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Conformément au règlement (CEE, Euratom) n° 354/83 du Conseil du 1er février 1983 concernant l'ouverture au public des archives historiques de la Communauté économique européenne et de la Communauté européenne de l'énergie atomique (JO L 43 du 15.2.1983, p. 1), tel que modifié par le règlement (CE, Euratom) n° 1700/2003 du 22 septembre 2003 (JO L 243 du 27.9.2003, p. 1), ce dossier est ouvert au public. Le cas échéant, les documents classifiés présents dans ce dossier ont été déclassifiés conformément à l'article 5 dudit règlement.

In accordance with Council Regulation (EEC, Euratom) No 354/83 of 1 February 1983 concerning the opening to the public of the historical archives of the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community (OJ L 43, 15.2.1983, p. 1), as amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1700/2003 of 22 September 2003 (OJ L 243, 27.9.2003, p. 1), this file is open to the public. Where necessary, classified documents in this file have been declassified in conformity with Article 5 of the aforementioned regulation.

In Übereinstimmung mit der Verordnung (EWG, Euratom) Nr. 354/83 des Rates vom 1. Februar 1983 über die Freigabe der historischen Archive der Europäischen Wirtschaftsgemeinschaft und der Europäischen Atomgemeinschaft (ABl. L 43 vom 15.2.1983, S. 1), geändert durch die Verordnung (EG, Euratom) Nr. 1700/2003 vom 22. September 2003 (ABl. L 243 vom 27.9.2003, S. 1), ist diese Datei der Öffentlichkeit zugänglich. Soweit erforderlich, wurden die Verschlussachen in dieser Datei in Übereinstimmung mit Artikel 5 der genannten Verordnung freigegeben.

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(73) 1832 final

Brussels, 24 October 1973

AMENDMENT

to the proposal for a Regulation of the
Council concerning measures to be taken
in agriculture in view of the rise in
the central rate for the Dutch guilder

(presented by the Commission to the
Council pursuant to the second
paragraph of Article 149 of the EEC
Treaty)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. On 17 September 1973 the Dutch Government raised the central rate for the guilder by 5%. At the same time it requested that a special conversion rate be determined for the guilder for agricultural purposes, at 105% of the parity declared to and recognized by the IMF.

On 19 September 1973 the Council fixed a special conversion rate ("representative rate") for the Dutch guilder (Regulation (EEC) No 2544/73: OJ No L 236, 19.9.1973, p. 2). This led to a fall of approximately 5% in the prices for agricultural products in the Netherlands.

To offset the losses incurred by agricultural producers, the Dutch Government requested authorization to grant them aids for six months. The aid would consist of raising the VAT rate by 2%, the increase to be paid not to the revenue authorities but to the farmers themselves. The cost of this measure can be estimated at Fl 120 million.

The Commission has presented to the Council a proposal to authorize the Netherlands to grant that aid (Doc. R/2252/73(AGRI)642(FIN)567) dated 21 September 1973). The Commission has also proposed that, in view of the implications of the Dutch measures at Community level (the introduction or, in certain cases, the increase of compensatory amounts would involve approx. 50 million u.a. extra expenditure), 15% of the Dutch expenditure, or 5 million u.a., should be borne by the EAGGF.

2. In the meantime the Dutch Government has informed the Commission of a further problem.

On the day on which the central rate was raised, 38 000 metric tons of butter were held under Community-subsidized private storage contracts. The loss in value of this butter would be Fl 12 million if the new representative rate were applied. This is a net loss which those concerned cannot cover and is the direct result of the Regulation introducing the representative rate.

There are no Community rules which can be applied to make good this loss. Article 29 of Regulation (EEC) No 685/69 (OJ No L 90, 15.4.1969, p. 12, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 603/70 (OJ No L 72, 1.4.70, p. 62), applies only where the common price is altered.

It cannot, however, be denied that Article 29 is worded in such a way as to give rise to misinterpretations on the part of storers.

The Dutch Government has therefore requested that a solution be found to the problem. The Commission has considered the matter and feels that a solution could be found by so extending the authorization given in the proposal mentioned above that the Netherlands could grant a special aid in this case. The Community could participate in financing the expenditure which this would impose on the Dutch authorities.

3. The Commission therefore presents an amendment to the original proposal for a Regulation, under Article 149(2) of the Treaty.

AMENDMENT

to the proposal for a Regulation of the
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(Doc. R/2252/73 (AGRI 642) (FIN 567) of
21 September 1973)

The abovementioned proposal is amended as follows:

1. The following paragraph is added to Article 1:

"3. The Guarantee Section of the EAGGF shall contribute to the financing of the measures provided for in this Article by paying to the Kingdom of the Netherlands an amount of five million units of account, chargeable to the Budget of the European Communities for 1974."

2. Article 2 is replaced by the following:

"Article 2

The Netherlands are authorized to grant, in respect of butter which on 15 September was held under storage contracts concluded with the intervention agency, a special aid to offset the loss in value resulting from the application of Regulation (EEC) No 2544/73.

The Guarantee Section of the EAGGF shall contribute to the financing of the measures provided for in this Article by paying to the Kingdom of the Netherlands an amount of 3.5 million units of account, chargeable to the Budget of the European Communities for 1974."