COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 498/2002

of 20 March 2002

amending Regulation (EC) No 1555/96 on rules of application for additional import duties on fruit and vegetables

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 2200/96 of 28 October 1996 on the common organisation of the market in fruit and vegetables [1], as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 911/2001 [2], and in particular Article 33(4) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Commission Regulation (EC) No 1555/96 [3], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2539/2001 [4], provides for surveillance of imports of the products listed in the Annex thereto. That surveillance is to be carried out in accordance with the rules on the surveillance of preferential imports laid down in Article 308d of Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 [5], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 444/2002 [6].

(2) For the purposes of Article 5(4) of the Agreement on Agriculture [7] concluded during the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations and in the light of the latest data available for 1998, 1999 and 2000, the trigger levels for additional duties on tomatoes should be adjusted.

(3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for Fresh Fruit and Vegetables,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The Annex to Regulation (EC) No 1555/96 is hereby replaced by the Annex hereto.

Article 2

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

It shall apply from 1 April 2002.

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

Done at Brussels, 20 March 2002.

For the Commission

Franz FISCHLER

Member of the Commission

[1] OJ L 297, 21.11.1996, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 129, 11.5.2001, p. 3.
[3] OJ L 193, 3.8.1996, p. 1.
[4] OJ L 341, 22.12.2001, p. 77.
[5] OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1.
[6] OJ L 68, 12.3.2002, p. 11.
[7] OJ L 336, 23.12.1994, p. 22.