COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2291/77
of 18 October 1977
on the granting of aid for the consumption of butter in Italy

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 of 27 June 1968 on the common organization of the market in milk and milk products [1], as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 559/76 [2], and in particular Article 12 (2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas the situation on the butter market is characterized by large quantities available and it is therefore advisable to increase the consumption of butter by all appropriate means;

Whereas the reduction of final consumer prices is an efficient means of attaining this objective; whereas to this end the Commission envisages the adoption of an *ad hoc* measure based on Article 6 (7) of Regulation (EEC) No 804/68 involving an additional reduction in the price of butter bought for direct consumption in view of the Christmas and New Year holidays;

Whereas the implementation of the abovementioned measure presents particular problems in Italy; whereas, in fact, the Italian butter market is characterized on the one hand by the absence of public stocks and of quantities under private storage contracts, and on the other hand, by an indigenous production which cannot be sold to intervention and the normal sales of which would be jeopardized by the admission, under the abovementioned measure, of large supplementary quantities of butter; whereas, in order to avoid such disturbances on the Italian market and to avoid discrimination against the consumers in Italy in comparison with consumers in the other Member States, it is necessary to provide for the possibility of subsidizing a corresponding quantity of butter produced in Italy on the same conditions as the butter sold in the other Member States in the framework of the said measure,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Aid shall be granted in Italy for the direct consumption of butter produced in that Member State.

2. The aid is hereby fixed at 70 units of account per 100 kilograms.

Article 2

The detailed rules for the application of this Regulation shall lay down, in particular, a time limit for the packaging of the butter in small packets, the maximum amount of butter which may benefit from the aid referred to in Article 1 and provisions guaranteeing that the butter concerned will be consumed in Italy.

Article 3

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 Luxembourg, 18 October 1977.

For the Council

The President

H. SIMONET

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[1] OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 13.
[2] OJ No L 67, 15. 3. 1976, p. 9.