

II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 4 August 1973

adopting safeguard measures applicable to durum wheat exported outside the Community

(73/236/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 120/67/EEC⁽¹⁾ on the common organization of the market in cereals, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1346/73⁽²⁾, and in particular Article 20 (2) thereof;

Whereas the French Government requested the Commission on 3 August 1973 to introduce safeguard measures in respect of durum wheat exported outside the Community;

Whereas prices ruling on the world market for durum wheat have been climbing steadily in recent months and are now more than 20 % above the level of the target price for this product;

Whereas the Community has a considerable deficit for durum wheat; whereas it is, therefore, dependent on imports from third countries; whereas one of the Community's main third-country suppliers has already introduced a ban on exports;

Whereas, because of the deficit, exports of durum wheat from the Community are traditionally

extremely rare; whereas applications for export-licences covering significant quantities of this product have, nevertheless, been lodged in France over the past few days; whereas this indicates that prices ruling on the world market are encouraging Community traders, despite the fact that no refund is payable, to dispose of their stocks of durum wheat;

Whereas, if this trend continues, there is a danger that the Community market might be seriously disturbed both as regards supplies and as regards prices which might tend to move upwards as a result of exports;

Whereas it follows from all the factors indicated above that exports might jeopardize the objectives of Article 39 (1) of the Treaty and in particular those set out in subparagraphs (c) (d) and (e) of that paragraph; whereas in particular there is a risk that continued exports might endanger Community supplies in the months ahead and, as an indirect consequence, make it impossible to guarantee supplies of processed products to consumers at a reasonable price;

Whereas it is, therefore, necessary to adopt with immediate effect special measures which would make it possible to protect the Community interest; whereas these measures should be adopted within the framework of Council Regulation (EEC) 2591/69⁽³⁾ of 18 December 1969 defining the conditions for

⁽¹⁾ OJ No 117, 19. 6. 1967, p. 2269/67.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 141, 28. 5. 1973, p. 8.

⁽³⁾ OJ No L 324, 27. 12. 1969, p. 1.

applying safeguard measures in the cereals sector ;
whereas market conditions at the present time are
such that only a complete ban on the issue of export
licences can improve the situation ;

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

No further export licences for the product listed in
Article 1 (b) of Regulation No 120/67/EEC, falling
within subheading 10.01 B of Common Customs
Tariff, shall be issued. This provision shall apply to

applications for licences applied for, within the
meaning of Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No
1373/70 ⁽¹⁾, as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No
1796/73 ⁽²⁾, after 4 August 1973.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 4 August 1973.

For the Commission

P. J. LARDINOIS

Member of the Commission

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 158, 20. 7. 1970, p. 1.

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 183, 5. 7. 1973, p. 1.