

## II

*(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)*

## COUNCIL

**COUNCIL DECISION**  
**of 17 December 1973**  
**extending the system of minimum prices**  
 (73/445/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 44 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal of the Commission;  
 Having regard to the Opinion of the European Parliament;

Whereas in its Decision of 4 April 1962<sup>(1)</sup> on minimum prices the Council laid down objective criteria for the establishment of a system of minimum prices and for the fixing of those prices;

Whereas the Council, in its Decision of 20 December 1962<sup>(2)</sup> extended, for the Member States concerned, the system of minimum prices effective on 31 December 1969; whereas it did however authorize the levying of countervailing charges to replace the minimum prices on imports into Germany of edible vinegars and edible substitutes therefor, and on imports into France of seed potatoes and certain products in the fisheries sector;

Whereas the Decision of 20 December 1969, which was applicable until 31 December 1970 at the latest, was extended by the Decision of 15 December 1970<sup>(3)</sup> and the Decision of 20 December 1971<sup>(4)</sup> and the Decision of 19 December 1972<sup>(5)</sup> successively; whereas, when these extensions were made in December 1970 and December 1971, the Council took into account the fact that for wine vinegar and the fisheries products referred to in the Decision of 20 December 1969, the authorization for the Member States concerned to levy countervailing charges to replace the minimum prices expired on 1 June 1970 and 1 February 1971 respectively, these being the dates of implementation of Council Regulation (EEC)

No 816/70<sup>(6)</sup> of 28 April 1970, laying down additional provisions for the common organization of the market in wine and of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2142/70<sup>(7)</sup> of 20 October 1970, on the common organization of the market in fishery products;

Whereas in respect of the products to which that Decision continues to apply, namely potatoes, including seed potatoes, and edible vinegars and edible substitutes therefor, other than wine measures for the common organization of markets will still not be applicable on 31 December 1973; whereas the validity of the Decision of 20 December 1969 should be extended for the period necessary to implement the said measures and until 31 December 1974 at the latest,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

In Article 3 of the Council Decision of 20 December 1969 on the system of minimum prices, as last amended by the Decision of 19 December 1972, the date 31 December 1973 is replaced by 31 December 1974.

*Article 2*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 17 December 1973.

*For the Council*

*The President*

I. NØRGAARD

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No 30, 20. 4. 1962, p. 995/62.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No L 328, 30. 12. 1969, p. 11.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ No L 281, 27. 12. 1970, p. 25.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ No L 2, 4. 1. 1972, p. 23.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ No L 291, 28. 12. 1972, p. 152.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ No L 99, 5. 5. 1970, p. 1.

<sup>(7)</sup> OJ No L 236, 27. 10. 1970, p. 5.