REGULATION (EEC) No 2931/74 OF THE COUNCIL

of 18 November 1974

on the introduction of a subsidy on imports of white and raw sugar

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 1009/67/EEC [1] of 18 December 1967 on the common organization of the market in sugar, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2476/74 [2], and in particular Article 16 (3) thereof;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 608/72 [3] of 23 March 1972 laying down rules to be applied in cases of considerable price rises on the world sugar market, and in particular Article 2 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas Article 16 (2) of Regulation No 1009/67/EEC makes provision for a subsidy to be granted on imports of white and raw sugar if the cif price for these kinds of sugar is higher than the threshold price; whereas, under Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 608/72, the Council must decide on the granting of a subsidy of this kind where it is found that supplies to the Community or to a high-consumption region of the Community can no longer be maintained;

Whereas the condition relating to the cif price has been fulfilled since December 1973; whereas, given the latest forecasts in relation to production, imports and consumption, sugar supplies to the Community as a whole can no longer be maintained; whereas, in view of such a serious situation, an import subsidy must be decided on;

Whereas sugar prices applied on the Community market, particularly in the deficit regions, are appreciably higher than the prices fixed for the Community; whereas in view of the general objective of maintaining sugar supplies at the Community price it is necessary to favour the import of quantities of sugar sufficient to ensure that this objective be obtained;

Whereas the amount in respect of which the subsidy is granted should for the first stage be limited to 200 000 metric tons; whereas decisions on later stages will be taken in the light of the effectiveness of the measure in practice;

Whereas, having regard to the forward market in sugar, the costs of the import subsidies will be reduced if the importers concerned are authorized to export an equivalent quantity of sugar produced during the 1975/76 sugar year;

Whereas, in view of the complexity of the proposed measure and in order to ensure for all interested parties equal conditions of competition, the amount of the subsidy should be determined by means of an invitation to tender,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

A subsidy shall be granted on white sugar and raw sugar imported into the Community.

Article 2

1. The import subsidy shall relate only to the quantity of sugar necessary to guarantee supplies of sugar to the Community until the beginning of the processing of the 1975 beet harvest on the basis of the Community price.

2. During the first stage, the quantity referred to in paragraph 1 shall be limited to 200 000 metric tons.

3. Acting on a proposal from the Commission in accordance with the voting procedure laid down in Article 43 (2) of the Treaty, the Council shall decide upon later stages in the light of experience and of the effectiveness of this measure.

Article 3

1. Tenders shall be invited for the purpose of determining the amount of the subsidy per unit of weight of sugar.

2. The tendering conditions must guarantee equality of access for all persons established in the Community.

3. The successful tenderer shall be required to abide by a maximum price level, fixed by reference to the threshold price, for sales of the sugar in the Community with a view to consumption.

(1) OJ No 308, 18. 12. 1967, p. 1.
(2) OJ No L 264, 1. 10. 1974, p. 70.
(3) OJ No L 75, 28. 3. 1972, p. 5.

4. The tenderer shall be authorized to export during a specified period a quantity of sugar corresponding to that which has been the subject of his tender without Article 16 (1) of Regulation No 1009/67/EEC being applied.

Article 4

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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, 18 November 1974.

For the Council

The President

Ch. BONNET