COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 495/2004
of 17 March 2004
fixing the export refunds on eggs applicable from 18 March 2004

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2771/75 of 29 October 1975 on the common organisation of the market in eggs [1], and in particular the third subparagraph of Article 8(3) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 8 of Regulation (EEC) No 2771/75 provides that the difference between prices on the world market for the products listed in Article 1(1) of that regulation and prices for those products on the Community market may be covered by an export refund.

(2) It follows from applying these rules and criteria to the present situation on the market in eggs that the refund should be fixed at an amount which would permit Community participation in world trade and would also take account of the nature of these exports and their importance at the present time.

(3) The present market situation in certain third countries and that regarding competition makes it necessary to fix a refund differentiated by destination for certain products in the egg sector.

(4) Article 21 of Commission Regulation (EC) No 800/1999 of 15 April 1999 laying down detailed rules for the application of the system of export refunds on agricultural products [2] stipulates that no refund is granted if the products are not of sound and fair marketable quality on the date on which the export declaration is accepted. In order to ensure uniform application of the rules in force, it should be stated that, in order to qualify for the refund, the egg products listed in Article 1 of Regulation (EEC) No 2771/75 must bear the health mark laid down in Council Directive 89/437/EEC of 20 June 1989 on hygiene and health problems affecting the production and the placing on the market of egg products [3].

(5) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Poultrymeat and Eggs,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The codes of products for which, when they are exported, the export refund referred to in Article 8 of Regulation (EEC) No 2771/75 is granted and the amount of that refund shall be as shown in the Annex hereto.

However, in order to qualify for the refund, products falling within the scope of Chapter XI of the Annex to Directive 89/437/EEC must also satisfy the health marking conditions laid down in that Directive.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 18 March 2004.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 2004.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 282, 1.11.1975, p. 49. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 (OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 1).
[2] OJ L 102, 17.4.1999, p. 11. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 444/2003 (OJ L 67, 12.3.2003, p. 3).
[3] OJ L 212, 22.7.1989, p. 87. Directive as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003.