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REGULATION (EEC) No 446/68 OF THE COUNCIL

of 9 April 1968

on special intervention measures for rice

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation No 359/67/EEC¹ of 25 July 1967 on the common organisation of the market in rice, and in particular the first subparagraph of Article 6 thereof;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas the establishment of a single price system for rice entails replacing national systems of regionalised intervention prices, limited to the territory of each producer Member State by a uniform Community system; whereas changed patterns of trade between surplus and deficit areas in the Community should result therefrom;

Whereas it is not yet possible to make a final decision on adapting the market to the new regionalised prices for rice on a Community scale and to the disappearance of price zones which had been created by the barrier of intra-Community levies;

Whereas, moreover, harvests of all or several varieties of rice, which in certain regions of the Community differed substantially from the average for previous years, could in those regions temporarily bring about a change in market prices not found elsewhere in the Community;

Whereas in consequence intervention agencies might have to buy in large quantities in certain regions

without this measure being required by the long-term trend of markets in the Community;

Whereas provision should therefore be made for preventive measures to enable trade to support the market in those regions for a given period;

Whereas, in view of the uniformity which should characterise the Community market in rice, such measures should be assessed and decided upon from a Community viewpoint;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Sole Article

If in any region of the Community market prices show a fall or a weakness which, in the case of rice or certain varieties of rice and in view of the size of the harvest or regional stocks and their geographical situation, could oblige the intervention agency to buy in large quantities, the Member State concerned may request the Commission to authorise the intervention agency, in accordance with the procedure provided for in Article 26 of Regulation No 359/67/EEC, to take special intervention measures on the paddy rice market in accordance with Article 6 of that Regulation. The decision of the Commission shall be taken within twelve working days following that on which the request was made.

The Member State shall state the reasons for its request and for the measures which it considers should be adopted and shall indicate the intended duration of their application.

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

Done at Luxembourg, 9 April 1968.

For the Council

The President

E. FAURE

¹ OJ No 174, 31.7.1967, p. 1.