



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 24.10.1995
COM(95) 496 final

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

**fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of
Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1996 fishing year**

(presented by the Commission)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

**fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II to
Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1996 fishing year**

(presented by the Commission)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

**fixing the Community producer price for tuna intended for the industrial manufacture of products
falling within CN code 1604 for the 1996 fishing year**

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Regulation is to fix the guide prices for 1996 for the products in Annex I(A), (D) and (E) to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products. Article 9 of that Regulation states that a guide price for each of these products is to be fixed for each fishing year on the basis of the average of prices recorded for a significant proportion of Community output and a product with given commercial characteristics on representative wholesale markets or in representative ports during the three fishing years immediately preceding the year for which the price is fixed. Account is also taken of the production and demand prospects and other criteria relating to the stabilization of market prices, support for producers' incomes and consumers' interests.

As in previous years, the procedure for fixing the prices for 1996 has been based on a comparison between the average of prices recorded between 1993 and the first six months of 1995 and that for the period between 1992 and 1994, which was used as a basis for fixing the guide prices for 1995.

The reduction in white fish prices recorded between 1993 and 1995 fluctuated between -3% and -15% for most species but prices have been generally higher in the first half of 1995 than in the first half of 1994, with the exception of haddock, whiting and hake.

In view of the long-term trend in prices, the Commission proposes a reduction of 1-4% in the prices for various species of white fish, with the exception of dogfish, cardinalfish, monkfish, sole and flounder, for which it recommends no change; for redfish, plaice and dab the Commission proposes an increase of 1-2%.

With regard to pelagic species, the price variation between 1993 and 1995 (by comparison with 1992-94) was between -13% and +1%, but the difference is even more marked when the first half of 1995 is compared with the same period in 1994: -20% to +2%. Since the gap between the average market prices and the guide prices for those species and for albacore remains too high, the price reduction proposed is greater than for the white fish: between -6% and -2%.

The Commission is proposing no change for the other species, prawns, Norway lobster, crabs and cuttlefish, with the exception of Norway lobster tails, for which a price in relation to the actual market price should be set, and boiled Northern prawns, for which the recently fixed price should be adjusted (-1%).

It is proposed therefore:

- to lower the guide price for herring by 5%, for sardine by %, for dogfish by 1%, for cod by 3%, for saithe by 2%, for haddock by 4%, for whiting by 4%, for ling by 1%, for mackerel by 5%, for Spanish mackerel by 6%, for anchovy by 2%, for hake by 2%, for megrim by 2%, for long-finned tuna by 5% and for boiled Northern prawn by 1%;
- to maintain in 1996 the guide prices applicable in 1995 for dogfish, cardinalfish, monkfish, common shrimp, edible crab, whole Norway lobster, flounder, sole and fresh Northern prawn;
- to raise the guide price for plaice and cuttlefish by 1% and for redfish and dab by 2%;
- to fix the guide price for Norway lobster tails at ECU 4 347/tonne.

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No
of
fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of
Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1996 fishing year

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products ¹, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3318/94 ², and in particular Article 9 (3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 9 (1) and (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 provides that a guide price shall be fixed for each of the products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of the Regulation at a level which will help to stabilize market prices and avoid the formation of surpluses in the Community ; whereas that level must also help support producers' income and at the same time take account of consumers' interest ;

Whereas the guide price shall be based on the average of prices as defined in Article 9 (2) of that Regulation and on an assessment of production and demand prospects ;

Whereas the application of these criteria involves for the 1996 fishing year, an increase for certain products and the stabilization or decrease of prices for others compared with prices applicable during the current fishing year ;

¹OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

²OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.



HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The guide prices for the fishing year from 1 January to 31 December 1996 for the products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 and the commercial categories to which they relate are fixed in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1996.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council



ANNEX

Species	Commercial specifications (1)			Guide price (ECU/tonne)
	Freshness category	Size	Presentation	
1. Herrings of the species <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	278
2. Sardines of the species <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Extra	3	Whole fish	488
3. Picked dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>)	Extra, A		Whole fish Gutted fish with head) 1046)
4. Catshanks (<i>Scyliorhinus spp.</i>)	Extra, A	1	Whole fish Gutted fish with head) 790)
5. Redfish (<i>Sebastes spp.</i>)	A	2	Whole fish	1121
6. Cod of the species <i>Gadus morhua</i>	A or A	2 3	Gutted fish with head Gutted fish with head)) 1491)
7. Coalfish (<i>Pollachius virens</i>)	A or A	2 3	Gutted fish with head Gutted fish with head)) 762)
8. Haddock (<i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i>)	A or A	2 3	Gutted fish with head Gutted fish with head)) 1041)
9. Whiting (<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>)	A or A	2 3	Gutted fish with head Gutted fish with head)) 883)
10. Ling (<i>Molva spp.</i>)	Extra, A	1, 2	Gutted fish with head	1117
11. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Extra or A	1 2	Whole fish Whole fish)) 272)
12. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber japonicus</i>	Extra or A	1 2	Whole fish Whole fish)) 322)
13. Anchovies (<i>Engraulis spp.</i>)	Extra	2	Whole fish	1145
14. Plaice (<i>Pleuronectes platessa</i>)	A or A	2 3	Gutted fish with head Gutted fish with head	1.1.1996 } - 30.4.1996 } 978 1.5.1996 { - 31.12.1996 { 1345

15. Hake of the species Merluccius merluccius	A	1	Gutted fish with head	3697
16. Megrim (Lepidorhombus spp.)	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole fish, gutted fish with head	2312
17. Ray's bream (Brama spp.)	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	1764
18. Monkfish (Lophius spp.)	Extra, A	2, 3	Whole, or gutted with head	2677
	Extra, A	2, 3	Without head	5449
19. Shrimps of the species Crangon crangon	A	1	Simply boiled in water	2110
20. Edible crab (Cancer pagurus)	-	1	Whole	1767
21. Norway lobster (Nephrops norvegicus)	E, A	1, 2	Whole	5129
	E, A	2	Tails	4347
22. Dab (Limanda limanda)	Extra, A	1	Gutted fish with head	915
23. Flounder (Platichthys flesus)	Extra, A	1	Gutted fish with head	542
24. Albacore or longfinned tuna (Thunnus alalunga)	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	2039
		1	Gutted fish with head	2379
25. Cuttlefish (Sepia officinalis and Rossia macrosoma)	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole	1598
26. Sole (Solea spp.)	Extra, A		Gutted fish with head	6022
27. Deep-water prawns (Pandalus borealis)	A	1	Simply boiled in water	6138
	A	1	Fresh or chilled	1690

(1) The freshness categories, sizes and presentation are defined pursuant to Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92




EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery products provides that, for each of the products listed in Annex II, a guide price is to be fixed for a product with given commercial characteristics on the basis of the average of prices recorded for a significant proportion of Community output on representative wholesale markets or in representative ports during the three fishing years immediately preceding the year for which the price is fixed.

Examination of the market price trends and the level of the guide prices for frozen products suggests that the guide prices applicable in 1995 to sea bream, hake, *Illex* and *Loligo* squid and deepwater rose shrimps (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) should be reduced.

In these circumstances the Commission proposes to adjust the Community guide prices to the long-term market trends and thus reduce the price for hake by 3%, for sea bream by 3%, for *Illex* squid by 1%, for *Loligo* squid by 2% and for shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*) by 4% for the 1996 fishing year.

On the other hand, since prices for octopus, cuttlefish, shrimps (other *Penaeidae*) and Greenland halibut have risen substantially mainly in the first half of 1995, their guide prices should be increased by 3%, 2%, 2% and 2% respectively.



COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No /

of

fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II to

Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1996 fishing year

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products¹, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3318/94², and in particular Article 9 (3),

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 9 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 provides that a guide price shall be fixed annually for each of the products or groups of products listed in Annex II to that Regulation ;

Whereas, according to the data available at present concerning prices for the products in question and the criteria laid down in Article 9 (2), of that Regulation, these prices should be maintained and decreased according to the species for the 1996 fishing year,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

¹OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

²OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

Article 1

The guide prices for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1996 for the products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 and the commercial categories to which they relate are fixed in the Annex hereto.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1996.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council



ANNEX

(ECU/tonne)

GROUP OF PRODUCTS	COMMERCIAL SPECIFICATIONS	GUIDE PRICE
1. Sea-bream (<i>Dentex dentex</i> and <i>Pagellus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in lots or in original packages containing the same products	1481
2. Squid of the species <i>Loligo patagonica</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	1091
3. Squid (<i>Ommastrephes sagittatus</i>)	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	961
4. <i>Illex argentinus</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	906
5. Cuttlefish of the species <i>Sepia officinalis</i> , <i>Rossia macrosoma</i> and <i>Sepiola rondeletti</i>	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1949
6. Octopus (<i>Octopus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1769
7. Lesser or Greenland halibut (<i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i>)	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1880
8. Whole hake of the genus <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1289
9. Fillets of hake of the genus <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1626
10. - Prawns of the species <i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i>	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	5608
- Other species of the family Penaeidae	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	7985



EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery products provides that, for tuna intended for use by the canning industry, a Community producer price is to be fixed for a product with given commercial characteristics on the basis of the average of prices recorded for a significant proportion of Community output on representative wholesale markets or in representative ports during the three fishing years immediately preceding the year for which the price is fixed.

The trend in the average Community producer price has shown a recovery in prices recorded over the last three years, confirmed during the first six months of 1995.

However, given that the increase has simply brought the average market price up to the level of Community producer prices, the Commission proposes for the 1996 fishing year to maintain the Community producer price for tuna at the same level as for 1995.

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No

of

fixing the Community producer price for tuna intended for the industrial manufacture of products falling within CN code 1604 for the 1996 fishing year

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products¹, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 3318/94², and in particular Article 17(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 17(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 provides that a Community producer price should be fixed for tuna (of the genus **Thunnus**), skipjack or stripe-bellied bonito [**Euthynnus (Katsuwonus) pelamis**] and other species of the genus **Euthynnus** intended for the industrial manufacture of products falling within CN code 1604;

Whereas, on the basis of the criteria laid down in the first and second indents of Article 9(2) and in Article 17(1) of the abovementioned Regulation, the price for the 1996 fishing year should be maintained,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

¹ OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

² OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

Article 1

The Community producer price for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1996 for tuna (of the genus **Thunnus**), skipjack or stripe-bellied bonito [**Euthynnus (Katsuwonus) pelamis**] and other species of the genus **Euthynnus** for the industrial manufacture of products falling within CN code 1604 and the commercial category to which it relates is hereby fixed as follows :

(ECU/tonne)

Species	Commercial specifications	Community producer price
Yellowfin tuna (Thunnus albacares)	Whole, weighing more than 10 kg each	1217

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1996.

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For the Council

FINANCIAL STATEMENT		DATE		
1.	BUDGET HEADING: B 1-261	APPROPRIATIONS:		
2.	TITLE: Three proposals for Council Regulations fixing the guide prices for fishery products (Annex I, A, D and E, Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92) and the Community producer price for tuna (Annex III)			
3.	LEGAL BASIS: Articles 9 and 17 of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92			
4.	AIMS OF PROJECT: Annual fixing of prices in the fisheries sector (1996 fishing year)			
5.	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS	PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS	CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR (95)	FOLLOWING FINANCIAL YEAR (96)
		million ecu	million ecu	million ecu
5.0.	EXPENDITURE - CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (REFUNDS/INTERVENTION) - NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION - OTHER			35
5.1.	REVENUE - OWN RESOURCES OF THE EC (LEVIES/CUSTOMS DUTIES) - NATIONAL			
		1997	1998	1999
5.0.1.	ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE	measure restricted to the 1996 fishing year (16.10.95-15.10.96)		
5.1.1.	ESTIMATED REVENUE			
5.2.	METHOD OF CALCULATING ASSISTANCE FROM THE CMO BUDGET:			
	- Community and autonomous withdrawals and carry-forwards:	ECU 23 million		
	- Compensatory allowance for tuna:	ECU 7 million		
	- Private storage aid:	ECU 2 million		
	- Balance from liquidation of compensatory allowance for sardines:	ECU 3 million		
6.0.	CAN THE PROJECT BE FINANCED FROM APPROPRIATIONS ENTERED IN THE RELEVANT CHAPTER OF THE CURRENT BUDGET?			
6.1.	CAN THE PROJECT BE FINANCED BY TRANSFER BETWEEN CHAPTERS OF THE CURRENT BUDGET?			
6.2.	IS A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET NECESSARY?	NO		
6.3.	WILL FUTURE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS BE NECESSARY?	YES		
OBSERVATIONS:	Since this is a price fixing measure the impact on expenditure is indirect. The expenditure in question will largely depend on developments in the market situation and on quantities landed.			

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DOCUMENTS

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