

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(90) 519 final

Brussels, 29 October 1990

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

fixing the guide prices for the fishery products  
listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81  
for the 1991 fishing year

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Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II  
to Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 for the 1991 fishing year

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Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

fixing the Community producer price for tuna intended for the  
industrial manufacture of products falling within  
CN code 1604 for the 1991 fishing year

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(presented by the Commission)

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Regulation is to fix the guide prices for 1991 for the products in Annex I(A), (D) and (E) of Regulation (EEC) N° 3796/81 on the common organization of the market in fishery products. Article 10 of that Regulation states that a guide price for each of these products shall 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. In fixing the price, 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 1991 has been based on a comparison between the average of prices recorded between 1988 and the first six months of 1990 and that for the period between 1987 and 1989, which was used as a basis for fixing the guide prices for 1990.

Generally speaking white fish production is appreciably lower and withdrawals virtually negligible. This drop in production appears to be mainly due to the fact that white fish is becoming rarer and this too is causing a substantial increase in the average of prices.

In view of these favourable price movements, the Commission proposes an increase of 1 - 3 % in the prices of various species of white fish with the exception of plaice (poor market situation) and cat shark (difference between the guide price and the average price).

An assessment of the market situation and foreseeable developments for pelagic species is further complicated in particular by production levels that fluctuate from one year to the next :

- a) Although herring prices have been falling slightly for the past 3 years, it is proposed that the guide price be kept at its current level since the drop in prices is slackening along with production prospects in the coming year.
- b) Although the situation is improving on the mackerel market, it is proposed that the guide price for this species should not be increased as the withdrawal price is too close to the average market price.
- c) Anchovy prices are slightly lower but withdrawals are negligible and the considerable difference between guide prices and average market prices allow for an increase of 1 %.

d) Mediterranean sardines : in view of the artificial nature of the increase in accordance with the guide lines set out in the report on sardines (COM 87 219 final of 7 August 87) it is proposed that the guide price for this product be reduced by 1 % in order not to have a worse effect on the competitiveness of the canning industry.

Atlantic sardines : in view of the level of withdrawals (around 5 % of production) despite lower production and in order not to restrict the competitiveness of the processing industry, it is proposed to reduce the guide price by 1 %, out with the price alignment scheme provided for by the Act of Accession.

Among the new species included in the Community system of storage aid as a result of the Act of Accession, the Commission proposes a substantial decrease in the price for nephrops (tails), a species for which the gap between average market price and guide price has widened considerably over the last few years.

Consequently, it is proposed that:

- the guide price for Atlantic sardine and Mediterranean sardine be reduced by 1 %, and that for nephrops (tails) by 5 %;
- the 1990 guide prices for herring, plaice, cat shark, monkfish (tails), mackerel, edible crabs and whole nephrops be maintained in 1991;
- to increase the guide price
- by 1 % for anchovies, hake, monkfish, redfish and saithe,
- by 2 % for whiting, megrim, dogfish and ling,
- by 3 % for cod and haddock
- by 4 % for Rays bream and shrimps

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) N°**  
**of**  
**fixing the guide prices for the fishery products**  
**listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of Regulation (EEC) N° 3796/81**  
**for the 1991 fishing year**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) N° 3796/81 of 29 December 1981 on the common organization of the market in fishery products (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) no 2886/89 (2), and in particular Article 10 (3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 10 (1) and (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 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 10 (2) of that Regulation and on an assessment of production and demand prospects ;

Whereas the application of the criteria laid down in Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 and referred to above involves for the 1991 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 ; whereas, in the absence of certain information concerning price trends for each fishery product with given commercial characteristics, consideration should be given to the relationship between the average weighted market prices recorded when the guide prices were fixed for the previous fishing year for these products, and the average weighted market prices recorded currently ;

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(1) OJ n° L 379, 31.12.1981, p. 1.

(2) OJ n° L 282, 02.10.1989, p. 1.

Whereas in accordance with Articles 169 and 356 of the Act of Accession, a sixth approximation of guide prices must take place on 1 January 1991 for Atlantic sardines of the species **Sardina pilchardus** ,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

#### **Article 1**

The guide prices for the fishing year from 1 January to 31 December 1991 for the products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) to Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 and the categories to which they relate are fixed in the Annex hereto.

#### **Article 2**

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1991.

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 <b>Clupea harengus</b>	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	From 1 January to ) 31 July 1991 ) 267 and from 1 October ) to 31 December 1991 ) From 1 August to ) 243 30 September 1991 )
2. Sardines of the species <b>Sardina pilchardus</b>				
a) Atlantic :				
- Member States other than Spain and Portugal	Extra	3	Whole fish	472
- Spain, Portugal	Extra	3	Whole fish	390
b) Mediterranean	Extra	3	Whole fish	454
3. Picked dogfish <b>(Squalus acanthias)</b>	Extra, A	2	( Whole fish ) ( Guttet fish with head )	869
4. Catshanks ( <b>Scyliorhinus</b> spp.)	Extra, A	1	( Whole fish ) ( Guttet fish with head )	766
5. Redfish ( <b>Sebastes</b> spp.)	A	2	Whole fish	907
6. Cod of the species <b>Gadus</b> <b>morhua</b>	A or A	2  3	Guttet fish with head ) ) Guttet fish with head )	1 267
7. Coalfish ( <b>Pollachius virens</b> )	A ou A	2  3	Guttet fish with head ) ) Guttet fish with head )	654

Species	Commercial specifications (1)			Guide price (ECU/tonne)
	Freshness category	Size	Presentation	
8. Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus aeglefinus</i> )	A	2	Gutted fish, with head )	922
	or		)	
9. Whiting ( <i>Merlangus merlangus</i> )	A	3	Gutted fish, with head )	815
	or		)	
	A	2	Gutted fish, with head )	
10. Ling ( <i>Molva</i> spp.)	Extra, A	1, 2	Gutted fish, with head	938
11. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Extra	1	Whole fish )	264
	or		)	
	A	2	Whole fish )	
12. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber japonicus</i>	Extra	1	Whole fish )	323
	or		)	
	A	2	Whole fish )	
13. Anchovies ( <i>Engraulis</i> spp.)	Extra	2	Whole fish	924
14. Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	A	2	Gutted fish, with head	From 1 January ) 774
	or			to 30 April 1991 )
	A	3	Gutted fish, with head	From 1 May ) 1 055
				to 31 December 1991)

Species	Commercial specifications (1)			Guide price (ECU/tonne)
	Freshness category	Size	Presentation	
15. Hake of the species <b>Merluccius merluccius</b>	A	1	Gutted fish with head	3 018
16. Megrim ( <b>Lepidorhombus spp.</b> )	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole fish, gutted fish with head	1 906
17. Ray's bream ( <b>Brana spp.</b> )	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	1 560
18. Monkfish ( <b>Lophius spp.</b> )	Extra, A	2, 3	Whole, gutted, with head	2 142
	Extra, A	2, 3	Without head	5 040
19. Shrimps of the species <b>Crangon crangon</b>	A	1	Simply boiled in water	1 639
20. Edible crab ( <b>Cancer pagurus</b> )	-	1	Whole	1 500
21. Norway lobster <b>(Nephrops norvegicus)</b>	E, A	1, 2	Whole	4 400
	E, A	2	Tails	8 610

(1) The freshness categories, sizes and presentation are defined pursuant to Article 2 of

Regulation

(EEC)

No

3796/81



## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No. 3796/81 on the common organization of the market in fishery products states that, for each of the products listed in Annex II, a guide price shall 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 price trends for frozen products suggests that the guide prices should be kept at their current level in the 1991 fishing year for sardines, cuttlefish and octopus and increased for sea bream.

The large volume of stocks of squid of the species Loligo patagonica and the continued weakness in prices reflect the crisis which has been affecting this market for several months.

For Illex too, the high level of community production in '89 combined with the impact of imports has led to a continual drop in prices over the past 3 years.

In these circumstances, the Commission proposes to adjust the guide prices to the long-term market trends and thus reduce significantly Community guide prices for the 1991 fishing year.

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No     /**  
**of**  
**fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II to**  
**Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 for the 1991 fishing year**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 of 29 December 1981 on the common organization of the market in fishery products (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2886/89 (2), and in particular Article 15 (5),

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 15 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 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 10 of that Regulation, these prices should be increased, maintained and increased according to the species for the 1991 fishing year,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

**Article 1**

The guide prices for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1991 for the products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 and the categories to which they relate are fixed in the Annex hereto.

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(1) OJ N° L 379, 31.12.1981, p. 1.

(2) OJ N° L 282, 02.10.1989, p. 1.

**Article 2**

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1991.

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. Sardines of the species <i>Sardinus pilchardus</i>	Frozen, in lots or in original packages containing the same products	389
2. Sea-bream ( <i>Dentex dentex</i> and <i>Pagellus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in lots or in original packages containing the same products	1 364
3. Squid of the species <i>Loligo</i> <i>patagonica</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	975
4. Squid ( <i>Onnastrephes sagittatus</i> )	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	773
5. <i>Illex argentinus</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	773
6. Cuttlefish of the species <i>Sepia officinalis</i> , <i>Rossia</i> <i>macrozona</i> and <i>Sepiola</i> <i>rondeletti</i>	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1 642
7. Octopus ( <i>Octopus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1 323

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 on the common organization of the market in fishery products states that, for tuna intended for use by the canning industry, a Community production price shall 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.

There has been an appreciable reduction in the average Community production price over the past 3 years. The same is true for the first 6 months of 1990 ; the price of Albacore weighing more than 10 kg has gradually fallen on the community market, reflecting the situation on the international market on which Albacore is in plentiful supply and prices are dropping.

In these circumstances, the Commission proposes that the Community tuna production price be reduced by 10% for the 1991 fishing year.

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No

of

fixing the Community producer price for tuna intended for the industrial manufacture of products falling within CN code 1604 for the 1991 fishing year

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 of 29 December 1981 on the common organization of the market in fishery products (1) as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2886/89 (2), and in particular Article 17 (3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 17 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 provides that a Community producer price shall be fixed for tunas (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 Article 17 (2) of the abovementioned Regulation, the price for the 1991 fishing year should be decreased,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

**Article 1**

The Community producer price for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1991 for tunas (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 category to which it relates are hereby fixed as follows :

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(1) OJ No L 379, 31.12.1981, p. 1.

(2) OJ No L 282, 02.10.1989, p. 1.

(ECU/tonne)

Product	Commercial specifications	Guide price
Yellowfin tunas ( <i>Thunnus albacares</i> )	Whole, weighing more than 10 kg each	1 115

**Article 2**

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1991.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DATE : 4.10.90

1. BUDGET LINE CONCERNED : Article B2 -901

2. ACTION : Three proposals for Council Regulations fixing the guide prices for fishery products (Annex I (A) and (D) and (E); Annex II to Regulation (CEE) No 3796/81 and the producer price for tuna.

3. LEGAL BASIS : Articles 10, 15 and 17 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81

4. OBJECTIVES : Annual fixing of prices in the fisheries sector 1991

5. FINANCIAL CONCURRENCE	FOR THE MARKETING YEAR	CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR	FOLLOWING FINANCIAL YEAR
5.0 EXPENDITURE		( )	( 91 )
-CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (BOP/INTERVENTIONS)			
- <del>OTHER INTERVENTIONS</del>			27 mio Ecus *
5.1 REVENUE			
<del>REVENUE FROM INTERVENTIONS</del>			
<del>REVENUE FROM OTHER SOURCES</del>			

5.0.1 PLURIANNUAL PATTERN OF EXPENDITURE      YEAR .....      YEAR .....      YEAR .....  
 Measure restricted to the 1991 fishing year

5.1.1 PLURIANNUAL PATTERN OF RECEIPTS  
 16.10.90 - 15.10.91

5.2 METHOD OF CALCULATION

Withdrawals, premiums : 13 mio Ecus  
 Allowances sardines : 5 mio Ecus  
 Allowances tuna and storage aid : 9 mio Ecus

6.0 FINANCING POSSIBLE WITH CREDITS INSCRIBED IN RELEVANT CHAPTER OF CURRENT BUDGET ?  YES

6.1 FINANCING POSSIBLE BY TRANSFER BETWEEN CHAPTERS OF CURRENT BUDGET ?

6.2 NECESSITY FOR A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ?  NO

6.3 CREDITS TO BE WRITTEN INTO FUTURE BUDGETS ?

**COMMENTS :**

Since it is a matter of fixing prices, the impact on expenditure will be indirect. The expenditure in question is heavily dependent on developments in the market and the quantities landed.

\* A further allocation of 2 millions Ecu has been proposed by the Commission as part of the integration of the former DDR into the EEC-12







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# DOCUMENTS

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