COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 497/97
of 18 March 1997
fixing the agricultural conversion rates

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3813/92 of 28 December 1992 on the unit of account and the conversion rates to be applied for the purposes of the common agricultural policy [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 150/95 [2], and in particular Article 3 (1) thereof,

Whereas the agricultural conversion rates were fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 451/97 [3];

Whereas Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) No 3813/92 provides that, subject to confirmation periods being triggered, the agricultural conversion rate for a currency is to be adjusted where the monetary gap between it and the representative market rate exceeds certain levels;

Whereas the representative market rates are determined on the basis of basic reference periods or, where applicable, confirmation periods, established in accordance with Article 2 of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1068/93 of 30 April 1993 on detailed rules for determining and applying the agricultural conversion rates [4], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1482/96 [5]; whereas paragraph 2 of that Article provides that, in cases where the absolute value of the difference between the monetary gaps in two Member States, calculated from the average of the ecu rates for three consecutive quotation days, exceeds six points, the representative market rates are to be adjusted on the basis of the three quotation days in question;

Whereas, as a consequence of the exchange rates recorded from 9 to 18 March 1997, it is necessary to fix a new agricultural conversion rate for the Swedish krona;

Whereas Article 15 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1068/93 provides that an agricultural conversion rate fixed in advance is to be adjusted if the gap between that rate and the agricultural conversion rate in force at the time of the operative event applicable for the amount concerned exceeds four points; whereas, in that event, the agricultural conversion rate fixed in advance is brought more closely into line with the rate in force, up to the level of a gap of four points with that rate; whereas the rate which replaces the agricultural conversion rate fixed in advance should be specified,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The agricultural conversion rates are fixed in Annex I hereto.

Article 2

In the case referred to in Article 15 (3) of Regulation (EEC) No 1068/93, the agricultural conversion rate fixed in advance shall be replaced by the ecu rate for the currency concerned, shown in Annex II:

— Table A, where the latter rate is higher than the rate fixed in advance,

— Table B, where the latter rate is lower than the rate fixed in advance.

Article 3

Regulation (EC) No 451/97 is hereby repealed.

Article 4

This Regulation shall enter into force on 19 March 1997.

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

Done at Brussels, 18 March 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ No L 387, 31. 12. 1992, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 22, 31. 1. 1995, p. 1.
[3] OJ No L 68, 8. 3. 1997, p. 22.
[4] OJ No L 108, 1. 5. 1993, p. 106.
[5] OJ No L 188, 27. 7. 1996, p. 22.

ANNEX I

Agricultural conversion rates

ECU 1 =	40,3225	Belgian and Luxembourg francs
	7,49997	Danish kroner
	1,95431	German marks
	311,761	Greek drachmas
	198,202	Portuguese escudos
	6,61023	French francs
	6,02811	Finnish marks
	2,19831	Dutch guilders
	0,778173	Irish punt
	1 973,93	Italian lire
	13,7529	Austrian schillings
	165,571	Spanish pesetas
	8,83274	Swedish kroner
	0,768177	Pound sterling

ANNEX II

Agricultural conversion rates fixed in advance and adjusted

Table A			Table B		
ECU 1 =	38,7716	Belgian and Luxembourg francs	ECU 1 =	42,0026	Belgian and Luxembourg francs
	7,21151	Danish kroner		7,81247	Danish kroner
	1,87914	German marks		2,03574	German marks
	299,770	Greek drachmas		324,751	Greek drachmas
	190,579	Portuguese escudos		206,460	Portuguese escudos
	6,35599	French francs		6,88566	French francs
	5,79626	Finnish marks		6,27928	Finnish marks
	2,11376	Dutch guilders		2,28991	Dutch guilders
	0,748243	Irish punt		0,810597	Irish punt
	1 898,01	Italian lire		2 056,18	Italian lire
	13,2239	Austrian schillings		14,3259	Austrian schillings
	159,203	Spanish pesetas		172,470	Spanish pesetas
	8,49302	Swedish kroner		9,20077	Swedish kroner
	0,738632	Pound sterling		0,800184	Pound sterling