COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 367/2004

of 27 February 2004

amending Regulation (EC) No 2261/2003 as regards the available quantity for which import licence applications for certain pigmeat products may be lodged for the period 1 to 30 April 2004

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Regulation (EEC) No 2759/75 of the Council of 29 October 1975 on the common organisation of the market in pigmeat [1],

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 774/94 of 29 March 1994 opening and providing for the administration of certain Community tariff quotas for high-quality beef, and for pigmeat, poultrymeat, wheat and meslin, and brans, sharps and other residues [2],

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1432/94 of 22 June 1994 laying down detailed rules for the application in the pigmeat sector of the import arrangements provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 774/94 opening and providing for the administration of certain Community tariff quotas for pigmeat and certain other agricultural products [3], and in particular Article 4(4) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The accession of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and Slovakia to the European Union on 1 May 2004 should enable those countries to qualify for the tariff quotas for pigmeat provided for by Regulation (EC) No 774/94 under fair conditions compared with those applicable to the existing Member States. Economic operators in those countries must be given the possibility therefore of participating fully in those quotas upon accession.

(2) In order not to create disturbance on the market before and after 1 May 2004, the timetable for the tranches provided for by Regulation (EC) No 1432/94 has been altered and the allocation of quantities adjusted for 2004 by Commission Regulation (EC) No 232/2004 of 26 February 2004 [4]. It is therefore necessary to amend Commission Regulation (EC) No 2261/2003 of 22 December 2003 determining the extent to which applications lodged in December 2003 for import licences for certain pigmeat sector products under the regime provided for by Council Regulation (EC) No 774/94 opening and providing for the administration of certain Community tariff quotas for pigmeat and certain other agricultural products can be accepted [5],

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 2261/2003 is hereby amended as follows:

(a) Article 1(2) is replaced by the following:

'2. Applications for import licences for the period 1 to 30 April 2004 may be lodged pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 1432/94 for the total quantity referred to in Annex II.';

(b) Annex II is replaced by the text contained in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 March 2004.

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

Done at Brussels, 27 February 2004.

For the Commission
J. M. SILVA RODRÍGUEZ
Agriculture Director-General

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[1] OJ L 282, 1.11.1975, p. 1, Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1365/2000 (OJ L 156, 29.6.2000, p. 5).
[2] OJ L 91, 8.4.1994, p. 1, Regulation as amended by Regulation (EC) No 2198/95 (OJ L 221, 19.9.1995, p. 3).
[3] OJ L 156, 23.6.1994, p. 14, Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1006/2001 (OJ L 140, 24.5.2001, p. 13).
[4] OJ L 60, 27.2.2004, p. 10.
[5] OJ L 336, 21.12.2003, p. 14.