COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2407/2001

of 10 December 2001

fixing the ceilings on financing for measures to improve the quality of olive-oil and table olive production in the 2002/03 production cycle and derogating from Article 3(3) of Regulation (EC) No 528/1999

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 1513/2001 [2],

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 528/1999 of 10 March 1999 laying down measures to improve the quality of olive oil production [3], as amended by Regulation (EC) No 593/2001 [4], and in particular Article 3(2) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 3(2) of Regulation (EC) No 528/1999 provides that ceilings be fixed, for each Member State and each 12-month production cycle beginning on 1 May, on financing for measures to improve the quality of olive-oil production and its environmental impact which are eligible for reimbursement by the EAGGF Guarantee Section.

(2) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1980/2001 of 10 October 2001 fixing the estimated production of olive oil and the unit amount of the production aid that may be paid in advance for the 2000/01 marketing year [5] estimates production, including production of table olives expressed as olive-oil equivalent, at 2 137 338 tonnes. This corresponds to 1 095 653 tonnes for Spain, 475 423 tonnes for Greece, 542 538 tonnes for Italy, 21 505 tonnes for Portugal and 2 219 tonnes for France. The amount withheld from production aid for this olive-oil marketing year serves as a basis for financing measures to improve the quality of oil during the production cycle commencing on 1 May 2002.

(3) The measures have relatively fixed minimum costs which may mean that the ceilings on total financing by some Member States are too low. Appropriate limits should consequently be established for those cases.

(4) 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 production cycle from 1 May 2002 to 30 April 2003, the ceilings on financing for the measures laid down in the first subparagraph of Article 3(2) of Regulation (EC) No 528/1999 shall be:

Spain:	EUR 14 123 138
Greece:	EUR 7 754 538
France:	EUR 39 761
Italy:	EUR 10 079 842
Portugal:	EUR 405 449

Article 2

Notwithstanding Article 3(3) of Regulation (EC) No 528/1999, the additional national financial contribution from Member States whose ceiling on financing laid down in Article 1 is EUR 100 000 or less shall be no more than EUR 250 000.

Article 3

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

[1] OJ 172, 30.9.1966, p. 3025/66.
[2] OJ L 201, 26.7.2001, p. 4.
[3] OJ L 62, 11.3.1999, p. 8.
[4] OJ L 88, 28.3.2001, p. 6.
[5] OJ L 270, 11.10.2001, p. 15.

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

Done at Brussels, 10 December 2001.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission