COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 404/87

of 10 February 1987

on a special intervention measure for maize in France

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 of 29 October 1975 on the common organization of the market in cereals (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1579/86 (2), and in particular Article 8 (4) thereof,

Whereas production of maize in France exceeds that country's requirements;

Whereas the possibility of that surplus being absorbed by the Community market is slight;

Whereas the French market in the south-west can be relieved by the export of part of this surplus quantity of maize to non-member countries; whereas, in view of world market prices for maize, export is possible only with the aid of a refund;

Whereas, however, the refund arrangements laid down in Article 16 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 apply to export from any Member State; whereas such arrangements, therefore, are not only unsuitable for solving the problem in question but may also favour the export of maize from Member States where the market situation is different from that in France;

Whereas, in the absence of adequate measures, massive quantities of maize may be expected to enter intervention storage in the south west of France in accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75, the only possibility of disposal being in any case export to non-member countries; whereas, to avoid the abovementioned intervention, a special intervention measure intended to relieve the French market should be taken under Article 8 of the said Regulation; whereas, furthermore, such a measure should take the form of a direct export incentive, which would avoid the high cost to the Community budget of buying in and storing products which would in any case then have to be exported; whereas the granting of a refund, the amount of which would be determined by tendering and which would apply only to products exported from certain French ports would be an appropriate measure for this purpose;

Whereas the purpose of the measure is such that refunds should be granted only on wheat of the quality required for acceptance for intervention, as defined in Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1569/77 (3), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2134/86 (4); whereas the competent agency must make certain that maize exported is of this standard;

Whereas the nature and objectives of the said measures make it appropriate to apply in respect of it *mutatis mutandis* Article 16 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 and the Regulations adopted for the application thereof, in particular Council Regulation (EEC) No 2746/75 of 29 October 1975 laying down general rules for granting export refunds on cereals and criteria for fixing the amount of such refunds (5) and Commission Regulation (EEC) No 279/75 of 4 February 1975 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of tendering for export refunds on cereals (6), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2944/78 (7);

Whereas, since the interested parties are already aware of the terms of the invitation, a derogation may be made from the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 279/75 on the period that must elapse between the date of publication and the first closing date for the submission of tenders;

Whereas, under the abovementioned Regulation (EEC) No 279/75, the commitments on the part of the tenderer include the obligation to lodge an application for an export licence; whereas compliance with this obligation may be ensured by requiring tenderers to lodge a tendering security of 12 ECU per tonne when they submit their tenders;

Whereas, in order to ensure equal treatment of all concerned, it is necessary to make provision for the licences issued to have an identical period of validity;

Whereas, in order to ensure the smooth operation of the export tendering procedure, it is appropriate to prescribe a minimum quantity to be tendered for and a time limit and form for the communication of tenders submitted to the competent authorities;

Whereas the Management Committee for Cereals has not delivered an opinion within the time-limit set by its Chairman,

(1) OJ No L 281, 1. 11. 1975, p. 7.
(2) OJ No L 139, 24. 5. 1986, p. 29.
(3) OJ No L 174, 14. 7. 1977, p. 15.
(4) OJ No L 187, 9. 7. 1986, p. 23.
(5) OJ No L 281, 1. 11. 1975, p. 78.
(6) OJ No L 31, 5. 2. 1975, p. 8.
(7) OJ No L 351, 15. 12. 1978, p. 16.

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. A special intervention measure in the form of an export refund shall be applied in respect of 500 000 tonnes of maize exported from France from ports indicated in Annex II.

Article 16 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75 and the provisions adopted for the application of that Article shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the said refund.

2. The French intervention agency shall be responsible for implementing the measure referred to in paragraph 1.

Article 2

1. Tenders shall be invited in order to determine the amount of the refund referred to in Article 1.

2. The invitation to tender shall relate to the quantity of maize referred to in Article 1 (1) for export to the countries in zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII listed in Annex I to Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1124/77 [1].

3. The invitation shall remain open until 28 May 1987. During the period of its validity weekly awards shall be made, for which the time limits for the submission of tenders shall be as prescribed in the notice of invitation to tender.

By way of derogation from Article 1 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 279/75, the time limit for submission of tenders under the first partial invitation to tender shall expire on 19 February 1987.

4. Tenders must be submitted to the French intervention agency named in the notice of invitation.

5. The tendering procedure shall take place in accordance with this Regulation and Regulation (EEC) No 279/75.

Article 3

A tender shall be valid only if:

— it relates to not less than 1 000 tonnes,

— it is accompanied by:

  — advance fixing of the French monetary compensatory amount valid on each closing date for the submission of tenders,

  — the undertaking provided for in Article 2 (3) (b) of Regulation (EEC) No 279/75 that the export licence will be applied for in France,

  — the undertaking that the export will be made from ports as in Article 1 (1).

Article 4

The security referred to in Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 279/75 shall be 12 ECU per tonne.

Article 5

1. By way of derogation from Article 21 (1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3183/80 [2], export licences issued in accordance with Article 8 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 279/75 shall, for the purpose of determining their period of validity, be deemed to have been issued on the day on which the tender was submitted.

2. Export licences issued in connection with the invitation to tender pursuant to this Regulation shall be valid from their date of issue, as defined in paragraph 1, until the end of the fourth month following that of issue.

Article 6

1. The Commission shall decide, under the procedure laid down in Article 26 of Regulation (EEC) No 2727/75, either:

— to fix a maximum export refund, taking account in particular of the criteria laid down in Articles 2 and 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 2746/75, or

— to make no award.

2. Where a maximum export refund is fixed, a contract shall be awarded to any tenderer whose tender indicates a rate of refund equal to or less than such maximum export refund.

3. A refund awarded shall not be paid unless the maize exported is of at least intervention quality as defined in Article 2 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1569/77. In addition the export has to be made from ports provided in Article 1 (1). The competent agency shall have an analysis made, by an approved body or company, of the landed goods and shall hold at the Commission's disposal an additional sample from each consignment taken and sealed in the presence of the tenderer or his representative.

Sampling and analysis costs shall be met by the tenderer.

Article 7

Tenders submitted must reach the Commission through the intermediary of the French intervention agency at the latest one and a half hours after expiry of the period for the weekly submission of tenders as specified in the notice of invitation to tender. They must be communicated in the form indicated in Annex I.

[1] OJ No L 134, 28. 5. 1977, p. 53.

[2] OJ No L 338, 13. 12. 1980, p. 1.

If no tenders are received, the French intervention agency shall inform the Commission of this within the period indicated in the first paragraph.

The times fixed for the submission of tenders shall correspond to Belgian time.

Article 8

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of 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, 10 February 1987.

For the Commission

Frans ANDRIESSEN

Vice-President

ANNEX I

Weekly tender for the refund for the export of maize to countries in zones I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII

(Closing date for the submission of tenders (date/time))

1	2	3
Number of tenderer	Quantity in tonnes	Amount of export refund in ECU per tonne
1		
2		
3		
etc.		

ANNEX II

— Ports of the Atlantic Ocean from Hendaye to Nantes — Saint Nazaire,

— Ports of the Mediterranean Sea.