Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/224 of 17 February 2016 amending Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014 and (EU) No 948/2014 as regards the last day for submission of applications for private storage aid for butter and skimmed milk powder

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2016/224

of 17 February 2016

amending Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014 and (EU) No 948/2014 as regards the last day for submission of applications for private storage aid for butter and skimmed milk powder

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007[(1)], and in particular Article 18(2), Article 20(c), (f), (l), (m) and (n) and Article 223(3)(c) thereof,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 1370/2013 of 16 December 2013 determining measures on fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products[(2)], and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on the financing, management and monitoring of the common agricultural policy and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 352/78, (EC) No 165/94, (EC) No 2799/98, (EC) No 814/2000, (EC) No 1290/2005 and (EC) No 485/2008[(3)], and in particular Article 62(2)(b) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) No 947/2014[(4)] and (EU) No 948/2014[(5)] opened private storage for butter and skimmed milk powder, respectively, in view of the particular difficult market situation, notably resulting from the ban introduced by Russia on imports of dairy products from the Union.

(2) Those private storage schemes have been extended by Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) No 1337/2014[(6)], (EU) 2015/303[(7)] and (EU) 2015/1548[(8)]. As a result, applications for aid can be lodged until 29 February 2016.

(3) On 25 June 2015, Russia prolonged the ban on the import of agricultural products and foodstuffs originating in the Union for another year, up to 6 August 2016.

(4) In addition, the global demand for milk and milk products has remained fragile throughout 2015 while milk supply has increased in the main exporting regions.

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2016/224. (See end of Document for details)*

(5) As a consequence, prices of butter and skimmed milk powder in the Union have further deteriorated and downward pressure is likely to carry on.

(6) In view of the current market situation it is appropriate to secure the undisrupted availability of the private storage aid schemes for butter and skimmed milk powder and to extend them until the end of the 2016 intervention period on 30 September 2016.

(7) In order to avoid any interruption of the possibility for lodging applications under the schemes, this Regulation should enter into force on the day following that of its publication.

(8) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee for the Common Organisation of the Agricultural Markets,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Amendment to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 947/2014

In Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 947/2014, ‘29 February 2016’ is replaced by ‘30 September 2016’.

Article 2

Amendment to Implementing Regulation (EU) No 948/2014

In Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 948/2014, ‘29 February 2016’ is replaced by ‘30 September 2016’.

Article 3

Entry into force

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

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

Done at Brussels, 17 February 2016.

For the Commission

The President

Jean-Claude JUNCKER