



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 10.11.1997  
COM(97) 556 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 1998 fishing year**

---

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 1998 fishing year**

---

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 1998 fishing year**

---

(presented by the Commission)



## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Regulation is to fix the guide prices for 1998 for the products in Annex I(A), (D) and (E) to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organisation 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 stabilisation of market prices, support for producers' incomes and consumers' interests.

As in previous years, the procedure for fixing the prices for 1998 has been based on a comparison between the average of prices recorded between 1995 and the first six months of 1997 and that for the period between 1994 and 1996, which was used as a basis for fixing the guide prices for 1997.

The reduction in white fish prices recorded in the most recent fishing year has eased slightly, giving rise to a more favourable situation between 1995 and 1997 than between 1994 and 1996 with more or less stable prices, haddock being the notable exception (-4%). Prices for white fish have been higher in the first half of 1997 than they were in the first half of 1996.

In view of the long-term trend in prices, the Commission proposes an increase of 1-3% in the prices for certain species of white fish, with the exception of dogfish (*Scyliorhinus* spp), saithe, whiting, hake, megrim, Ray's bream and whole monkfish for which it recommends no change; for dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*), cod and haddock the Commission proposes a cut of 1-2%.

With regard to pelagic species, prices between 1995 and 1997 (as compared with the period 1994-96) varied between -6% and +44%, with a less favourable trend for the first half of 1997 than for the first half of 1996: from -39% to +28%. The Commission proposes price changes from -3% to +3% for pelagic species and for albacore.

As regards the other species (shrimps, crabs, Norway lobster and cuttlefish), the Commission proposes no change for cooked deep-water prawns, +1% for Norway lobster, -1% for crabs, cuttlefish and fresh deep-water prawns and -2% for common shrimps.

It is proposed therefore:

- to lower the guide price for dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*) by 1%, for cod by 1%, for haddock by 2%, for Spanish mackerel by 3%, for anchovy by 1%, for common shrimps by 2%, for edible crab by 1%, for albacore by 2%, for cuttlefish by 1% and for fresh deep-water prawns by 1%;

- to maintain in 1998 the guide prices applicable in 1997 for herring, dogfish (*Scyliorhinus* spp.), saithe, whiting, hake, megrim, Ray's bream, whole monkfish, and cooked deep-water prawn;
- to raise the guide price for sardine, redfish, ling, headed monkfish and Norway lobster by 1%, for plaice and flounder by 2% and for mackerel, dab and sole by 3%.



**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 1998 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 <sup>1</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3318/94 <sup>2</sup>, 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 1998 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 ;

---

<sup>1</sup>OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>OJ 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 1998 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 1998.

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 <sup>(1)</sup>			Guide price (ECU/tonne)
	Freshness category	Size	Presentation	
1. Herrings of the species <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	274
2. Sardines of the species <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Extra	3	Whole fish	513
3. Picked dogfish ( <i>Squalus acanthias</i> )	Extra, A	2	Whole fish Gutted fish with head	) 1026 )
4. Catshanks ( <i>Scyliorhinus</i> <i>spp.</i> )	Extra, A	1	Whole fish Gutted fish with head	) 806 )
5. Redfish ( <i>Sebastes spp.</i> )	A	2	Whole fish	1132
6. Cod of the species <i>Gadus</i> <i>morhua</i>	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 1461 )
7. Coalfish ( <i>Pollachius</i> <i>virens</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 762 )
8. Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus</i> , <i>aeglefinus</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 1010 )
9. Whiting ( <i>Merlangius</i> <i>merlangus</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 893 )
10. Ling ( <i>Molva spp.</i> )	Extra, A	1, 2	Gutted fish with head	1139
11. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Extra or A	1  2	Whole fish  Whole fish	) ) 288 )
12. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber japonicus</i>	Extra or A	1  2	Whole fish  Whole fish	)  ) 303

13. Anchovies ( <i>Engraulis spp.</i> )	Extra	2	Whole fish	1156
14. Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	A	2	Gutted fish with head	from 1.1.1998 } until 30.4.1998 } 1027
	or A	3	Gutted fish with head	from 1.5.1998 { until 31.12.1998 { 1413
15. Hake of the species <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	A	1	Gutted fish with head	3623
16. Megrin ( <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> )	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole fish, gutted fish with head	2289
17. Ray's bream ( <i>Brama spp.</i> )	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	1782
18. Monkfish ( <i>Lophius spp.</i> )	Extra, A	2, 3	Whole, or gutted with head	2664
	Extra, A	2, 3	Without head	5503
19. Shrimps of the species <i>Crangon crangon</i>	A	1	Simply boiled in water	2334
20. Edible crab ( <i>Cancer pagurus</i> )	-	1	Whole	1749
21. Norway lobster ( <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> )	E, A	1, 2	Whole	5129
	E, A	2	Tails	4303
22. Dab ( <i>Limanda limanda</i> )	Extra, A	1	Gutted fish with head	961
23. Flounder ( <i>Platichthys flesus</i> )	Extra, A	1	Gutted fish with head	558
24. Albacore or longfinned tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	2061
		1	Gutted fish with head	2404
25. Cuttlefish ( <i>Sepia officinalis</i> and <i>Rossia macrosoma</i> )	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole	1566
26. Sole ( <i>Solea spp.</i> )	Extra, A	2, 3	Gutted fish with head	6326
27. Deep-water prawns ( <i>Pandalus borealis</i> )	A	1	Simply boiled in water	6324
	A	1	Fresh or chilled	1673

(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 organisation 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 1998 to *Illex* and *Loligo* squid, cuttlefish, hake fillets and shrimps (other *Penaeidae*) should be reduced.

In these circumstances the Commission proposes to adjust the Community guide prices in line with market trends and thus reduce the price for *Illex* squid by 2%, for *Loligo* squid by 3%, for cuttlefish by 1%, for hake fillets by 2% and for shrimps (other *Penaeidae*) by 2% for the 1998 fishing year.

On the other hand, since prices for other species have risen, guide prices for octopus, Greenland halibut and sea bream should be increased by 4%, 1% and 2% respectively.

The Commission proposes to maintain the prices for whole hake and shrimps (*Parapenaeus longirostris*).



8

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 1998 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 <sup>1</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3318/94<sup>2</sup>, 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 increased, maintained or decreased according to the species for the 1998 fishing year,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

**Article 1**

The guide prices for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1998 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.

---

<sup>1</sup>OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

**Article 2**

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1998.

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	1556
2. Squid of the species <i>Loligo patagonica</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	1025
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	879
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	1948
6. Octopus ( <i>Octopus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1987
7. Lesser or Greenland halibut ( <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> )	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1919
8. Whole hake of the genus <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1290
9. Fillets of hake of the genus <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1561
10. - Prawns of the species <i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i> - Other species of the family <i>Penaeidae</i>	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	4120 7825

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organisation of the market in fishery products provides that, for tuna intended for 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 average Community producer price has shown a recovery over the last three years and prices rose sharply during the first six months of 1997.

However, the Community producer price fixed for 1997 (1204 E/T) remains above the average price for the three previous fishing years (1162 E/T), and competitiveness in the canning sector means that prudence should be exercised when fixing prices. Under these circumstances the Commission proposes to increase Community producer prices for tuna by 1% for the 1998 fishing year.

**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 1998 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<sup>1</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 3318/94<sup>2</sup>, 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 1998 fishing year should be increased,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

---

<sup>1</sup> OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

## Article 1

The Community producer price for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1998 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 ( <b>Thunnus albacares</b> )	Whole, weighing more than 10 kg each	1216

## Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1998.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

FINANCIAL STATEMENT			
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 (1998 fishing year)		
5.	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS		1998 million ecu
5.0.	EXPENDITURE - CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (INTERVENTION) - NATIONAL AUTHORITIES		27.5
5.1.	RECEIPTS - OWN RESOURCES OF THE EC (LEVIES/CUSTOMS DUTIES) - NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION		
5.0.1.	ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE		
5.1.1.	ESTIMATED REVENUE	measure restricted to the 1998 fishing year (16.10.97-15.10.98)	
5.2.	METHOD OF CALCULATING ASSISTANCE FROM THE CMO BUDGET:		
	- Community withdrawals:	ECU 16,5 million	
	- Community carry-overs	ECU 2 million	
	- Autonomous withdrawals and carry-overs	ECU 5 million	
	- Compensatory allowance for tuna:	ECU 4 million	
	- Private storage aid:	ECU 0 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.		





ISSN 0254-1475

COM(97) 556 final

# DOCUMENTS

EN

03 10

---

Catalogue number : CB-CO-97-588-EN-C

ISBN 92-78-26857-7

---

Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

L-2985 Luxembourg