

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(79) 191 final

Brussels, 9 April 1979

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION
AUTHORISING THE COMMISSION TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE
ACP STATES REFERRED TO IN PROTOCOL No 3 ANNEXED
TO THE ACP-EEC CONVENTION OF LOME AND WITH THE
REPUBLIC OF INDIA CONCERNING THE GUARANTEED
PRICES FOR CANE SUGAR TO APPLY
IN THE 1979/80 DELIVERY PERIOD

(Presented by the Commission to the Council)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1. Protocol No 3 on ACP sugar annexed to the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé and the Agreement with India on cane sugar place an obligation on the Community to purchase - at guaranteed prices - cane sugar which the exporting countries concerned cannot commercially market in the Community at prices equivalent to or in excess of the guaranteed prices. The Protocol and the Agreement also require that the guaranteed prices shall be negotiated annually.
2. The current guaranteed prices apply until 30 June 1979. The attached recommendation for a Council Decision accordingly seeks authority for the Commission to negotiate, on behalf of the Community, the guaranteed prices to be applied to the 1979/80 delivery period which begins on 1 July 1979.
3. The Council's attention is drawn to the following:
 - During last year's negotiations
 - (a) The Community was unable to accept an ACP request that the guaranteed prices agreed for 1978/79 should be applied retroactively.
 - (b) The ACP states requested that the Community should consider ways and means of providing some compensation for the freight charges borne by the ACP sugar-exporting states in transporting their preferential sugar to the Community. The Community took note of this request.

Financial implications

This recommendation for a Decision does not involve financial implications other than those already taken into account in the agricultural price proposals (Doc. COM (79) 10 Vol II of 2.2.1979).

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

authorising the Commission to open negotiations with the ACP states referred to in Protocol No 3 annexed to the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé and with the Republic of India concerning the guaranteed prices for cane sugar to apply in the 1979/80 delivery period

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the Commission,

Whereas the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé (1) entered into force on 1 April 1976;

Whereas an agreement on cane sugar between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India (2), hereinafter referred to as the "Agreement", entered into force on 18 July 1975;

Whereas Protocol No 3 on ACP sugar annexed to the said Convention, hereinafter referred to as the "Protocol", and the Agreement provide that the guaranteed prices for the quantities of cane sugar concerned shall be negotiated annually,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS :

Sole Article

1. The Commission is hereby authorised to open negotiations with the ACP states referred to in the Protocol and with the Republic of India on the guaranteed prices referred to in the Protocol and the Agreement to apply in the 1979/80 delivery period. These negotiations shall be opened as soon as possible after the Council has determined the Community's internal sugar prices for 1979/80, and in any case before 1 May 1979.
2. The Commission shall conduct these negotiations in consultation with representatives of the Member States and in conformity with the following guideline :
 - The guaranteed prices *ciffo* should be negotiated in such a way that the return guaranteed to the ACP countries and to the Republic of India for their raw cane sugar deliveries to the Community are comparable with the guaranteed net return to the Community producers of raw beet sugar.
 - The prices thus negotiated shall apply only in respect of the delivery period which begins on 1 July 1979.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

(1) OJ No L 25, 30.1.1976, p.1

(2) OJ No L 190, 23.7.1975, p.35