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## Legislation

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## I

(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 600/2000  
of 20 March 2000  
establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and  
vegetables**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 of 21 December 1994 on detailed rules for the application of the import arrangements for fruit and vegetables <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1498/98 <sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 4(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 lays down, pursuant to the outcome of the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the criteria whereby the Commission fixes the standard values for imports from third countries, in respect of the products and periods stipulated in the Annex thereto.

- (2) In compliance with the above criteria, the standard import values must be fixed at the levels set out in the Annex to this Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

The standard import values referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 3223/94 shall be fixed as indicated in the Annex hereto.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on 21 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2000.

*For the Commission*

Franz FISCHLER

*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 337, 24.12.1994, p. 66.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 198, 15.7.1998, p. 4.

## ANNEX

**to the Commission Regulation of 20 March 2000 establishing the standard import values for determining the entry price of certain fruit and vegetables**

(EUR/100 kg)

CN code	Third country code <sup>(1)</sup>	Standard import value
0702 00 00	052	154,0
	204	107,0
	624	165,4
	999	142,1
0707 00 05	052	114,9
	068	128,9
	628	146,6
	999	130,1
0709 10 00	220	309,8
	999	309,8
0709 90 70	052	96,9
	204	41,3
	999	69,1
0805 10 10, 0805 10 30, 0805 10 50	052	75,4
	204	35,2
	212	43,2
	220	31,0
	600	41,1
	624	53,7
	999	46,6
0805 30 10	052	33,7
	220	71,3
	600	74,1
	999	59,7
0808 10 20, 0808 10 50, 0808 10 90	039	90,1
	388	98,4
	400	89,0
	404	85,5
	508	84,5
	512	87,2
	528	93,6
	720	99,0
	728	97,0
	999	91,6
	052	77,4
0808 20 50	388	70,4
	400	106,6
	512	68,6
	528	72,5
	999	79,1

<sup>(1)</sup> Country nomenclature as fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2543/1999 (OJ L 307, 2.12.1999, p. 46). Code '999' stands for 'of other origin'.

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 601/2000**  
**of 20 March 2000**  
**on the supply of milk products as food aid**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1292/96 of 27 June 1996 on food-aid policy and food-aid management and special operations in support of food security <sup>(1)</sup>, and in particular Article 24(1)(b) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The abovementioned Regulation lays down the list of countries and organisations eligible for Community aid and specifies the general criteria on the transport of food aid beyond the fob stage.
- (2) Following the taking of a number of Decisions on the allocation of food aid, the Commission has allocated milk powder to certain beneficiaries.
- (3) It is necessary to make these supplies in accordance with the rules laid down by Commission Regulation (EC) No 2519/97 of 16 December 1997 laying down general rules for the mobilisation of products to be supplied

pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) No 1292/96 as Community food aid <sup>(2)</sup>. It is necessary to specify the time limits and conditions of supply to determine the resultant costs,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

Milk products shall be mobilised in the Community, as Community food aid for supply to the recipient listed in the Annex, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2519/97 and under the conditions set out in the Annex.

The tenderer is deemed to have noted and accepted all the general and specific conditions applicable. Any other condition or reservation included in his tender is deemed unwritten.

*Article 2*

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

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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2000.

*For the Commission*

Franz FISCHLER

*Member of the Commission*

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 166, 5.7.1996, p. 1.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 346, 17.12.1997, p. 23.

## ANNEX

## LOTS A, B, C, D and E

1. **Action No:** 78/99 (A); 79/99 (B); 80/99 (C); 81/98 (D); 82/99 (E)
2. **Beneficiary** <sup>(2)</sup>: UNRWA, Supply division, Amman Office, PO Box 140157, Amman, Jordan; telex 21170 UNRWA JO; tel. (962-6) 586 41 26; fax 586 41 27
3. **Beneficiary's representative:** UNRWA Field Supply and Transport Officer  
 A+E: PO Box 19149, Jerusalem, Israel tel. (972-2) 589 05 55; telex 26194 UNRWA IL; fax 581 65 64  
 B: PO Box 947, Beirut, Libanon tel. (961-1) 840 461-7; fax 60 36 83  
 C: PO Box 4313, Damascus, Syria tel. (963-11) 613 30 35; telex 412006 UNRWA SY; fax 613 30 47  
 D: PO Box 484, Amman, Jordan tel. (962-6) 474 19 14/477 22 26; telex 23402 UNRWA/JO; fax 474 63 61
4. **Country of destination:** A, E: Israel (A: Gaza; E: West Bank); B: Lebanon; C: Syria; D: Jordan
5. **Product to be mobilised:** whole milk powder
6. **Total quantity (tonnes net):** 625
7. **Number of lots:** 5 (A: 204 tonnes; B: 120 tonnes; C: 84 tonnes; D: 121 tonnes; E: 96 tonnes)
8. **Characteristics and quality of the product** <sup>(3)</sup> <sup>(5)</sup> <sup>(8)</sup>: see OJ C 114, 29.4.1991, p. 1 (I.C(1))
9. **Packaging** <sup>(7)</sup>: see OJ C 267, 13.9.1996, p. 1 (6.1, A, B and C(2))
10. **Labelling or marking** <sup>(6)</sup>: see OJ C 114, 29.4.1991, p. 1 (I.C(3))  
 — language to be used for the markings: English  
 — supplementary markings: 'NOT FOR SALE'  
 lot D: 'Expiry date...' (date of manufacture plus 12 months)
11. **Method of mobilisation of the product:** the Community market  
 The whole milk powder must be manufactured after the award of the supply contract
12. **Specified delivery stage** <sup>(9)</sup>: A, C, E: free at port of landing — container terminal  
 B, D: free at destination
13. **Alternative delivery stage:** free at port of shipment
14. a) **Port of shipment:** —  
 b) **Loading address:** —
15. **Port of landing:** A, E: Ashdod; C: Lattakia
16. **Place of destination:** UNRWA warehouse in: Beirut (B); Amman (D)  
 — port or warehouse of transit: —  
 — overland transport route: —
17. **Period or deadline of supply at the specified stage:**  
 — first deadline: A, B, C, E: 4.6.2000; D: 11.6.2000  
 — second deadline: A, B, C, E: 18.6.2000; D: 25.6.2000
18. **Period or deadline of supply at the alternative stage:**  
 — first deadline: 8-21.5.2000  
 — second deadline: 22.5-4.6.2000
19. **Deadline for the submission of tenders (at 12 noon, Brussels time):**  
 — first deadline: 4.4.2000  
 — second deadline: 18.4.2000
20. **Amount of tendering guarantee:** EUR 20 per tonne
21. **Address for submission of tenders and tendering guarantees** <sup>(1)</sup>: Bureau de l'aide alimentaire, Attn. Mr T. Vestergaard, Bâtiment Loi 130, Bureau 7/46, Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 200, B-1049 Bruxelles/Brussel; telex 25670 AGREC B; fax (32-2) 296 70 03/296 70 04 (exclusively)
22. **Export refund** <sup>(4)</sup>: refund applicable on 17.3.2000, fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 413/2000 (OJ L 52, 25.2.2000, p. 4)

## Notes:

- (<sup>1</sup>) Supplementary information: André Debongnie (tel. (32-2) 295 14 65), Torben Vestergaard (tel. (32-2) 299 30 50).
- (<sup>2</sup>) The supplier shall contact the beneficiary or its representative as soon as possible to establish which consignment documents are required.
- (<sup>3</sup>) The supplier shall deliver to the beneficiary a certificate from an official entity certifying that for the product to be delivered the standards applicable, relative to nuclear radiation, in the Member State concerned, have not been exceeded. The radioactivity certificate must indicate the caesium-134 and -137 and iodine-131 levels.
- (<sup>4</sup>) Commission Regulation (EC) No 259/98 (OJ L 25, 31.1.1998, p. 39), is applicable as regards the export refund. The date referred to in Article 2 of the said Regulation is that referred to in point 22 of this Annex.
- The supplier's attention is drawn to the last subparagraph of Article 4(1) of the above Regulation. The photocopy of the export licence shall be sent as soon as the export declaration has been accepted to fax No (32-2) 296 20 05).
- (<sup>5</sup>) The supplier shall supply to the beneficiary or its representative, on delivery, the following documents:
- health certificate issued by an official entity stating that the product was processed under excellent sanitary conditions which are supervised by qualified technical personnel. The certificate must state the temperature and duration of the pasteurisation, the temperature and duration in the spray-drying-tower and the expiry date for consumption,
  - veterinary certificate issued by an official entity stating that the area of production of raw milk had not registered foot-and-mouth disease nor any other notifiable infectious/contagious disease during the 12 months prior to the processing, that the standards applicable, relative to PCBs, have not been exceeded and that the product does not contain any mydiakene.
- (<sup>6</sup>) Notwithstanding OJ C 114, 29.4.1991 point I: A (3)(c) is replaced by the following, 'the words "European Community"'.
- (<sup>7</sup>) Shipment to take place in 20-foot containers: Lots A, C and D. The contracted shipping terms shall be considered full liner terms free port of landing container yard and is understood to cover 15 days — Saturdays, and official public and religious holidays excluded — free of container detention charges at the port of discharge taken from the day/time of the arrival of the vessel. The 15 day period should be clearly marked on the bill of lading. *Bona fide* detention charges levied in respect of container detention(s) in excess of the said 15 days as detailed above will be born by UNRWA. UNRWA shall not pay/not be charged any container deposit fees.
- After take-over of the goods at the delivery stage, the recipient will bear all costs of shifting the containers for destuffing outside the port area and of returning them to the container yard.
- Ashdod: The health certificate and the certificate of origin must be signed and stamped by a Syrian Consulate, including the statement that consular fees and charges have been paid.
- (<sup>8</sup>) Lot C: The health certificate and the certificate of origin must be signed and stamped by a Syrian Consulate, including the statement that consular fees and charges have been paid.
- (<sup>9</sup>) In addition to the provisions of Article 14(3) of Regulation (EC) No 2519/97, vessels chartered shall not appear on any of the four most recent quarterly lists of detained vessels as published by the Paris Memorandum of Understanding on Port State Control (Council Directive 95/21/EC, (OJ L 157, 7.7.1995, p. 1)).
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**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 602/2000  
of 20 March 2000**

**determining the world market price for unginned cotton and the rate for the aid**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to the Act of Accession of Greece, and in particular paragraphs 3 and 10 of Protocol 4 on cotton, as last amended by Council Regulation (EC) No 1553/95 <sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1554/95 of 29 June 1995 <sup>(2)</sup> laying down general rules for the system of aid for cotton and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 2169/81, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1419/98 <sup>(3)</sup>, and in particular Articles 3, 4 and 5 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1554/95 requires a world market price for unginned cotton to be periodically determined from the world market price determined for ginned cotton, using the historical relationship between the two prices as specified in Article 1(2) of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 1201/89 of 3 May 1989 laying down rules for implementing the system of aid for cotton <sup>(4)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1624/1999 <sup>(5)</sup>. If it cannot be determined in this way it is to be based on the last price determined.
- (2) Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1554/95 requires the world market price for ginned cotton to be determined for a product of specific characteristics using the most favourable offers and quotations on the world market of those considered representative of the real market trend. To this end an average is to be calculated of offers and quotations on one or more European exchanges for a cif product to a North European port from the supplier countries considered most representative as regards international trade. These rules for determination of the world market price for ginned cotton provide for adjust-

ments to reflect differences in product quality and the nature of offers and quotations; whereas these adjustments are specified in Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 1201/89.

- (3) Application of the above rules gives the world market price for unginned cotton indicated hereunder.
- (4) The second subparagraph of Article 5(3a) of Regulation (EC) No 1554/95 stipulates that the advance payment rate for the aid is to be the guide price less the world market price and less a further amount calculated by the formula applicable when the guaranteed maximum quantity based on the revised production estimate for unginned cotton plus at least 7,5 %. Commission Regulation (EC) No 2606/1999 <sup>(6)</sup> fixes the production estimate for the 1999/2000 marketing year, and the relevant percentage increase. The application of this method results in the fixing of the advance payment rate for each Member State at the levels set out below,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

1. The world market price for unginned cotton as indicated in Article 3 of Regulation (EC) No 1554/95 is set at 32,369 EUR/100 kg.
2. The advance payment of the aid referred to in Article 5(3a), second subparagraph, of Regulation (EC) No 1554/95 is fixed at:
  - 37,470 EUR/100 kg in Spain,
  - 33,537 EUR/100 kg in Greece,
  - 73,931 EUR/100 kg in other Member States.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on 21 March 2000.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 148, 30.6.1995, p. 45.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 148, 30.6.1995, p. 48.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 190, 4.7.1998, p. 4.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 123, 4.5.1989, p. 23.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ L 192, 24.7.1999, p. 39.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ L 316, 10.12.1999, p. 36.



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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2000.

*For the Commission*  
Franz FISCHLER  
*Member of the Commission*

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**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 603/2000**  
**of 20 March 2000**  
**amending the import duties in the cereals sector**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 of 30 June 1992 on the common organisation of the market in cereals <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1253/1999 <sup>(2)</sup>,

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 of 28 June 1996 laying down detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 as regards import duties in the cereals sector <sup>(3)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2519/98 <sup>(4)</sup>, and in particular Article 2 (1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The import duties in the cereals sector are fixed by Commission Regulation (EC) No 566/2000 <sup>(5)</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 578/2000 <sup>(6)</sup>.

- (2) Article 2, (1) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 provides that if during the period of application, the average import duty calculated differs by EUR 5 per tonne from the duty fixed, a corresponding adjustment is to be made. Such a difference has arisen. It is therefore necessary to adjust the import duties fixed in Regulation (EC) No 566/2000,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

Annexes I and II to Regulation (EC) No 566/2000 are hereby replaced by Annexes I and II to this Regulation.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on 21 March 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2000.

*For the Commission*

Franz FISCHLER

*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 160, 26.6.1999, p. 18.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 161, 29.6.1996, p. 125.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 315, 25.11.1998, p. 7.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ L 68, 16.3.2000, p. 59.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ L 69, 17.3.2000, p. 40.

## ANNEX I

**Import duties for the products covered by Article 10(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92**

CN code	Description	Import duty by land inland waterway or sea from Mediterranean, the Black Sea or Baltic Sea ports (EUR/tonne)	Import duty by air or by sea from other ports <sup>(2)</sup> (EUR/tonne)
1001 10 00	Durum wheat high quality	17,09	7,09
	medium quality <sup>(1)</sup>	27,09	17,09
1001 90 91	Common wheat seed	28,23	18,23
1001 90 99	Common high quality wheat other than for sowing <sup>(3)</sup>	28,23	18,23
	medium quality	65,27	55,27
	low quality	79,45	69,45
1002 00 00	Rye	70,07	60,07
1003 00 10	Barley, seed	70,07	60,07
1003 00 90	Barley, other <sup>(3)</sup>	70,07	60,07
1005 10 90	Maize seed other than hybrid	83,42	73,42
1005 90 00	Maize other than seed <sup>(3)</sup>	83,42	73,42
1007 00 90	Grain sorghum other than hybrids for sowing	70,07	60,07

<sup>(1)</sup> In the case of durum wheat not meeting the minimum quality requirements for durum wheat of medium quality, referred to in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 1249/96, the duty applicable is that fixed for low-quality common wheat.

<sup>(2)</sup> For goods arriving in the Community via the Atlantic Ocean or via the Suez Canal (Article 2(4) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96), the importer may benefit from a reduction in the duty of:

— EUR 3 per tonne, where the port of unloading is on the Mediterranean Sea, or

— EUR 2 per tonne, where the port of unloading is in Ireland, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Sweden, Finland or the Atlantic Coasts of the Iberian Peninsula.

<sup>(3)</sup> The importer may benefit from a flat-rate reduction of EUR 14 or 8 per tonne, where the conditions laid down in Article 2(5) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96 are met.

## ANNEX II

**Factors for calculating duties**

(period from 15 March 2000 to 17 March 2000)

## 1. Averages over the two-week period preceding the day of fixing:

Exchange quotations	Minneapolis	Kansas-City	Chicago	Chicago	Minneapolis	Minneapolis	Minneapolis
Product (% proteins at 12 % humidity)	HRS2. 14 %	HRW2. 11,5 %	SRW2	YC3	HAD2	Medium quality (*)	US barley 2
Quotation (EUR/t)	124,26	113,22	102,34	90,86	168,72 (**)	158,72 (**)	114,80 (**)
Gulf premium (EUR/t)	32,37	6,38	3,11	11,53	—	—	—
Great Lakes premium (EUR/t)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(\*) A discount of EUR 10/t (Article 4(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96).

(\*\*) Fob Gulf.

## 2. Freight/cost: Gulf of Mexico — Rotterdam: 17,60 EUR/t; Great Lakes — Rotterdam: 29,31 EUR/t.

3. Subsidy within the meaning of the third paragraph of Article 4(2) of Regulation (EC) No 1249/96: EUR 0,00/t (HRW2)  
EUR 0,00/t (SRW2).

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 604/2000  
of 20 March 2000**

**fixing Community producer and import prices for carnations and roses with a view to the application of the arrangements governing imports of certain floricultural products originating in Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 4088/87 of 21 December 1987 fixing conditions for the application of preferential customs duties on imports of certain flowers originating in Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1300/97 <sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 5 (2) (a) thereof,

Whereas:

Pursuant to Article 2 (2) and Article 3 of abovementioned Regulation (EEC) No 4088/87, Community import and producer prices are fixed each fortnight for uniflorous (bloom) carnations, multiflorous (spray) carnations, large-flowered roses and small-flowered roses and apply for two-weekly periods. Pursuant to Article 1b of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 700/88 of 17 March 1988 laying down detailed rules for the application of the arrangements for the import into the Community of certain floricultural products originating in Cyprus, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip <sup>(3)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2062/

97 <sup>(4)</sup>, those prices are determined for fortnightly periods on the basis of weighted prices provided by the Member States. Those prices should be fixed immediately so the customs duties applicable can be determined. Whereas, to that end, provision should be made for this Regulation to enter into force immediately,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

The Community producer and import prices for uniflorous (bloom) carnations, multiflorous (spray) carnations, large-flowered roses and small-flowered roses as referred to in Article 1b of Regulation (EEC) No 700/88 for a fortnightly period shall be as set out in the Annex.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on 21 March 2000.

It shall apply from 22 March to 4 April 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2000.

*For the Commission*

Franz FISCHLER

*Member of the Commission*

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 382, 31.12.1987, p. 22.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 177, 5.7.1997, p. 1.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 72, 18.3.1988, p. 16.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 289, 22.10.1997, p. 1.

## ANNEX

(EUR/100 pieces)

Period: from 22 March to 4 April 2000				
Community producer price	Uniflorous (bloom) carnations	Multiflorous (spray) carnations	Large-flowered roses	Small-flowered roses
	11,35	11,07	40,16	15,84
Community import prices	Uniflorous (bloom) carnations	Multiflorous (spray) carnations	Large-flowered roses	Small-flowered roses
Israel	9,24	7,29	15,31	15,93
Morocco	14,93	15,36	—	—
Cyprus	—	—	—	—
Jordan	—	—	—	—
West Bank and Gaza Strip	—	—	—	—

## COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 605/2000

of 20 March 2000

**suspending the preferential customs duties and re-establishing the Common Customs Tariff duty on imports of uniflorous (bloom) carnations originating in Israel**

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 4088/87 of 21 December 1987 fixing conditions for the application of preferential customs duties on imports of certain flowers originating in Cyprus, Israel, Jordan and Morocco and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip <sup>(1)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1300/97 <sup>(2)</sup>, and in particular Article 5(2)(b) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EEC) No 4088/87 lays down the conditions for applying a preferential duty on large-flowered roses, small-flowered roses, uniflorous (bloom) carnations and multiflorous (spray) carnations within the limit of tariff quotas opened annually for imports into the Community of fresh cut flowers;

(2) Council Regulation (EC) No 1981/94 <sup>(3)</sup>, as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 563/2000 <sup>(4)</sup>, opens and provides for the administration of Community tariff quotas for cut flowers and flower buds, fresh, originating in Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Malta, Morocco and the West Bank and the Gaza Strip;

(3) Commission Regulation (EC) No 604/2000 <sup>(5)</sup> fixes the Community producer and import prices for carnations and roses for the application of the import arrangements;

(4) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 700/88 <sup>(6)</sup>, as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2062/97 <sup>(7)</sup>, lays down the detailed rules for the application of the arrangements;

(5) On the basis of prices recorded pursuant to Regulations (EEC) No 4088/87 and (EEC) No 700/88, it must be concluded that the conditions laid down in Article 2(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 4088/87 for suspension of the preferential customs duty are met for uniflorous (bloom) carnations originating in Israel; whereas the Common Customs Tariff duty should be re-established;

(6) The quota for the products in question covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2000; whereas, as a result, the suspension of the preferential duty and the reintroduction of the Common Customs Tariff duty apply up to the end of that period at the latest;

(7) In between meetings of the Management Committee for Live Plants and Floriculture Products, the Commission must adopt such measures,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

*Article 1*

For imports of uniflorous (bloom) carnations (CN code ex 0603 10 20) originating in Israel, the preferential customs duty fixed by Regulation (EC) No 1981/94 is hereby suspended and the Common Customs Tariff duty is hereby re-established.

*Article 2*

This Regulation shall enter into force on 22 March 2000.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 382, 31.12.1987, p. 22.

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ L 177, 5.7.1997, p. 1.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ L 199, 2.8.1994, p. 1.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ L 68, 16.3.2000, p. 46.

<sup>(5)</sup> See page 11 of this Official Journal.

<sup>(6)</sup> OJ L 72, 18.3.1988, p. 16.

<sup>(7)</sup> OJ L 289, 22.10.1997, p. 1.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2000.

*For the Commission*  
Franz FISCHLER  
*Member of the Commission*

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## II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

## COUNCIL

## COUNCIL DECISION

of 13 March 2000

on guidelines for Member States' employment policies for the year 2000

(2000/228/EC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 128(2) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament <sup>(1)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the Economic and Social Committee <sup>(2)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions <sup>(3)</sup>,

Having regard to the opinion of the Employment and Labour Market Committee,

Whereas:

- (1) Employment remains the top priority of the European Union. Coordinated action must be pursued in a sustained manner to combat unemployment and raise the present levels of employment on a lasting basis.
- (2) The Luxembourg process, based on the implementation of the coordinated European Employment Strategy, was launched by the extraordinary European Council meeting on employment on 20 and 21 November 1997. The Council Resolution of 15 December 1997 on the 1998 Employment Guidelines <sup>(4)</sup>, confirmed by the European Council, has launched a process with high visibility, strong political commitment and a wide-ranging acceptance by all parties concerned.
- (3) The Council resolution of 22 February 1999 on the 1999 Employment Guidelines <sup>(5)</sup> has allowed consolidation of the Luxembourg process through compliance with those guidelines.

- (4) The contribution of the social partners in the framework of the Standing Committee on Employment, the social dialogue and the contacts established with the Heads of State or Government and the Commission should be taken into account.
- (5) The opinion of the Employment and Labour Market Committee was drafted jointly with the Economic Policy Committee.
- (6) The 1999 Joint Employment Report, drawn up by the Council and the Commission, describes the employment situation in the Community and examines the action taken by the Member States in implementing their employment policy in line with the 1999 Employment Guidelines.
- (7) On 14 February 2000 the Council adopted recommendations on the implementation of Member States' employment policies.
- (8) In Cologne on 3 and 4 June 1999 the European Council took the initiative for a European employment pact which provides a basis for a sustained and comprehensive strategy for more growth and employment and has added macroeconomic dialogue (Cologne process) as a third pillar to the coordinated employment strategy (Luxembourg process) and economic reform (Cardiff process).
- (9) Consistency and synergy between the employment guidelines and the broad economic policy guidelines must be ensured.
- (10) In Helsinki on 10 and 11 December 1999 the European Council adopted conclusions on Employment Guidelines for the year 2000, introducing a limited number of changes to further sharpen the guidelines' focus and aims.

<sup>(1)</sup> Opinion delivered on 4 November 1999 (not yet published in the Official Journal).

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ C 368, 20.12.1999, p. 31.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ C 57, 29.2.2000, p. 17.

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ C 30, 28.1.1998, p. 1.

<sup>(5)</sup> OJ C 69, 12.3.1999, p. 2.

- (11) The preventive and active measures to be taken should encourage effective integration into the labour market.
- (12) There is a need to develop skills in information technologies and to provide schools with computer equipment, as well as access to the Internet.
- (13) The social partners at all levels as well as the regional and local authorities need to be involved in the implementation of the guidelines so that they can contribute, in their field of responsibility, to promoting a high level of employment.
- (14) Public employment services should play an important role in delivering preventive and active measures and in identifying job opportunities at local level, to achieve a better functioning of the labour market.
- (15) The implementation of the guidelines may vary according to their nature, the parties to whom they are addressed and the different situations in the Member States. They should respect the principle of subsidiarity and Member States' responsibilities with regard to employment.
- (16) In implementing the employment guidelines, in accordance with the subsidiarity principle, Member States should be able to take regional situations into account, while fully respecting the attainment of national targets and equal treatment of all citizens.
- (17) Directive 1999/85/EC<sup>(1)</sup>, which provides for the possibility of applying a reduced VAT rate on labour-intensive services on an experimental basis, should be followed up in order to examine, in particular, the impact of national initiatives in terms of job potential.
- (18) The implementation of the employment guidelines could play a positive role in dealing with the problem of undeclared work.
- (19) The Commission and the Member States have agreed to continue and accelerate work on indicators and systems for the collection of comparable data, which will make it possible to assess the implementation and impact of the annexed guidelines and to refine the Community and national targets which they contain. Good practice from the Member States should also be taken into account.
- (20) A mid-term review of the employment guidelines during the year 2000 would be desirable, with a view to streamlining and consolidating them within the existing four-pillar structure.
- (21) Focused national reports, supported by indicators, will permit an effective peer-group review by other Member States and the Commission in order to assess progress achieved by each Member State in implementing the guidelines.
- (22) The contribution of the European Social Fund to the European Employment Strategy in the new programming period should be highlighted.
- (23) Sustainable development and the integration of environmental concerns into other Community policies were endorsed by the European Council in Amsterdam. Member States are invited to give effect to such integration within their national employment strategies by promoting employment creation in the environmental field,
- HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:
- Sole Article*
- The guidelines for Member States' employment policies for the year 2000, annexed hereto, are hereby adopted. They shall be taken into account by the Member States in their employment policies.
- Done at Brussels, 13 March 2000.
- For the Council*  
*The President*  
E. FERRO RODRIGUES

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 277, 28.10.1999, p. 34.

## ANNEX

**THE EMPLOYMENT GUIDELINES FOR 2000****I. IMPROVING EMPLOYABILITY****Tackling youth unemployment and preventing long-term unemployment**

In order to influence the trend in youth and long-term unemployment the Member States will intensify their efforts to develop preventive and employability-oriented strategies, building on the early identification of individual needs; within a period to be determined by each Member State which may not exceed three years and which may be longer in Member States with particularly high unemployment, Member States will ensure that:

1. every unemployed young person is offered a new start before reaching six months of unemployment, in the form of training, retraining, work practice, a job or other employability measure with a view to effective integration into the labour market.
2. unemployed adults are also offered a fresh start before reaching twelve months of unemployment by one of the aforementioned means or, more generally, by accompanying individual vocational guidance with a view to effective integration into the labour market.

These preventive and employability measures should be combined with measures to promote the re-employment of the long-term unemployed. In this context, Member States should pursue the modernisation of their public employment services so that they can deal with the strategy of prevention and activation in the most effective way.

**Transition from passive measures to active measures**

Benefit, tax and training systems, where that proves necessary, must be reviewed and adapted to ensure that they actively support employability. Moreover, these systems should interact to increase the incentive to return to the labour market. Each Member State:

3. will endeavour to increase significantly the number of persons benefiting from active measures to improve their employability with a view to effective integration into the labour market. In order to increase the numbers of unemployed who are offered training or any similar measure, it will in particular fix a target, in the light of its starting situation, of gradually achieving the average of the three most successful Member States, and of at least 20 %.
4. will review and, where appropriate, refocus its benefit and tax system:
  - to provide incentives for unemployed or inactive people to seek and take up work or measures to enhance their employability and for employers to create new jobs, and
  - in addition, it is important to develop a policy for active ageing, encompassing appropriate measures such as maintaining working capacity, lifelong learning and other flexible working arrangements, so that older workers are also able to remain and participate actively in working life.

**Encouraging a partnership approach**

The actions of the Member States alone will not suffice to achieve the desired results in promoting employability. Consequently:

5. the social partners are urged, at their various levels of responsibility and action, to conclude as soon as possible agreements with a view to increasing the possibilities for training, work experience, traineeships or other measures likely to promote employability of the young and adult unemployed and to promote entry into the labour market.
6. in order to reinforce the development of a skilled and adaptable workforce, both Member States and the social partners will endeavour to develop possibilities for lifelong learning, particularly in the fields of information and communication technologies, and each Member State will set a target according to national circumstances for participants benefiting from such measures. Easy access for older workers will be particularly important.

**Easing the transition from school to work**

Employment prospects are poor for young people who leave the school system without having acquired the aptitudes required for entering the job market. Member States will therefore:

7. improve the quality of their school systems in order to reduce substantially the number of young people who drop out of the school system early. Particular attention should also be given to young people with learning difficulties.

8. make sure they equip young people with greater ability to adapt to technological and economic changes and with skills relevant to the labour market. Member States will give particular attention to the development and modernisation of their apprenticeship and vocational training systems, where appropriate in cooperation with the social partners, to developing appropriate training for the acquisition of computer literacy and skills by students and teachers as well as to equipping schools with computer equipment and facilitating student access to the Internet by the end of 2002.

#### **Promoting a labour market open to all**

Many groups and individuals experience particular difficulties in acquiring relevant skills and in gaining access to, and remaining in, the labour market. A coherent set of policies promoting the integration of such groups and individuals into the world of work and combating discrimination is called for. Each Member State will:

9. give special attention to the needs of the disabled, ethnic minorities and other groups and individuals who may be disadvantaged, and develop appropriate forms of preventive and active policies to promote their integration into the labour market.

### **II. DEVELOPING ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

#### **Making it easier to start up and run businesses**

The development of new enterprises, and the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), is essential for job creation and for the expansion of training opportunities for young people. This process must be promoted by Member States encouraging greater entrepreneurial awareness across society and in educational curricula, by providing a clear, stable and predictable set of rules, by improving the conditions for the development of, and access to, risk capital markets. The Member States should also reduce and simplify the administrative and tax burdens on SMEs. These policies will support Member States' attempts to tackle undeclared work. To that end the Member States will:

10. give particular attention to reducing significantly the overhead costs and administrative burdens for businesses, and especially SMEs, in particular when an enterprise is being set up and when hiring additional workers.
11. encourage the development of self employment by examining, with the aim of reducing, any obstacles which may exist, especially those within tax and social security regimes, to moving to self-employment and the setting up of small businesses as well as by promoting training for entrepreneurship and targeted support services for entrepreneurs and would-be entrepreneurs.

#### **Exploiting new opportunities for job creation**

If the European Union wants to deal successfully with the employment challenge, all possible sources of jobs and new technologies and innovations must be exploited effectively. To that end the Member States will:

12. promote measures to exploit fully the possibilities offered by job creation at local level and in the social economy, especially in new activities linked to needs not yet satisfied by the market, and examine, with the aim of reducing, any obstacles in the way of such measures. In this respect, the special role and responsibility of local and regional authorities, other partners at the regional and local levels, as well as the social partners, needs to be more fully recognised and supported. In addition, the role of the public employment services in identifying local employment opportunities and improving the functioning of local labour markets, should be fully exploited.
13. develop framework conditions to fully exploit the employment potential of the services sector and industry-related services, *inter alia*, by tapping the employment potential of the information society and the environmental sector, to create more and better jobs.

#### **Making the taxation system more employment friendly**

and reversing the long-term trend towards higher taxes and charges on labour (which increased from 35 % in 1980 to more than 42 % in 1995). Each Member State will:

14. set a target, if necessary and taking account of its present level, for gradually reducing the overall tax burden and, where appropriate, a target for gradually reducing the fiscal pressure on labour and non-wage labour costs, in particular on relatively unskilled and low-paid labour, without jeopardising the recovery of public finances or the financial equilibrium of social security schemes. It will examine, if appropriate, the desirability of introducing a tax on energy or on pollutant emissions or any other tax measure.

### III. ENCOURAGING ADAPTABILITY OF BUSINESSES AND THEIR EMPLOYEES

#### **Modernising work organisation**

In order to promote the modernisation of work organisation and forms of work, a strong partnership should be developed at all appropriate levels (European, national, sectoral, local and enterprise levels):

15. the social partners are invited to negotiate and implement at all appropriate levels agreements to modernise the organisation of work, including flexible working arrangements, with the aim of making undertakings productive and competitive and achieving the required balance between flexibility and security. Subjects to be covered may, for example, include training and retraining, the introduction of new technologies, new forms of work and working time issues such as the expression of working time as an annual figure, the reduction of working hours, the reduction of overtime, the development of part-time working, and access to training and career breaks.
16. for its part, each Member State will examine the possibility of incorporating in its law more adaptable types of contract, taking into account the fact that forms of employment are increasingly diverse. Those working under contracts of this kind should at the same time enjoy adequate security and higher occupational status, compatible with the needs of business.

#### **Support adaptability in enterprises**

In order to renew skill levels within enterprises Member States will:

17. re-examine and, where appropriate, remove the obstacles, in particular tax obstacles, to investment in human resources and possibly provide for tax or other incentives for the development of in-house training; they will also examine new regulations and review the existing regulatory framework to make sure they will contribute to reducing barriers to employment and helping the labour market adapt to structural change in the economy.

### IV. STRENGTHENING EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN

#### **Gender mainstreaming approach**

Women still have particular problems in gaining access to the employment market, in career advancement, in earnings and in reconciling professional and family life. It is therefore important, *inter alia*:

- to ensure that active labour market policies are made available for women in proportion to their share of unemployment,
  - to reduce tax-benefit disincentives, wherever identified, because of their negative effects on the female labour supply,
  - to give particular attention to obstacles which hinder women who wish to set up new businesses or become self employed,
  - to ensure that women are able to benefit positively from flexible forms of work organisation on a voluntary basis. Therefore, the Member States will:
18. adopt a gender-mainstreaming approach in implementing the guidelines of all four pillars. In order meaningfully to evaluate progress on this approach, Member States will need to provide for adequate data collection systems and procedures.

#### **Tackling gender gaps**

Member States and the social partners should translate their desire to promote equality of opportunity into increased employment rates for women. They should also pay attention to the imbalance in the representation of women or men in certain economic sectors and occupations, as well as to the improvement of female career opportunities. Member States will:

19. attempt to reduce the gap in unemployment rates between women and men by actively supporting the increased employment of women and will take action to bring about a balanced representation of women and men in all sectors and occupations. They will initiate positive steps to promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value and to diminish differentials in incomes between women and men. In order to reduce gender gaps, Member States will also consider an increased use of measures for the advancement of women.

#### **Reconciling work and family life**

Policies on career breaks, parental leave and part-time work, as well as flexible working arrangements which serve the interests of both employers and employees, are of particular importance to women and men. Implementation of the various directives and social-partner agreements in this area should be accelerated and monitored regularly. There must be an adequate provision of good quality care for children and other dependants in order to support women's and men's entry and continued participation in the labour market. An equal sharing of family responsibilities is crucial in this respect. In order to strengthen equal opportunities, Member States and the social partners will:

20. design, implement and promote family-friendly policies, including affordable, accessible and high quality care services for children and other dependants, as well as parental and other leave schemes.

**Facilitating reintegration into the labour market**

Those returning to the labour market after an absence may have outmoded skills and experience difficulty in gaining access to training. The Member States will:

21. give specific attention to women, and men, considering a return to the paid workforce after an absence and, to that end, they will examine the means of gradually eliminating the obstacles in the way of such return.
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# COMMISSION

## COMMISSION DECISION

of 7 March 2000

**fixing an indicative allocation between beneficiary countries of the total amount of Community assistance under the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-accession**

*(notified under document number C(2000) 552)*

(2000/229/EC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1267/1999 of 21 June 1999 establishing an Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-accession <sup>(1)</sup>, hereinafter referred to as 'ISPA', and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The second subparagraph of Article 1(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1267/1999 lists the countries qualifying for ISPA.
- (2) The first subparagraph of Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1267/1999 lays down that an indicative allocation between beneficiary countries of the total amount of Community assistance under ISPA is to be made by the Commission on the basis of the criteria of population, gross domestic product (GDP) per inhabitant in purchasing power parities and surface area. This allocation may be adjusted according to the second subparagraph of the same Article.
- (3) Article 15 of Regulation (EC) No 1267/1999 stipulates that, on accession to the European Union, a country will lose its entitlement to assistance from ISPA and that the funding thus released will be reallocated among other beneficiary countries.

- (4) The measure provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-accession,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

### *Article 1*

The indicative allocation between beneficiary countries of the total amount of Community assistance under ISPA is set out in the Annex hereto.

The indicative allocation shall be adjusted if a beneficiary country, by virtue of acceding to the European Union, loses its entitlement to ISPA assistance.

### *Article 2*

This Decision is addressed to the Member States.

Done at Brussels, 7 March 2000.

*For the Commission*

Michel BARNIER

*Member of the Commission*

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<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 161, 26.6.1999, p. 73.

## ANNEX

**Indicative allocation between beneficiary countries of the total amount of Community assistance under the Instrument for Structural Policies for Pre-accession**

— Bulgaria:	between 8,0 % and 12,0 % of the total
— Czech Republic:	between 5,5 % and 8,0 % of the total
— Estonia:	between 2,0 % and 3,5 % of the total
— Hungary:	between 7,0 % and 10,0 % of the total
— Lithuania:	between 4,0 % and 6,0 % of the total
— Latvia:	between 3,5 % and 5,5 % of the total
— Poland:	between 30,0 % and 37,0 % of the total
— Romania:	between 20,0 % and 26,0 % of the total
— Slovenia:	between 1,0 % and 2,0 % of the total
— Slovakia:	between 3,5 % and 5,5 % of the total

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**CORRIGENDA****Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EC) No 572/2000 of 16 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on milk and milk products**

*(Official Journal of the European Communities L 69 of 17 March 2000)*

On page 20, in the Annex, in the column headed 'Amount of refund':

For product code '0402 10 91 9000':

for: '0,72000',

read: '0,7220'.

For product code '0402 10 99 9000':

for: '0,7200',

read: '0,7220'.

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**Corrigendum to Commission Regulation (EC) No 598/2000 of 17 March 2000 fixing the export refunds on beef and veal**

*(Official Journal of the European Communities L 71 of 18 March 2000)*

On page 18, in Annex I, in column 'Refund-Net weight', for product code 1602 50 39 9325:

for: '24,50',

read: '84,50'.

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