REGULATION (EEC) No 624/73 OF THE COMMISSION
of 1 March 1973
on the granting of private storage aid for long-keeping cheeses

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community ;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 [1] of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products, as last amended by the Act [2] annexed to the Treaty [3] concerning the Accession of new Member States to the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community, signed at Brussels on 22 January 1972, and in particular Article 9 (3) thereof ;

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) No 508/71 [4] of 8 March 1971 laying down general rules on private storage aid for long-keeping cheeses provides that private storage aid may be granted for certain long-keeping cheeses where a serious imbalance of the market may be eliminated or reduced by seasonal storage ;

Whereas, in view of price trends and of the considerable increase in stocks of Emmentaler and Gruyere cheeses, provision should be made for the possibility of having recourse to such storage ;

Whereas rules for the implementation of measures provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 508/71 should be laid down ; whereas it should be stipulated that the time required for maturing the cheese should not count as storage ;

Whereas contracts should contain provisions whereby proper functioning of the system can be ensured and effective inspection introduced ;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the Opinion of the Management Committee for Milk and Milk Products ;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

Private storage aid shall be granted for Emmentaler and Gruyere cheeses manufactured in the Community which satisfy the requirements of Articles 2 and 3.

Article 2

1. Storage contracts may be concluded where the following conditions are satisfied :

(a) The lot of cheeses to which the contract relates must comprise at least 100 whole cheeses ;

(b) The cheeses shall be indelibly marked with an indication (which may take the form of a number) of the undertaking in which they were manufactured and of the day and month of manufacture ;

(c) The cheeses must have been manufactured at least 30 days before the date specified in the contract as being the date of commencement of storage, and after 1 April 1973 ;

(d) The cheeses must have undergone quality tests which established that their classification after maturing could be expected to be :

— class A in France

— Markenkase et Klasse Fein in Germany

— 1st quality in Denmark ;

(e) The storer shall undertake :

— to keep the cheeses during the entire period of storage at a temperature not exceeding + 4° C ;

— not, during the term of the contract, to alter the composition of the lot which is the subject of the contract without authorization from the intervention agency ;

— to keep stock records and to inform the intervention agency, each week, of the cheeses put into and withdrawn from storage during the previous week.

2. Contracts shall not be concluded before the cheese has been put into storage.

Article 3

1. Aid shall be granted only for such cheeses as are put into storage during the storage period. This period shall begin on 1 May 1973 and end on 30 September 1973.

2. Stored cheese shall be withdrawn from storage only during the period for withdrawal. This period

[1] OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
[2] OJ No L 73, 27. 3. 1972, p. 14.
[3] OJ No L 73, 27. 3. 1972, p. 5.
[4] OJ No L 58, 11. 3. 1971, p. 1.

shall begin on 1 November 1973 and end on 31 March 1974.

Article 4

1. The amount of aid is fixed at 0·86 unit of account per metric ton per day.

2. The period on which calculation of aid is to be based shall run from the date on which the lot of cheese which is the subject of the contract was put into storage. No aid shall be granted in respect of storage for less than 90 days. The maximum amount of aid shall not exceed the amount corresponding to 180 days' storage.

Article 5

The intervention agency shall take the measures necessary to ensure inspection of the lots which are the subject of contracts. It shall in particular make provision for the marking of cheeses comprised in contracts.

Article 6

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

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

Done at Brussels, 1 March 1973.

For the Commission
The President
François-Xavier ORTOLI