COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 2072/98

of 28 September 1998

amending Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 on the common organisation of the market in rice with regard to the scheme for compensatory payment

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission [1],

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament [2],

Whereas, in the context of providing support for producers of rice, Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 [3] lays down a national base area for each producer Member State with the exception of France, for which two base areas are laid down; whereas the Hellenic Republic has requested that for that country also there should be two base areas, although without differential compensatory payments, so that, without prejudice to the objectives of the scheme, areas may still be devoted to rice-growing in regions where there is no genuine possibility of alternative crops and that request should be accepted;

Whereas Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 should be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In Article 6 of Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 paragraphs 3 and 4 shall be replaced by the following:

'3. The amounts of the compensatory payment shall be as follows:

ECU/ha	1997/98	1998/99	1999/2000 and after
Spain	111,44	222,89	334,33
France			
— metropolitan territory	96,35	192,70	289,05
— French Guiana	131,80	263,60	395,40
Greece			
— departments of Thessaloniki, Serres and Fthiotida	131,27	262,55	393,82
— other departments	131,27	262,55	393,82
Italy	106,00	212,00	318,01
Portugal	106,18	212,36	318,53

[1] OJ C 159, 26. 5. 1998, p. 17.
[2] OJ C 292, 21. 9. 1998.
[3] OJ L 329, 30. 12. 1995, p. 18. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 192/98 (OJ L 20, 27. 1. 1998, p. 16).

In order to pursue a better orientation of production, the amounts of the compensatory payment may be varied by applying price increases or reductions depending on the variety.

The compensatory payments shall be made between 16 October and 31 December following the start of the marketing year in question.

4. A national base area for each producer Member State is hereby established. However, for France and Greece two base areas are established. The base areas shall be as follows:

Spain	104 973 ha
France	
— metropolitan territory	24 500 ha
— French Guiana	5 500 ha
Greece	
— departments of Thessaloniki, Serres and Fthiotida	22 330 ha
— other departments	2 561 ha
Italy	239 259 ha
Portugal	34 000 ha'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

It shall apply from 1 September 1998.

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

Done at Brussels, 28 September 1998.

For the Council
The President
W. MOLTERER