REGULATION (EEC) No 972/75 OF THE COMMISSION

of 15 April 1975

amending Regulations (EEC) No 1223/74 and (EEC) No 2637/70 as regards the period of validity of certain export licences for cereals and rice

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 120/67/EEC (1) of 13 June 1967 on the common organization of the market in cereals, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 665/75 (2), and in particular Article 12 (2) thereof;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 359/67/EEC (3) of 25 July 1967 on the common organization of the market in rice, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 668/75 (4), and in particular Article 10 (2) thereof;

Whereas Article 19 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 193/75 (5) of 17 January 1975 laying down common detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for agricultural products allows export licences to be issued in connection with an invitation to tender opened in an importing third country, the period of validity of the licence applied for being limited to the normal period of validity in force; whereas Article 23 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2637/70 (6) of 23 December 1970 on special detailed rules for the application of the system of import and export licences and advance fixing certificates for agricultural products, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 824/75 (7), provides that the period of validity of an export licence issued in connection with an invitation to tender opened in an importing third country may not exceed 12 months; whereas, on account of the disturbances on the market in cereals at the time in question, the application of this Article 23 was suspended by Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1223/74 (8) of 15 May 1974 derogating from Regulation (EEC) No 2637/70 as regards the period of validity of export licences for cereals and rice;

Whereas an improvement has been noted in the general situation of the market in cereals, although uncertainty still exists as regards the medium term trend; whereas, in particular, Community supplies may be endangered if it is left to the initiative of importing countries to make their purchases over a maximum period of 12 months; whereas Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 2637/70 should initially be brought into force again only in respect of that product for which it is needed and the maximum period of validity allowed under that Article should be restricted;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the Opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 1223/74 is replaced by the following:

'The application of Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 2637/70 is suspended except in the case of wheat and meslin flour falling within subheading 11.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff.'

Article 2

Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 2637/70 is replaced by the following:

'Where exportation is effected pursuant to an invitation to tender opened in an importing third country, an export licence for common wheat, rye, barley, maize, rice, wheat flour and rye flour shall be valid from its date of issue within the meaning of Article 9 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 193/75 until the date by which the obligations arising under the award of the contract are to be fulfilled.

However, the period of validity of such a licence may not exceed eight months following the month of issue of the licence within the meaning of Article 9 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 193/75.'

Article 3

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

(1) OJ No 117, 19. 6. 1967, p. 2269/67.
(2) OJ No L 72, 20. 3. 1975, p. 14.
(3) OJ No 174, 31. 7. 1967, p. 1.
(4) OJ No L 72, 20. 3. 1975, p. 18.
(5) OJ No L 25, 31. 1. 1975, p. 10.
(6) OJ No L 283, 29. 12. 1970, p. 15.
(7) OJ No L 79, 28. 3. 1975, p. 8.
(8) OJ No L 133, 16. 5. 1974, p. 22.

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

Done at Brussels, 15 April 1975.

For the Commission

P. J. LARDINOIS

Member of the Commission