COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2015/1548

of 17 September 2015

amending Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014 and (EU) No 948/2014 as regards the last day for submission of applications for private storage aid for butter and skimmed milk powder

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007 ([1]), and in particular Article 18(2), Article 20(c), (f), (l), (m) and (n) and Article 223(3)(c) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 1370/2013 of 16 December 2013 determining measures on fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products ([2]), and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008 ([3]), and in particular Article 62(2)(b) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014 ([4]) and (EU) No 948/2014 ([5]) opened private storage for butter and skimmed milk powder, respectively, in view of the particular difficult market situation, notably resulting from the ban introduced by Russia on imports of dairy products from the Union.

(2) Those private storage schemes have been extended by Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) No 1337/2014 ([6]) and (EU) 2015/303 ([7]). As a result, applications for aid can be lodged until 30 September 2015.

(3) On 25 June 2015, Russia prolonged the ban on the import of agricultural products and foodstuffs originating in the Union for another year, up to 6 August 2016.

(4) In addition, the global demand for milk and milk products has generally deteriorated throughout 2014 and in the first months of 2015.

(5) As a consequence, prices of butter and skimmed milk powder in the Union have further deteriorated and downward pressure is likely to carry on.

(6) In view of the current market situation it is appropriate to secure the undisrupted availability of the private storage aid schemes for butter and skimmed milk powder and to extend them until the start of the 2016 intervention period on 1 March 2016.

(7) In order to avoid any interruption of the possibility for lodging applications under the schemes, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication.

([1]) OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 671.
([2]) OJ L 346, 20.12.2013, p. 12.
([3]) OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 549.
([4]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 947/2014 of 4 September 2014 opening private storage for butter and fixing in advance the amount of aid (OJ L 265, 5.9.2014, p. 15).
([5]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 948/2014 of 4 September 2014 opening private storage for skimmed milk powder and fixing in advance the amount of aid (OJ L 265, 5.9.2014, p. 18).
([6]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1337/2014 of 16 December 2014 amending Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014 and (EU) No 948/2014 as regards the last day for submission of applications for private storage aid for butter and skimmed milk powder (OJ L 360, 17.12.2014, p. 15).
([7]) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/303 of 25 February 2015 amending Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014 and (EU) No 948/2014 as regards the last day for submission of applications for private storage aid for butter and skimmed milk powder (OJ L 55, 26.2.2015, p. 4).

(8) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Common Organisation of the Agricultural Markets,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Amendment to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 947/2014

In Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 947/2014, '30 September 2015' is replaced by '29 February 2016'.

Article 2

Amendment to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 948/2014

In Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 948/2014, '30 September 2015' is replaced by '29 February 2016'.

Article 3

Entry into force

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following that of 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, 17 September 2015.

For the Commission
The President
Jean-Claude JUNCKER