COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 492/2001

of 12 March 2001

opening an invitation to tender for the resale on the internal market of approximately 2 752 tonnes of rice held by the Italian intervention agency

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3072/95 of 22 December 1995 on the common organisation of the market in rice [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1667/2000 [2], and in particular the final indent of Article 8(b) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Approximately 2 752 tonnes of paddy rice held by the Italian intervention agency should be placed on sale on the Community market. The sale should be carried out in accordance with Commission Regulation (EEC) No 75/91 of 11 January 1991 laying down the procedures and conditions for the disposal of paddy rice held by intervention agencies [3].

(2) As a result of the product's deterioration due to natural disasters, a minimum selling price should be determined for each lot put up for sale, taking account of its specific characteristics, in accordance with Article 2(3)(b) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 3597/90 of 12 December 1990 on the accounting rules for intervention measures involving the buying-in, storage and sale of agricultural products by intervention agencies [4], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1392/97 [5]. However, in view of the deterioration in lot No 5, no minimum price should be fixed for that lot and it should be awarded to the highest bidder.

(3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Cereals,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The Italian intervention agency shall open, on the conditions laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 75/91, an invitation to tender for the resale on the internal market of approximately 2 752 tonnes of paddy rice held by that agency.

Article 2

Notwithstanding Article 3(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 75/91, tenders must relate to an entire lot.

Article 3

1. The closing date for the initial submission of tenders shall be 21 March 2001; for the final submission of tenders it shall be 4 April 2001.

2. Tenders must be submitted to the Italian intervention agency:

Ente nazionale risi
Piazza Pio XI 1
I-20123 Milano

Tel. (02) 885 51 11
Fax. (02) 86 13 72.

3. The products are stored in the following warehouses:

Corso Dante, 24 — Balzola (AL)

Via Roma, 128 — Casalvolone (NO)

Via Roma — Formigliana (VC).

[1] OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.
[2] OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 3.
[3] OJ L 9, 12.1.1991, p. 15.
[4] OJ L 350, 14.12.1990, p. 43.
[5] OJ L 190, 19.7.1997, p. 22.

Article 4

The following minimum selling prices shall be respected:

— **Lot No 1**: Price EUR 176/t 461,08 tonnes
  — Store Formigliana: Nos A11, D12
  — Store Balzola: Nos 75, 85,
— **Lot No 2**: Price EUR 232/t 676,07 tonnes
  — Store Casalvolone: No 9
  — Store Balzola: Nos 44, 74, 86, 64,
— **Lot No 3**: Price EUR 254/t 345,94 tonnes
  — Store Casalvolone: Nos 7, 14
  — Store Balzola: No 52,
— **Lot No 4**: Price EUR 267/t 627,92 tonnes
  — Store Formigliana: No C12
  — Store Balzola: Nos 45, 65, 76, 84, 77,
— **Lot No 5**: to the highest bidder 641,46 tonnes
  — Store Formigliana: No E12
  — Store Balzola: Nos 46, 63, 73, 81, 82.

Article 5

By Tuesday of the week following the closing date for the submission of tenders, the Italian intervention agency shall notify the Commission of the quantities and prices of the lots sold.

Article 6

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of 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, 12 March 2001.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission