COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2331/2002

of 23 December 2002

amending Regulation (EC) No 899/2002 opening an invitation to tender for the refund for the export of common wheat to all third countries except Hungary, Poland, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 of 30 June 1992 on the common organisation of the market in cereals ([1]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1666/2000 ([2]),

Having regard to Commission Regulation (EC) No 1501/95 of 29 June 1995 laying down certain detailed rules for the application of Council Regulation (EEC) No 1766/92 on the granting of export refunds on cereals and the measures to be taken in the event of disturbance on the market for cereals ([3]), as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1163/2002 ([4]), and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Negotiations with a view to adopting trade agreements between the Community and Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia establishing certain concessions in the form of Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural products and the total liberalisation of trade in other agricultural products have recently been concluded. In the cereals sector, one of the concessions provided for is the abolition of export refunds, in particular with respect to common wheat.

(2) With a view to adopting these agreements, and in order to clarify the export terms at the beginning of 2003 for all exporters in the cereals sector, in particular in view of the period of validity of export licences, export refunds for common wheat should be abolished from 1 January 2003.

(3) The destinations laid down in Commission Regulation (EC) No 899/2002 ([5]), as amended by Regulation (EC) No 1520/2002 ([6]), should therefore be amended.

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 899/2002 is hereby amended as follows:

1. The title is replaced by the following:

   'Commission Regulation (EC) No 899/2002 of 30 May 2002 opening an invitation to tender for the refund for the export of common wheat to all third countries except Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.'

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

   '2. The invitation to tender shall cover common wheat for export to all third countries except Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.'

3. The title of Annex I is replaced by the following:

   'Weekly tender for the refund for the export of common wheat to all third countries except Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.'

Article 2

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

It shall apply from 1 January 2003.

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

Done at Brussels, 23 December 2002.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

([1]) OJ L 181, 1.7.1992, p. 21.
([2]) OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 1.
([3]) OJ L 147, 30.6.1995, p. 7.
([4]) OJ L 170, 29.6.2002, p. 46.
([5]) OJ L 142, 31.5.2002, p. 11.
([6]) OJ L 228, 24.8.2002, p. 18.