ;

Whereas Community obligations in relation to food aid require the exclusion from the safeguard measures of exports undertaken for that purpose ;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

For the products in Article 1 (1) (a) and 1 (1) (b) of Regulation No 359/67/EEC, export certificates shall no longer be issued. This provision shall apply to requests for certificates of which the date of lodgement within the meaning of Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 1373/70 (5), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 571/73 (6), is after 25 May 1973.

Article 2

The provisions of Article 1 shall not apply to products required for the purpose of food aid in furtherance of Article 23 (a) of Regulation No 359/67/EEC.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on 26 May 1973.

(1) OJ No 174, 31. 7. 1967, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 73, 27. 3. 1972, p. 14.
(3) OJ No L 73, 27. 3. 1972, p. 5.
(4) OJ No L 324, 27. 12. 1969, p. 3.
(5) OJ No L 158, 20. 7. 1970, p. 1.
(6) OJ No L 56, 1. 3. 1973, p. 3.

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

Done at Brussels, 25 May 1973.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI