COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 694/98

of 27 March 1998

fixing the amounts to be paid to recognised olive oil producer organizations and associations thereof 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(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 organisations 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 2455/97 [6], provides that the unit amounts to be paid to producer organisations 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 1997/98 marketing year by Council Regulation (EC) No 1414/97 [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 organisations 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 1998 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 1997/98 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 7 and ECU 2 respectively,
— for Portugal: ECU 0 and ECU 4,5 respectively,
— for Greece: ECU 2,6 and ECU 2,6 respectively,
— for France: ECU 1,5 and ECU 1,5 respectively,
— for Italy: ECU 2,4 and ECU 2,4 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 1998.

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, 27 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 387, 31. 12. 1992, p. 1.
[4] OJ L 22, 31. 1. 1995, p. 1.
[5] OJ L 288, 1. 11. 1984, p. 52.
[6] OJ L 340, 11. 12. 1997, p. 26.
[7] OJ L 196, 24. 7. 1997, p. 4.