COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 594/97

of 3 April 1997

fixing the amounts to be paid to recognized olive oil producer organizations and associations thereof for the 1996/97 marketing year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation No 136/66/EEC of 22 September 1966 on the establishment of a common organization of the market in oils and fats [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1581/96 [2], and in particular Article 20d (4) thereof,

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 [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 150/95 [4], and in particular Article 6 (2) thereof,

Whereas Article 20d of Regulation No 136/66/EEC provides that a percentage of the production aid is to be withheld to help finance the work of the producer organizations and associations thereof;

Whereas Article 8 (1) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3061/84 of 31 October 1984 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of production aid for olive oil [5], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1137/96 [6], provides that the unit amounts to be paid to producer organizations and associations thereof are to be fixed on the basis of forecasts of the overall sum to be distributed; whereas the amount withheld was fixed for the 1996/97 marketing year by Council Regulation (EC) No 1583/96 [7]; whereas the funds which will be available in each Member State as a result of the abovementioned amount withheld must be redistributed to those eligible in a suitable manner;

Whereas to ensure that the distribution of funds among the producer organizations and associations is uniformly implemented, and with a view to clarity, a specific operative event should be established for the agricultural conversion rate for the amounts fixed; whereas, given the nature of the measure and to facilitate the management thereof, 1 February 1997 should be fixed as the operative event;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 1996/97 marketing year, the amounts provided for in Article 8 (1) (a) and (b) of Regulation (EEC) No 3061/84 shall be as follows:

— for Spain: ECU 6,9 and ECU 17,5 respectively,
— for Portugal: ECU 0 and ECU 5 respectively,
— for Greece: ECU 2,4 and ECU 2,4 respectively,
— for France: ECU 1,5 and ECU 1,5 respectively,
— for Italy: ECU 2 and ECU 2 respectively.

Article 2

The amounts referred to in Article 1 shall be converted into national currency using the agricultural conversion rate in force on 1 February 1997.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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, 3 April 1997.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ No 172, 30. 9. 1966, p. 3025/66.
[2] OJ No L 206, 16. 8. 1996, p. 11.
[3] OJ No L 387, 31. 12. 1992, p. 1.
[4] OJ No L 22, 31. 1. 1995, p. 1.
[5] OJ No L 288, 1. 11. 1984, p. 52.
[6] OJ No L 151, 26. 6. 1996, p. 1.
[7] OJ No L 206, 16. 8. 1996, p. 14.