

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

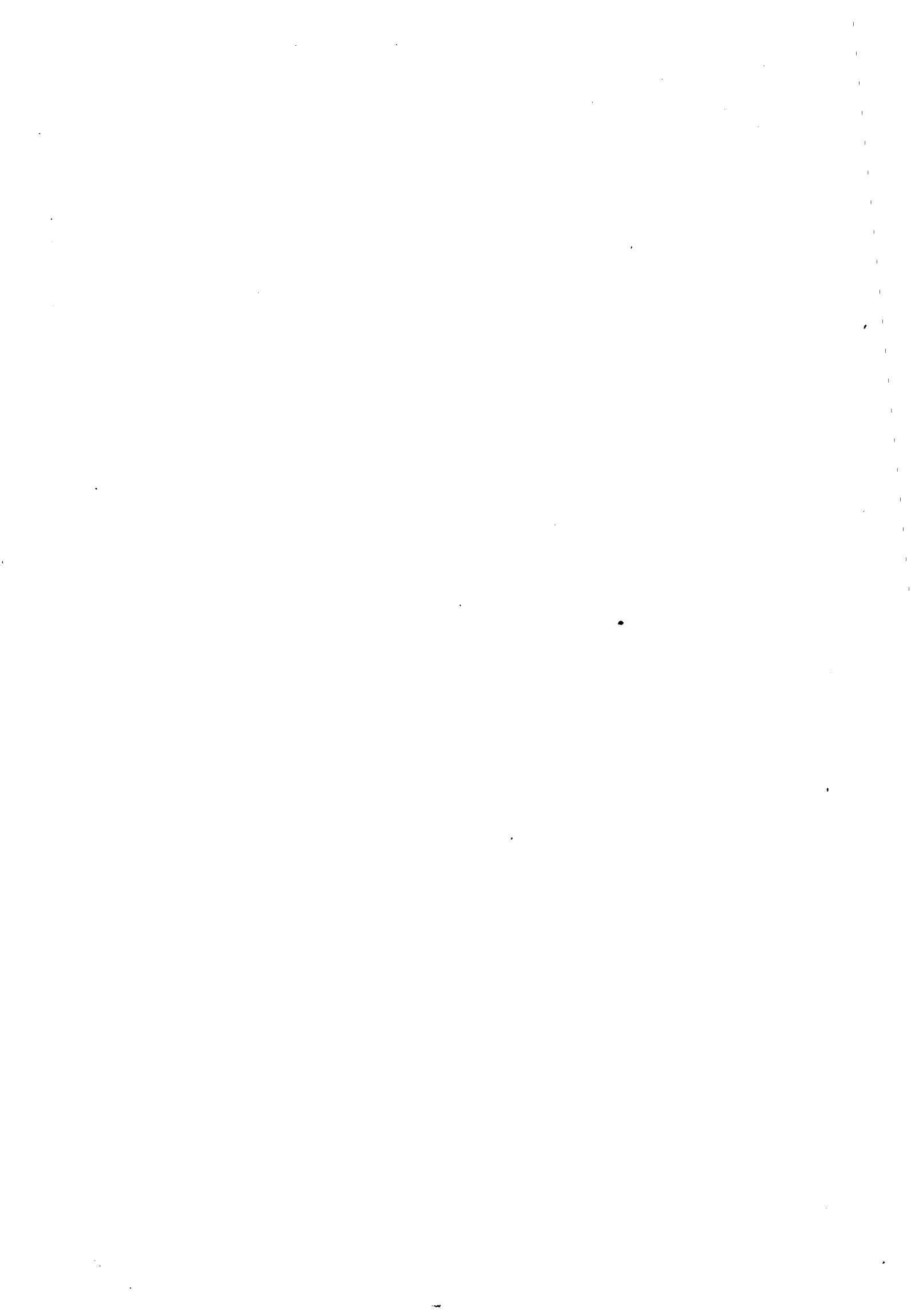
COM(78) 371 final
Brussels, 24 July 1978

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

Relative to the programme for the acceleration and guidance of
collective irrigation works
in Corsica

(submitted by the Commission to the Council)

COM(78) 371 final



EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Corsican agriculture is in a non-favourable situation with regard to agricultural incomes and the under-employment which exists in agriculture. Besides, the conditions of agricultural production are seriously affected by the climatic conditions and above all by the inadequate rainfall during the growing seasons.

The elimination or reduction of this natural handicap could greatly increase yields and thus improve the productivity in this region. Consequently, irrigation measures play an important role within the framework of Community efforts to improve the situation of agriculture in the Mediterranean regions and the creation of favourable conditions for the application of the common agricultural policy.

A common action covering the acceleration of irrigation measures must allow the French Republic to eliminate this natural handicap in the light of the rapid and permanent effects on agricultural incomes.

The effects by way of the improvement of the production structures of this region will only be assured by the establishment of a programme which includes all the necessary measures and which takes account of the problem of reorientation of agricultural production in the irrigated regions. The Community's financial contribution must therefore be used within the framework of such a programme.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Having regard to the Treaty establishing European Economic Community,
and in particular Article 43 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Parliament, (1),

Whereas Article 39 (2) (a) of the Treaty provides that account should be taken of the social structure of agriculture and the structural and natural disparities between the various agricultural regions in working out the common agricultural policy;

Whereas in order to achieve the objectives of the common agricultural policy set out in Article 39 (1) (a) and (b) of the Treaty, special measures which are appropriate to the production conditions of the least-favoured agricultural areas should be adopted at Community level;

Whereas certain Mediterranean regions of the Community are in an unfavourable situation as regards agricultural incomes and suffer from under-employment not only in agriculture but also generally;

Whereas these problems are particularly evident in Corsica;

Whereas the active agricultural population is an important part of the total active population in this region;

Whereas action should be concentrated on basic aspects of the structural development of these regions which will have quick and lasting effects on agricultural incomes;

Whereas agricultural production in Corsica is seriously affected by a severely unbalanced water supply situation, in that the capacity of the existing reservoirs and main channels is much greater than that of the irrigation network;

(1) OJ No C

Whereas the provision of such irrigation networks must be speeded up by means of Community aide;

Whereas the conditions and limits laid down in Articles 13 and 19 of Council Directive 72/159/EEC of 17 April 1972 on the modernisation of farms (1) are not well suited, as regards irrigation, to the special structural situation in Corsica;

Whereas the opportunity should be taken to reorientate agricultural production in the irrigated areas of these regions;

Whereas these objectives should be pursued by way of a measure covering the irrigated areas of Corsica as part of a programme extending over several years;

Whereas, in the premises, the measures referred to above constitute a common measure within the meaning of Article 6 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 729/70 of 21 April 1970 on the financing of the common agricultural policy (2), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2788/72 (3);

Whereas it is the task of the Commission, after receiving the opinion of the Standing Committee on Agricultural Structures, to approve a programme presented by the French Republic,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE :

(1) OJ No L 96, 23/4/1972, p.1

(2) OJ No L 94, 28/4/1970, p. 13

(3) OJ No L 295, 30/12/1972, p. 1

Article 1

1. In order to increase agricultural incomes in Corsica and to improve basic agricultural structures, thereby contributing to the modernisation of farms, a common measure shall be introduced to accelerate collective irrigation operations from reservoirs and main channels and thus to facilitate the introduction of development plans within the meaning of Articles 2 and 4 of Directive 72/159/EEC in the irrigated areas, while reorientating production to market requirements.
2. The measures provided for in this Directive constitute a common measure within the meaning of Article 6(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70.

Article 2

1. The conditions and limits laid down in Article 13 (2) and 19 (2) and (3) of Directive 72/159/EEC shall not apply to collective irrigation operations which are the subject of this common measure.
2. The financial contribution of the Community may only be used in the context of a programme covering all areas to be irrigated in the region concerned.

This programme shall be submitted to the Commission by the French Republic.

3. The financial aspects of the programme shall be examined and approved after consultation with the Committee of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund, hereinafter called "the Fund", in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 18 (2) and (3) of Directive 72/159/EEC.

Article 3

The programme referred to in Article 2 shall include the following information :

a) In the case of collective irrigation works,

- the geographical areas covered by the programme which are to be equipped with an irrigation network using existing reservoirs and main channels;
- the number of hectares of irrigated land to be equipped with irrigation networks, and their location;
- the necessary work schedule for the irrigation works and the timetable for the programme;
- the average cost per hectare of agricultural area and the estimated total cost of the programme,

b) In the case of the orientation of production :

- measures to orientate production in particular towards fodder crops (maize, barley, lucerne, clover, field beans, sorghum, soya beans, etc.) and the development of livestock rearing;
- measures to ensure that in the application of financial contribution to investments in the processing and marketing of agricultural products, provided for under Council Regulation (EEC) No 355/77 of 15 February 1977 on common measures to improve the conditions under which agricultural products are processed and marketed (1), as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 178 (2), priority is given to production from the irrigated areas;
- measures to exclude from the collective works covered by the programme, areas devoted to vines for wine-making.

(1) OJ No L 51, 23/2/77, p. 1

(2) OJ No

Article 4

1. Expenditure incurred by the French Republic under the programme referred to in Article 2 for collective irrigation works up to a maximum of 15 000 hectares shall be eligible for aid from the Guidance Section of the Fund.
2. The Guidance Section of the Fund shall reimburse 50% of the eligible expenditure to the French Republic. However, the amount of eligible expenditure may not exceed 3000 units of account per hectare irrigated.

Article 5

1. The period of devation of the measure shall be 5 years will effect from the date of notification of this Directive.
2. The total estimated cast of the common measure to be by the Fund shall be 15 million units of account for the entire period.

Article 6

When the programme referred to in Article 2 (3) is approved, the Commission shall, in agreement with the French Republic, six the detailed rules by which it shall be kept informed of the progress of the programme. The French Republic shall at the same time designate the organisations responsible for the technical execution of the programme.

Article 7

1. Requests for reimbursement shall relate to expenditure incurred by the French Republic during a single calendar year and shall be presented to the Commission before 1 July of the following year.
2. Aid from the Fund shall be decided upon in accordance with Article 7 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No. 729/70.

3. The Guidance Section of the Fund may make advance payments in proportion to those granted by the French Republic and according to the progress of the projects.
4. Detailed rules for the application of this Article shall be adopted in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 13 of Regulation (EEC) No 729/70.

Article 8

This Directive is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels

For the Council

The President

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

DATE : 4-7-1978

1. BUDGET LINE CONCERNED :

CREDITS :

2. ACTION : Council Directive relating to a programme to accelerate and guide collective irrigation works in Corsica.

3. LEGAL BASIS : Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) no. 729/70

4. OBJECTIVES : To increase agricultural incomes in Corsica by improving the basic agricultural structures and thereby permitting the modernisation of agricultural holdings.

5. FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCE	PERIOD OF 12 MONTHS	CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR (78)	FOLLOWING FINANCIAL YEAR (79)
5.0 EXPENDITURE			
- CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (REFINANCING/INTERVENTIONS)	/	-	1.2
- CHARGED TO NATIONAL ADMINISTR.		-	1.5
- CHARGED TO OTHER NATIONAL GROUPS		-	-
5.1 RECEIPTS			
- OWN RESOURCES OF THE EC (LEAKS/CUSTOMS DUTIES)		-	-
- NATIONAL		-	-

	YEAR 1979	YEAR 1980	YEAR 1981
5.0.1 PLURIANNUAL PATTERN OF EXPENDITURE	1.2 MEUA	2.7	4.2
5.1.1 PLURIANNUAL PATTERN OF RECEIPTS	-	-	-

5.2 METHOD OF CALCULATION

See Annex

6.0 FINANCING POSSIBLE WITH CREDITS INSCRIBED IN RELEVANT CHAPTER OF CURRENT BUDGET ? YES/NO

6.1 FINANCING POSSIBLE BY TRANSFER BETWEEN CHAPTERS OF CURRENT BUDGET ? YES/NO

6.2 NECESSITY FOR A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ? YES/NO

6.3 CREDITS TO BE WRITTEN INTO FUTURE BUDGETS ? YES/NO

COMMENTS :

CALCULATION OF COSTS

1. The average cost per hectare is estimated at 2000 úc/ha.

2. The area to be irrigated is

- Oriental Plain	10,000 ha
- Diverse zones in the West	5,000 ha
total	15,000 ha

3. Reimbursement Rate : 50%.

4. Cost to EAGGF Guidance Section :

$$2000 \times 15000 \times 0.5 = 15 \text{ MUCE}$$

5. Payment timetable

Year	Percentage of Work	Commitment Appropriations	Payment Appropriations
1979	10%	1.5 MUCE	1.2
1980	20%	3	2.7
1981	30%	4.5	4.2
1982	30%	4.5	4.5
1983	10%	1.5	2.1
1984	-	-	0.3
Total	100%	15	15

