

**FOURTH COUNCIL DECISION**  
**of 24 June 1975**  
**on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries**  
**(75/408/EEC)**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Directive No 66/402/EEC <sup>(1)</sup> of 14 June 1966 on the marketing of cereal seed, as last amended by Directive No 73/438/EEC <sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 16 (1) (b) thereof;

Having regard to Council Directive No 69/208/EEC <sup>(3)</sup> of 30 June 1969, on the marketing of seed of oil and fibre plants, as last amended by Directive No 73/438/EEC, and in particular Article 15 (1) (b) thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas there are rules on seed control in Australia and in Hungary;

Whereas an examination of these rules and the manner in which they are applied has revealed that the conditions governing seed harvested and controlled in these countries afford the same assurances as regards the seed's characteristics, identity, examination, marking and control as do the conditions applicable to seed harvested and controlled within the Community;

Whereas this Decision does not preclude Community findings being revoked or extension of the period of their validity being refused when the conditions on which they are based are not or cease to be satisfied; whereas to this end further practical information on seed produced in the abovementioned countries should be obtained by growing and checking samples of such seed in comparative Community tests;

Whereas it has become necessary to amend certain Council Decisions declaring equivalences owing to

a transfer of powers within the national authorities responsible for official seed control,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

It is hereby declared that, where the special conditions laid down in the Annex are satisfied, seed harvested in the countries and officially controlled by the authorities listed in the said Annex and belonging to the species and categories specified therein is equivalent to seed of the corresponding categories harvested within the Community and complying with Directive No 66/402/EEC or No 69/208/EEC.

*Article 2*

In the Annex to First Council Decision No 72/293/EEC <sup>(4)</sup> of 20 July 1972 on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries, under reference No 21, the words 'Department of Primary Industries', which appear in column 3, shall be replaced by the words 'Department of Agriculture'.

*Article 3*

In the Annex to Third Council Decision No 74/349/EEC <sup>(5)</sup> of 27 June 1974 on the equivalence of seed produced in third countries, under reference No 1, the words 'Department of Primary Industries' shall be replaced by the words 'Department of Agriculture'.

*Article 4*

This Decision shall apply until 30 June 1976.

*Article 5*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Luxembourg, 24 June 1975.

*For the Council*

*The President*

M. A. CLINTON

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No 125, 11. 7. 1966, p. 2309/66.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No L 356, 27. 12. 1973, p. 79.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ No L 169, 10. 7. 1969, p. 3.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ No L 186, 16. 8. 1972, p. 30.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ No L 191, 15. 7. 1974, p. 17.

## ANNEX

Ref. No	Country	Authority	Species	Categories		Special conditions
				in the country	in the Community	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Australia	Department of Agriculture, Canberra	Swede rape	— Basic seed	— Basic seed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
				— Certified seed	— Certified seed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
2	Hungary	Országos Vetőmagfelügye- léség (Hungarian Seed Control Office), Budapest	Black mustard	— Basic seed	— Basic seed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
				— Certified seed	— Certified seed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
			Rye	— Basic seed	— Basic seed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
				— Certified seed	— Certified seed	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

## Special conditions

- Seed shall be officially certified and its packages officially sealed and marked in accordance with the scheme for the varietal certification of seed moving in international trade of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). The quality of the seed shall meet the requirements of Community rules.
- Field inspection shall be carried out by State authorities or by any legal person, whether governed by public or by private law, acting under the responsibility of such authorities, provided that such person derives no private gain from the result of the inspection.
- The official label shall give the following additional information:
  - date of official sealing;
  - a statement that the seed complies with EEC rules and standards.

This information may also appear on another official label which, in addition, shall give the name of the authority and of the country.

- Any chemical treatment of the seed shall be noted either on the official label or on a special label and on the package or inside it.
- An official notice placed inside the package shall give at least the reference number of the lot, the species and the variety.

This notice is not necessary if the minimum information is printed indelibly on the package.

- All information required for official labels, official notices and packages shall be given in at least one of the official languages of the European Communities.