COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 784/2003

of 8 May 2003

on the opening of a standing invitation to tender for the resale on the internal market of some 7 705 tonnes of rice from the 1998 harvest held by the Spanish 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 Commission Regulation (EC) No 411/2002 [2], and in particular the last indent of Article 8(b) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 75/91 of 11 January 1991 laying down the procedures and conditions for the disposal of paddy rice held by intervention agencies [3] lays down requirements relating to those procedures and conditions.

(2) For a very long time now the Spanish intervention agency has been storing a significant quantity of round-, medium- and long-grain A paddy rice from the 1998 harvest. A standing invitation to tender should be opened for the resale on the internal market of approximately 7 705 tonnes of round-, medium- or long-grain A paddy rice from the 1998 harvest held by the Spanish intervention agency.

(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 Spanish intervention agency shall open, on the terms laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 75/91, a standing invitation to tender for the resale on the internal market of some 7 705 tonnes of round-, medium- or long-grain A paddy rice from the 1998 harvest which it holds.

Article 2

1. The closing date for submitting tenders under the first partial invitation to tender shall be 21 May 2003.

2. The closing date for submitting tenders under the last partial invitation to tender shall be 16 July 2003.

3. The tenders must be lodged with the Spanish intervention agency:

Fondo Español de Garantía Agraria (FEGA)
Beneficencia 8
E-28004 Madrid
telex 23427 FEGA E
Fax: (34) 91 521 98 32, (34) 91 522 43 87.

Article 3

No later than the Tuesday of the week following the closing date for submitting tenders, the Spanish intervention agency shall inform the Commission of the quantities and average prices of the various lots sold.

Article 4

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

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

Done at Brussels, 8 May 2003.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 329, 30.12.1995, p. 18.
[2] OJ L 62, 5.3.2002, p. 27.
[3] OJ L 9, 12.1.1991, p. 15.