COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 1556/2003

of 18 August 2003

opening tendering procedure No 46/2003 EC for the sale of wine alcohol stored in Germany for new industrial uses

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 of 17 May 1999 on the common organisation of the market in wine ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 806/2003 ([2]),

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 of 25 July 2000 laying down detailed rules for implementing Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 on the common organisation of the market in wine with regard to market mechanisms ([3]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1411/2003 ([4]), and in particular Article 80 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 lays down, *inter alia*, the detailed rules for disposing of stocks of alcohol arising from distillation under Articles 27, 28 and 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 held by intervention agencies.

(2) Tendering procedures should be organised for the sale of wine alcohol for new industrial uses with a view to reducing the stocks of wine alcohol in the Community and enabling small-scale industrial projects to be carried out and such alcohol to be processed into goods intended for export for industrial uses. The wine alcohol of Community origin in storage in Germany consists of quantities produced from distillation under Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999.

(3) Since the adoption of Council Regulation (EC) No 2799/98 of 15 December 1998 establishing agrimonetary arrangements for the euro ([5]), the prices offered in tenders and securities must be expressed in euro and payments must be made in euro.

(4) Minimum prices should be fixed for the submission of tenders.

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Tendering procedure No 46/2003 EC is hereby opened for the sale of wine alcohol for new industrial uses. The alcohol concerned has been produced from distillation under Article 30 of Regulation (EC) No 1493/1999 and is held by the German intervention agency.

The volume put up for sale is 20 330,986 hectolitres of alcohol at 100 % vol.

Article 2

The sale shall be conducted in accordance with Articles 79, 81, 82(1), (2), (3) and (5), 83, 84, 85, 95, 96, 97, 100 and 101 of Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000 and Article 2 of Regulation (EC) No 2799/98.

Article 3

The place of storage, the vat numbers, the volume of alcohol in each vat, the alcoholic strength and the characteristics of the alcohol, certain specific conditions, as well as the address of the Commission department responsible for receiving the tenders shall be as set out in Annex I to this Regulation.

Article 4

All tenders must be accompanied by proof that a tendering security of EUR 4 per hectolitre of alcohol at 100 % vol. has been lodged with the intervention agency concerned.

Article 5

The minimum price which may be offered is EUR 9 per hectolitre of alcohol at 100 % vol.

Article 6

The formalities for sampling shall be as set out in Article 98 of Regulation (EC) No 1623/2000. The price of samples shall be EUR 10 per litre.

The intervention agency shall provide all the necessary information on the characteristics of the alcohol put up for sale.

Article 7

The performance guarantee shall be EUR 30 per hectolitre of alcohol at 100 % vol.

Article 8

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

([1]) OJ L 179, 14.7.1999, p. 1.
([2]) OJ L 122, 16.5.2003, p. 1.
([3]) OJ L 194, 31.7.2000, p. 45.
([4]) OJ L 201, 8.8.2003, p. 12.
([5]) OJ L 349, 24.12.1998, p. 1.

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

Done at Brussels, 18 August 2003.

For the Commission
Franz FISCHLER
Member of the Commission