

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

on a second instalment of emergency food aid for the people of South Vietnam

Proposal for a

REGULATION (EEC) OF THE COUNCIL

on the supply of butteroil to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as food aid under the 1975 programme for the stricken population in South Vietnam

Proposal for a

REGULATION (EEC) OF THE COUNCIL

on a derogation from Regulation (EEC) n° 1693/72 as regards the procedures for mobilizing food aid for the International Committee of the Red Cross

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

1. Measures already taken

In accordance with the Council's deliberations of 14 April 1975 the Commission decided at its 355th meeting on 16 April 1975 on the following initial emergency measures to help the people of South Vietnam as a whole :

- Food aid to be supplied cif for distribution free of charge to the stricken population, in application of the authorization granted by the Council for the implementation of the outline agreement of 3 February 1975 concluded with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and comprising :
 - . 100 t skimmed-milk powder,
 - . 1,000 t wholly milled rice.

- The allocation under budgetary procedures of 300.000 u.a. to UNICEF to be charged against Article 400 of the Commission budget (Community aid to disaster victims). This financial assistance was intended for the purchase of sugar, the transport by air of approximately 100 t of skimmed-milk powder⁽¹⁾, the purchase of medicinal preparations, etc...

As this initial instalment of aid, representing a total sum of around 1,126,000 u.a., could have only a limited effect given the extent of the requirements, the Commission had also stated its intention of proposing a second instalment of aid as soon as it was in possession of more detailed information for assessing the situation. The Commission had informed the Council of its intention at the Council's meeting of 14 April.

2. Needs

According to the latest reports from the ICRC, the needs are enormous since approximately 4 million people have to be fed.

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(1) On 23 May 1975, the Commission decided to limit financing air transport to 35 t and to use the money saved to pay for sending the remaining 65 t by ship and to purchase medicinal preparations, clothing and any other necessities required for organizing relief on the spot.

This is why, during recent missions by the UN, ICRC and UNHCR (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) to estimate the requirements, the South Vietnam authorities asked these three bodies to supply :

- 110,000 t of cereals (especially rice),
- 11,000 t of meat,
- 1,500 t of lard or butteroil,
- 1,000 t of soya beans,
- 1,000 t of sugar,
- 3,000 t of condensed milk,
- 1,000 t of miscellaneous food products.

In response to this request, the ICRC and the UNHCR approached the Community and have asked it to supply :

- as regards the ICRC, 10,000 t of wholly milled rice and 500 t of butteroil,
- as regards the UNHCR, 2,000 t of wholly milled rice, 6,000 t of wheat flour and 500 t of butteroil.

3. The Commission's proposals

In view of the substantial and urgent requirements of the people affected by the events, the Commission proposes a second instalment of emergency aid for the population in question, comprising :

- . 9,000 t of wholly milled rice⁽¹⁾,
- . 6,000 t of wheat flour,
- . 1,000 t of butteroil.

This second slice of aid is worth 5,146,210 u.a. at world prices (see financial annex). If the value of the first slice already decided is added (1,126,000 u.a.), the total of Community aid for South Vietnam becomes 6,272,210 u.a.

These quantities will be distributed as follows :

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(1) In view of the current situation of the rice market and the fact that other rice supplies will probably have to be provided shortly (for example Guinea Bissau, Cape Verde), this quantity covers in part only the total amount asked for by the two bodies (12,000 t).

a) allocated to the ICRC :

- 7,000 t of wholly milled rice, of which 2,000 t round grained and 5,000 t long grained, (total of 9,827 t of wheat equivalent),
- 500 t of butteroil.

These quantities would be set off against the outline agreement of 3 February 1975 concluded with the ICRC and delivered cif under the terms of that agreement⁽¹⁾.

b) allocated to the UNHCR⁽²⁾ :

- 2,000 t of long grained wholly milled rice (2,899 t of wheat equivalent),
- 6,000 t of wheat flour (9,060 t of wheat equivalent),
- 500 t of butteroil.

The total quantity of wheat equivalent (11,959 t) would be set off as follows :

- 8,048 t against the 1972/73 programme, under which the quantities originally earmarked for Chile are still available⁽³⁾,
- 3,911 t against the reserve under the 1974/75 programme, amounting at present to 25,000 t⁽⁴⁾.

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- (1) Under which there is at present an available balance of 13,710 t of cereals and 500 t of butteroil.
- (2) The details of this distribution of the aid to UNHCR could be arranged speedily with this body thanks, in particular, to the application of the new management procedures.
- (3) It is understood, however, that if in accordance with the Communication of 18 December 1974 - Doc. T/55/75 COMER 5 FIN 8 - these quantities should prove to be required for the implementation of measures taken by charity organizations working in Chile, a proposal would, if necessary, be submitted subsequently to the Council.
- (4) The 2,000 t of milled rice (2,899 t of husked rice) would be set off against this reserve.

The butteroil would be set off against the reserve provided for under the 1975 programme (4,650 t) which is to be adopted shortly by the Council.

The aid to the UNHCR would be supplied fob, this organization paying for the sea transport.

- c) The products would be distributed by the South Vietnam Red Cross supervised by delegates from the ICRC and the UNHCR, at a rate of approximately 10 kg of cereals and 500 gr of butteroil per person per month for a period of between three and six months⁽¹⁾.
- d) As regards the dispatch of the cereals between the fob and cif stages (by the ICRC), provision should be made for the possibility of resorting to procedures other than invitation to tender, for reasons of efficiency⁽²⁾.

IN CONCLUSION, it is proposed that the Council :

1. approve, under the supply agreement signed on 3 February 1975 between the Community and the ICRC, the delivery cif to the stricken population in South Vietnam of 7,000 t of wholly milled rice and 500 t of butteroil;
2. grant the UNHCR 2,000 t of wholly milled rice and 6,000 t of wheat flour - to be delivered fob - for the stricken population in South Vietnam, to be set off against the 1972/73 programme and the reserve from the 1974/75 programme;
3. adopt the proposal for a Council Regulation on the supply of 500 t of butteroil to the UNHCR for the stricken population in South Vietnam (Annex I);
4. adopt the proposal for a Council Regulation on a derogation from Regulation (EEC) N. 1693/72 as regards the procedures for mobilizing food aid for the ICRC (Annex II).

(1) To provide an idea of the impact of this aid, it may be noted that the 15,000 t of rice and wheat flour would make it possible to feed 250.000 people for six months, and that the 1,000 t of butteroil would feed 335.000 people.

(2) As regards the butteroil, it is possible to have recourse to these procedures under the milk fats regulation to be adopted shortly by the Council.

FINANCIAL ANNEX

Estimate and budgetary heading

<u>1. Estimated raw material cost at world price</u>	<u>u.a./t</u>	<u>u.a.</u>
- 12.726 t of husked rice (equivalent to 7000 t of long-grained wholly milled rice and 2000 t of round- grained wholly milled rice)	x 185(1)	= 2.354.310
- 9.060 t of wheat (equivalent to 6000 t of wheat flour)	x 115 (1)	= 1.041.900
- 1.000 t of butteroil	x 1375 (1)	= 1.375.000
 <u>2. Estimated cost of transport (ICRC)</u>		
- 7.500 t (7 000 of wholly milled rice and 500 t of butteroil)	x 50	375 000

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3. Budgetary heading

a) Cereals

- i. for the quantities set off against the 1972/73 and 1973/74 programmes :
item 9200 of the 1975 budget,
- ii. for the quantities set off against the 1974/75 programme : item 9201
of the 1975 budget,

b) Butteroil

item 9210 and 9212 of the 1975 budget

(1) "World" price adopted for drawing up the 1975 budget

Proposal for
Regulation (EEC) n° of the Council
of
on the supply of butteroil to the Office of the
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as
food aid under the 1975 programme for the stricken
population in South Vietnam

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) n° of
establishing the general rules relating to the supply of milk fats as
food aid under the 1975 programme to certain developing countries and
international organizations(1), and in particular Article 8 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas Regulation (EEC) n° provides for the supply in the form of
food aid of 43 400 tonnes of butteroil to certain developing countries
and international organizations;

Whereas Council Regulation (EEC) n° of on the supply of
milk fats as food aid under the 1975 programme to certain developing
countries and international organizations (2) provided for a reserve
of 4 650 tonnes of butteroil;

(1)

(2)

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Whereas, as a result of events in South Vietnam the food situation of a substantial number of the stricken population is critical; whereas it is necessary to help to improve this situation by supplying food or at an equivalent stage 500 tonnes of butteroil in the form of food aid; whereas the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees is prepared to undertake the dispatch of this aid from the territory of the Community,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

Of the 4 650 tonnes of butteroil earmarked as a reserve under Regulation (EEC) n° , 500 tonnes shall be allocated to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for the purpose of helping the stricken population in South Vietnam.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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

For the Council,

The President.

Proposal for a Regulation of the Council
of
on a derogation from Regulation (EEC) n° 1693/72
as regards the procedures for mobilizing food aid
for the International Committee of the Red Cross

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation n° 120/67 EEC of 13 June 1967 on the common organization of the market in cereals (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) n° 665/75 (2), and in particular Article 22 (a) thereof;

Having regard to Council Regulation n° 359/67/EEC of 25 July 1967 on the common organization of the market in rice (3), as last amended by regulation (EEC) n° 668/75 (4), and in particular Article 23 (a) thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas, in view of the urgency of the food requirements of the population of South Vietnam to whom the International Committee of the Red Cross has been requested to distribute Community food aid, it would appear appropriate that for the dispatch of this food aid from the fob stage sufficiently flexible arrangements should be made to permit the situation to be dealt with as effectively as possible;

Whereas recourse to the invitation to tender procedure laid down in Article 4 of Council Regulation (EEC) n° 1693/72 of 3 August 1972 establishing the criteria for mobilizing cereals intended for food aid (5), does not always permit the objectives of effectiveness to be met as regards the dispatch of the products from the fob stage;

(1) OJ n° L 117 of 19.6.67

(2) OJ n° L

(3) OJ n° L 174 of 31.7.67

(4) OJ n° L

(5) OJ n° L 178 of 5.8.72

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Whereas provision should consequently be made for the possibility of resorting to another procedure;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

By way of derogation from Article 4 of Regulation (EEC) n° 1693/72 it shall be possible to resort to a procedure other than invitation to tender for the dispatch from the fob stage of cereals within the meaning of the above Regulation, supplied as food aid under the 1973/74 programme to the International Committee of the Red Cross for distribution to the stricken population in South Vietnam.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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.

For the Council,

The President.