COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2157/2002

of 4 December 2002

apportioning, for the 2002/2003 marketing year, 5 000 tonnes of short flax fibre and hemp fibre as national guaranteed quantities between Denmark, Greece, Ireland, Italy and Luxembourg

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1673/2000 of 27 July 2000 on the common organisation of the markets in flax and hemp grown for fibre [1], as amended by Regulation (EC) No 651/2002 [2], and in particular Article 9 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Article 8(1) of Commission Regulation (EC) No 245/2001 of 5 February 2001 laying down detailed rules for the application of Regulation (EC) No 1673/2000 on the common organisation of the markets in flax and hemp grown for fibre [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 651/2002, stipulates that the apportioning of 5 000 tonnes of short flax fibre and hemp fibre as national guaranteed quantities, as provided for in Article 3(2)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1673/2000, must be effected before 16 November of the marketing year in progress. To that end, Italy has sent the Commission information relating to areas covered by sale/purchase contracts, processing commitments and processing contracts, and estimated flax and hemp straw and fibre yields. For their part, Denmark, Greece, Ireland and Luxembourg have indicated that no flax or hemp fibre will be produced in those Member States for the 2002/2003 marketing year. On the basis of estimates of production resulting from the information provided, total production in the five Member States concerned will not reach the overall quantity of 5 000 tonnes allocated to them, and the national guaranteed quantities as set out below should be set.

(2) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Natural Fibres,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

For the 2002/2003 marketing year, the apportionment in national guaranteed quantities provided for in Article 3(2)(b) of Regulation (EC) No 1673/2000 shall be as follows:

— Denmark: 0 tonnes,

— Greece: 0 tonnes,

— Ireland: 0 tonnes,

— Italy: 180 tonnes, and

— Luxembourg: 0 tonnes.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

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

Done at Brussels, 4 December 2002.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 193, 29.7.2000, p. 16.
[2] OJ L 101, 17.4.2002, p. 3.
[3] OJ L 35, 6.2.2001, p. 18.