1968. No. 272 [C]

FISHING VESSELS

Fishing Vessels (Grants) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1968

SCHEME*, DATED 18TH NOVEMBER 1968, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE UNDER SECTION 1 OF THE FISHING VESSELS (GRANTS) ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1967.

The Ministry of Agriculture (hereinafter called "the Ministry") in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 1 of the Fishing Vessels (Grants) Act (Northern Ireland) 1967(**a**), and of all other powers enabling it in that behalf hereby makes the following scheme:—

1. (*a*) This scheme may be cited as the Fishing Vessels (Grants) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1968, and shall come into operation seven days after it has been approved by both Houses of Parliament.

(*b*) The Fishing Vessels (Grants) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1967(**b**) is hereby revoked.

2. In this scheme unless the context otherwise requires—

"improvement" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 3(1)(*c*);

"the control period" has the meaning assigned to it by Article 14(2);

"length" in relation to a sea fishing vessel means its length as calculated for the purpose of registration under the Merchant Shipping Acts 1894 to 1964.

3.—(1) Subject to the provisions of this scheme the Ministry may make a grant to a person carrying on or proposing to carry on a business in the fishing industry in Northern Ireland in respect of expenditure incurred—

(*a*) in providing a fishing vessel including equipment required for the operation of the vessel which is sold with the vessel;

(*b*) in providing an engine for a fishing vessel; or

(*c*) in the acquisition, installation, modification, renewal or replacement of any part of a sea fishing vessel other than an engine or of any relevant equipment required for, or installed or used on such a vessel (such acquisition, installation, modification, renewal or replacement being hereinafter referred to as "an improvement").

Provided that no grant shall be made in respect of

(i) expenditure incurred in the acquisition of any vessel, engine, part, equipment or apparatus which appears to the Ministry to be second-hand; or

(ii) expenditure incurred in relation to an improvement in so far as the Ministry considers such expenditure can be regarded as incurred in the routine repair, maintenance or replacement in respect of the vessel or of its engine or of any relevant equipment required for the vessel or installed or used thereon.

(**a**) 1967. c. 8 (N.I.). (**b**) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1967, No. 339.

*This Scheme was approved by Resolutions of the Senate and House of Commons on 4th December 1968.

(2) Applications for a grant shall be made in writing in such form as the Ministry may from time to time require.

4. Applications for grants may be made only by British subjects resident in Northern Ireland or companies incorporated under the laws of Northern Ireland.

5. Applicants for grants under this scheme in respect of the acquisition of a vessel shall be required to satisfy the Ministry with regard to the prospect of their being able to operate the vessel successfully and that they have the ability to manage and sufficient financial resources for the purposes of the business in which the fishing vessel will be employed.

6. The Ministry may require applicants to make a full statement of their financial position, including assets, debts and obligations and to make available for inspection such books of accounts and other records and documents as the Ministry may reasonably require.

7. Where expenditure is shared by two or more persons applications for grants may be made in respect of either the full expenditure or part of the expenditure incurred and may be made by individual applicants or by two or more applicants jointly.

8. In considering whether or not to approve an application for a grant the Ministry

(*a*) shall have regard to the needs and interests of the fishing industry or to that section thereof to which the application relates but

(*b*) shall not approve the application in so far as it relates to any proportion or item of the proposed expenditure which in its opinion is unnecessary or unwarranted having regard to the benefit likely to be derived from the expenditure in respect of which the application is made.

9. The amount which may be paid under this scheme by way of grant in respect of expenditure approved by the Ministry shall be

(*a*) 40 per cent. of the approved expenditure where the vessel in question is less than 80 ft. in registered length;

(*b*) 35 per cent. of the approved expenditure in any other case.

Provided that the amount of any such grant in respect of expenditure incurred in the acquisition of a vessel or part of a vessel constructed elsewhere than in the United Kingdom shall be at the rate of 20 per cent. of such expenditure unless the Ministry is satisfied that the expenditure was incurred at a cost which compares favourably with the cost at which the construction of the vessel or the part thereof could have been carried out in the United Kingdom.

Provided also that for the purpose of this article any expenditure which is incurred in the acquisition of an engine or part of an engine or any relevant equipment, incorporated into a vessel at the time of its construction elsewhere than in the United Kingdom, shall be deemed to be expenditure incurred in the acquisition of such vessel.

10.—(1) Applications shall be accompanied by the appropriate plans and specifications, the completed tender or tenders relating to the expenditure to be