COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 631/97

of 10 April 1997

on the issuing of export licences for wine-sector products

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1685/95 of 11 July 1995 on arrangements for issuing export licences for wine-sector products and amending Regulation (EEC) No 3388/81 laying down special detailed rules in respect of import and export licences in the wine sector [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 561/97 [2], and in particular Article 3 (3) thereof,

Whereas Article 55 (7) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 822/87 of 16 March 1987 on the common organization of the market in wine [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 536/97 [4], limits the grant of export refunds for wine-sector products to the volumes and expenditure agreed in the Agreement on Agriculture, concluded during the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations;

Whereas Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1685/95 lays down the conditions under which special measures may be adopted by the Commission to prevent the annual commitment level provided for under the Agreement being exceeded;

Whereas, on the basis of information available to the Commission on 9 April 1997, the level of expenditure provided for in the Agreement could be exceeded unless the issue of export licences with advance fixing of the refund is restricted; whereas the submission of applications should be suspended from 11 April 1997,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Applications for export licences for wine-sector products with advance fixing of the refund submitted from 9 April 1997 shall be refused and the submission of applications for such licences is hereby suspended from 11 April 1997.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 11 April 1997.

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

Done at Brussels, 10 April 1997.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

---

[1] OJ No L 161, 12. 7. 1995, p. 2.
[2] OJ No L 85, 27. 3. 1997, p. 34.
[3] OJ No L 84, 27. 3. 1987, p. 1.
[4] OJ No L 83, 25. 3. 1997, p. 5.