COMMISSION REGULATION (EEC) No 881/93

of 15 April 1993

on a conversion programme for producers of flue-cured tobacco in Greece

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2075/92 of 30 June 1992 on the common organization of the market in raw tobacco [1], and in particular Article 27 thereof,

Whereas Regulation (EEC) No 2075/92 introduces, from the 1993 harvest, a premium system fixing threshold quantities by group of varieties; whereas such threshold quantities are determined by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2076/92 of 30 June 1992 fixing the premiums for leaf tobacco by group of tobacco varieties and the processing quotas allocated by group of varieties and by Member State [2];

Whereas cultivation of flue-cured tobacco has been encouraged in Greece in order to persuade producers to switch from other varieties which could not be sold under normal market conditions; whereas certain producers made substantial investments during 1991 with a view to the cultivation of flue-cured tobacco; whereas such investments cannot be recouped if those producers fail to obtain adequate quotas for the production of flue-cured tobacco as from the 1993 harvest; whereas such producers should be assisted in undertaking the necessary conversion provided that no speculative venture is involved;

Whereas measures are necessary in order to facilitate the changeover from the former market organization to that introduced by Regulation (EEC) No 2075/92;

Whereas the measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Tobacco,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Greece may introduce a conversion programme for tobacco producers who, during 1991, undertook investments with a view to the production of flue-cured tobacco.

2. The provisions of paragraph 1 shall apply in respect of investments undertaken or contractually entered into during 1991 and undertaken not later than 30 June 1992.

Article 2

The Community shall part-finance the conversion programme, its contribution covering the following:

— up to 75 % of the expenditure borne by the Member State,

— payments up to a maximum overall sum of ECU 20 million and ECU 13 000 per producer,

— sums paid out by the Member State up to 30 December 1993 inclusive,

— measures in respect of which no other Community assistance is payable concurrently.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh 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, 15 April 1993.

For the Commission

René STEICHEN

Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ No L 215, 30. 7. 1992, p. 70.
[2] OJ No L 215, 30. 7. 1992, p. 77.