COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 597/98

of 16 March 1998

amending Regulation (EC) No 94/98 on olive oil storage contracts for the 1997/98 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 organisation of the market in oils and fats [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1581/96 [2], and in particular Article 20d(3) and (4) thereof,

Whereas Commission Regulation (EC) No 94/98 [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 504/98 [4], opened the possibility of conclusion of olive oil storage contracts with producer groups and associations recognised pursuant to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1360/78 [5], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 3669/93 [6], that hold Community olive oil produced by their own members and have appropriate storage facilities; whereas to increase the amount of oil that can be stored the restriction to oil produced by group members should be dropped;

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

In Article 2(1) of Regulation (EC) No 94/98, 'produced by their own members' is deleted and a subparagraph is added reading 'Contracts shall cover oil marketed by the group or association referred to above.'

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the seventh 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, 16 March 1998.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ 172, 30. 9. 1966, p. 3025/66.
[2] OJ L 206, 16. 8. 1996, p. 11.
[3] OJ L 9, 15. 1. 1998, p. 25.
[4] OJ L 63, 4. 3. 1998, p. 15.
[5] OJ L 166, 23. 6. 1978, p. 1.
[6] OJ L 338, 31. 12. 1993, p. 26.