COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2195/81

of 27 July 1981

on a special programme concerning drainage operations in the less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission (1),

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament (2),

Whereas the field drainage programme envisaged by Council Directive 78/628/EEC of 19 June 1978 on a programme to accelerate drainage operations in the less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland (3) has proved highly successful; whereas drainage works on approximately two-thirds of the 100 000 ha, being the maximum limit prescribed, has already been almost completed and the drainage plans for the remainder have also been finalized;

Whereas Directive 78/628/EEC provides for a total Community financing of 26 million units of account for the five-year period of the common measure; whereas because of the escalation of costs of the river excavation work under the arterial drainage programme, this amount has proved to be insufficient; whereas, as a result, the arterial drainage programme can be completed only by increasing the financial resources provided for in that Directive;

Whereas also, there is urgent need for improving the conditions of agricultural production in additional less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland within the meaning of Council Directive 75/268/EEC of 28 April 1975 on mountain and hill farming and farming in certain less-favoured areas (4), as last amended by Directive 80/666/EEC (5); whereas provision of drainage is a necessary means to such improvement within a relatively short time;

Whereas, as a result of the above, it is necessary to introduce a common measure within the meaning of Article 6 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the financing of the common agricultural policy (6), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3509/80 (7) aimed at complementing the measure provided for in Directive 78/628/EEC,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. In order to improve the conditions of agricultural production in certain less-favoured areas of the West of Ireland, a common measure within the meaning of Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 is hereby established for arterial and field drainage, in order to complement the common measure referred to in Directive 78/628/EEC.

2. Articles 2, 3, 6 and 7 of Directive 78/628/EEC shall apply to the common measure referred to in paragraph 1.

3. The drainage programme must be such as to provide an assurance that the measures envisaged are compatible with protection of the environment.

Article 2

1. Field drainage, as referred to in Article 1 (1) shall extend to not more than 50 000 ha.

Arterial drainage as referred to in Article 1 (1) shall be limited to an eligible expenditure of not more than 30 MECU (A).

2. The expenditure on arterial drainage referred to in the second subparagraph of paragraph 1 may serve to complete works already foreseen within the framework of Directive 78/628/EEC.

Article 3

The EAGGF Guidance Section shall reimburse 50 % of expenditure by Ireland on the common measure, However, the contribution of the Fund to field drainage may not exceed 425 ECU (A) per hectare.

Article 4

1. The duration of the common measure shall be limited to 31 December 1986.

2. The estimated total cost of the common measure to be charged to the Fund shall be 30 million ECU for its whole duration.

Article 5

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

(1) OJ No C 158, 27. 6. 1981, p. 6.
(2) Opinion delivered on 10 July 1981 (not yet published in the Official Journal).
(3) OJ No L 206, 29. 7. 1978, p. 5.
(4) OJ No L 128, 19. 5. 1975, p. 1.
(5) OJ No L 180, 14. 7. 1980, p. 34.
(6) OJ No L 94, 28. 4. 1970, p. 13.
(7) OJ No L 367, 31. 12. 1980, p. 87.

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

Done at Brussels, 27 July 1981.

For the Council

The President

P. WALKER