COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 777/1999

of 15 April 1999

amending Regulation (EC) No 2486/98 introducing preventive distillation as provided for in Article 38 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 822/87 for the 1998/99 wine year

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 822/87 of 16 March 1987 on the common organisation of the market in wine ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1627/98 ([2]), and in particular Article 38(5) thereof,

Whereas Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2721/88 ([3]), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2181/91 ([4]), lays down detailed rules for voluntary distillation as provided for in Articles 38, 41 and 42 of Regulation (EEC) No 822/87; whereas Commission Regulation (EC) No 1648/98 ([5]) fixes the prices, the aid and certain other factors applicable to preventive distillation for the 1998/99 wine year;

Whereas Article 1(6) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 2486/98 ([6]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 573/1999 ([7]), sets 12 March 1999 as the date for the approval of contracts and declarations by the competent authorities; whereas that date should be put back on account of the administrative difficulties arising from the large number of contracts;

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

In the first subparagraph of Article 1(6) of Regulation (EC) No 2486/98, '12 March 1999' is replaced by '22 March 1999'.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 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, 15 April 1999.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

([1]) OJ L 84, 27.3.1987, p. 1.
([2]) OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 8.
([3]) OJ L 241, 1.9.1988, p. 88.
([4]) OJ L 202, 24.7.1991, p. 16.
([5]) OJ L 210, 28.7.1998, p. 63.
([6]) OJ L 309, 19.11.1998, p. 18.
([7]) OJ L 70, 17.3.1999, p. 18.