COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 585/97

of 2 April 1997

amending Regulations (EEC) No 3478/92 and (EC) No 1066/95 in the tobacco sector as regards certain deadlines

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European 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], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2444/96 [2], and in particular Articles 7 and 11 thereof,

Whereas the Member States are facing administrative difficulties which prevent them from meeting the deadlines laid down by Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3478/92 of 1 December 1992 laying down detailed rules for the application of the premium system for raw tobacco [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 572/97 [4], and by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1066/95 of 12 May 1995 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2075/92 as regards the raw tobacco quota system for the 1995, 1996 and 1997 harvests [5], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 572/97; whereas these deadlines should therefore be modified for the 1997 harvest;

Whereas the measures concerned should be applied as soon as possible;

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

Article 3 of Regulation (EEC) No 3478/92 is hereby amended as follows:

1. the following text is added to the second subparagraph of paragraph 1:

   'For the 1997 harvest, the Member States may allow contracts concluded on 30 April at the latest and, in the case of contracts concluded as a result of the allocation of additional quantities pursuant to Article 11 (3) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 1066/95 (*), before 15 June, to benefit from the premium.

   (*) OJ No L 108, 13. 5. 1995, p. 5.';

2. the following text is added to the second subparagraph of paragraph 2:

   'For the 1997 harvest, the Member States may allow contracts submitted for registration before 8 May, and in the case of contracts concluded as a result of the allocation of additional quantities pursuant to Article 11 (3) of Regulation (EC) No 1066/95, before 30 June, to benefit from the premium.'

Article 2

The following text is added to the second subparagraph of Article 11 (3) of Regulation (EC) No 1066/95:

'For the 1997 harvest, the Member States are authorized to extend the deadline referred to in the first subparagraph until 31 May.'

Article 3

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, 2 April 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

(1) OJ No L 215, 30. 7. 1992, p. 70.
(2) OJ No L 333, 21. 12. 1996, p. 4.
(3) OJ No L 351, 2. 12. 1992, p. 17.
(4) OJ No L 85, 27. 3. 1997, p. 61.
(5) OJ No L 108, 13. 5. 1995, p. 5.