COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 723/2003

of 24 April 2003

fixing the maximum export refund on common wheat in connection with the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 899/2002

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 of 30 June 1992 on the common organisation of the market in cereals ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1666/2000 ([2]),

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the granting of export refunds on cereals and the measures to be taken in the event of disturbance on the market for cereals ([3]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1163/2002 ([4]), as amended by Regulation (EC) No 1324/2002 ([5]), and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) An invitation to tender for the refund on exportation of common wheat to all third countries with the exclusion of Poland, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia was opened pursuant to Commission Regulation (EC) No 899/2002 ([6]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2331/2002 ([7]).

(2) Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 provides that the Commission may, on the basis of the tenders notified, in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92, decide to fix a maximum export refund taking account of the criteria referred to in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 1501/95. In that case a contract is awarded to any tenderer whose bid is equal to or lower than the maximum refund.

(3) The application of the abovementioned criteria to the current market situation for the cereal in question results in the maximum export refund being fixed at the amount specified in Article 1.

(4) 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

For tenders notified from 18 to 24 April 2003, pursuant to the invitation to tender issued in Regulation (EC) No 899/2002, the maximum refund on exportation of common wheat shall be EUR 16,00/t.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 25 April 2003.

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

Done at Brussels, 24 April 2003.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

([1]) OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.
([2]) OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 1.
([3]) OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 7.
([4]) OJ L 170, 29.6.2002, p. 46.
([5]) OJ L 194, 23.7.2002, p. 26.
([6]) OJ L 142, 31.5.2002, p. 11.
([7]) OJ L 349, 24.12.2002, p. 19.