



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 28.10.1996  
COM(96) 527 final

Proposal for a  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I(A), (D)  
and (E) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1997 fishing year

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Proposal for a  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II to  
Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1997 fishing year

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Proposal for a  
COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

fixing the Community producer price for tuna intended for the industrial  
manufacture of products falling within CN code 1604 for the 1997 fishing year

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(presented by the Commission)



## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Regulation is to fix the guide prices for 1997 for the products in Annex I(A), (D) and (E) to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products. Article 9 of that Regulation states that a guide price for each of these products is to 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. 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 1997 has been based on a comparison between the average of prices recorded between 1994 and the first six months of 1996 and that for the period between 1993 and 1995, which was used as a basis for fixing the guide prices for 1996.

The reduction in white fish prices recorded between 1994 and 1996 fluctuated between -1% and -11% for most species and prices have been generally lower in the first half of 1996 than in the first half of 1995, with the exception of prices for plaice, sole, haddock and whiting.

In view of the long-term trend in prices, the Commission proposes a reduction of 1-5% in the prices for various species of white fish, with the exception of redfish, for which it recommends no change; for plaice, dogfish, Ray's bream, dab, flounder and sole, the Commission proposes an increase of 1-2%.

With regard to pelagic species, prices recorded between 1994 and 1996 were generally higher than between 1993 and 1995, except for Spanish mackerel and anchovy, with prices rising during the first half of 1996. The Commission proposes price changes from -3% to +3% for pelagic species.

As regards the other species (shrimps, crabs, Norway lobster and cuttlefish), the Commission proposes no change for deep-water prawns and crabs, +5% for common shrimps, -1% for whole Norway lobster and cuttlefish and -5% for headed Norway lobster.

It is proposed therefore:

- to lower the guide price for dogfish by 1%, for cod by 5%, for saithe by 1%, for haddock by 1%, for whiting by 1%, for ling by 1%, for Spanish mackerel by 3%, for anchovy by 1%, for hake by 2%, for megrim by 1%, for whole monkfish by 1%, for whole Norway lobster by 1%, for headed Norway lobster by 5% and for cuttlefish by 1%;
- to maintain in 1997 the guide prices applicable in 1996 for herring, redfish, headed monkfish, edible crab and Northern prawn;
- to raise the guide price for sardine, Ray's bream, flounder and albacore by 1%, dogfish, plaice, sole and dab by 2%, mackerel by 3% and common shrimp by 5%.

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No**  
**of**  
**fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) of**  
**Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1997 fishing year**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products <sup>1</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3318/94 <sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 9 (3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 9 (1) and (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 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 9 (2) of that Regulation and on an assessment of production and demand prospects ;

Whereas the application of these criteria involves for the 1997 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 ;

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

**Article 1**

The guide prices for the fishing year from 1 January to 31 December 1997 for the products listed in Annex I (A), (D) and (E) to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 and the commercial categories to which they relate are fixed in the Annex hereto.

**Article 2**

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1997.

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 <sup>(1)</sup>			Guide price (ECU/tonne)
	Freshness category	Size	Presentation	
1. Herrings of the species <i>Clupea harengus</i>	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	275
2. Sardines of the species <i>Sardina pilchardus</i>	Extra	3	Whole fish	508
3. Picked dogfish ( <i>Squalus acanthias</i> )	Extra, A		Whole fish Gutted fish with head	) 1036 )
4. Catshanks ( <i>Scyliorhinus</i> spp.)	Extra, A	1	Whole fish Gutted fish with head	) 806 )
5. Redfish ( <i>Sebastes</i> spp.)	A	2	Whole fish	1121
6. Cod of the species <i>Gadus</i> <i>morhua</i>	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 1431 )
7. Coalfish ( <i>Pollachius</i> <i>virens</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 762 )
8. Haddock ( <i>Melanogrammus</i> <i>aeglefinus</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 1031 )
9. Whiting ( <i>Merlangius</i> <i>merlangus</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	) ) 893 )
10. Ling ( <i>Molva</i> spp.)	Extra, A	1, 2	Gutted fish with head	1117
11. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber scombrus</i>	Extra or A	1  2	Whole fish  Whole fish	) ) 280 )
12. Mackerel of the species <i>Scomber japonicus</i>	Extra or A	1  2	Whole fish  Whole fish	) ) 312 )
13. Anchovies ( <i>Engraulis</i> spp.)	Extra	2	Whole fish	1156
14. Plaice ( <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> )	A or A	2  3	Gutted fish with head  Gutted fish with head	1.1.1997 ) - 30.4.1997 } 998 1.5.1997 { - 31.12.1997 { 1372

15. Hake of the species <i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	A	1	Gutted fish with head	3623
16. Megrim ( <i>Lepidorhombus spp.</i> )	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole fish, gutted fish with head	2289
17. Ray's bream ( <i>Brama spp.</i> )	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	1782
18. Monkfish ( <i>Lophius spp.</i> )	Extra, A	2, 3	Whole, or gutted with head	2650
	Extra, A	2, 3	Without head	5449
19. Shrimps of the species <i>Crangon crangon</i>	A	1	Simply boiled in water	2327
20. Edible crab ( <i>Cancer pagurus</i> )	-	1	Whole	1767
21. Norway lobster ( <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> )	E, A	1, 2	Whole	5078
	E, A	2	Tails	4130
22. Dab ( <i>Limanda limanda</i> )	Extra, A	1	Gutted fish with head	933
23. Flounder ( <i>Platichthys flesus</i> )	Extra, A	1	Gutted fish with head	547
24. Albacore or longfinned tuna ( <i>Thunnus alalunga</i> )	Extra, A	1	Whole fish	2103
		1	Gutted fish with head	2453
25. Cuttlefish ( <i>Sepia officinalis</i> and <i>Rossia macrosoma</i> )	Extra, A	1, 2	Whole	1582
26. Sole ( <i>Solea spp.</i> )	Extra, A		Gutted fish with head	6142
27. Deep-water prawns ( <i>Pandalus borealis</i> )	A	1	Simply boiled in water	6200
	A	1	Fresh or chilled	1690

(1) The freshness categories, sizes and presentation are defined pursuant to Article 2 of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery products provides that, for each of the products listed in Annex II, a guide price is to 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 market price trends and the level of the guide prices for frozen products suggests that the guide prices applicable in 1996 to hake and *Illex* and *Loligo* squid should be reduced.

In these circumstances the Commission proposes to adjust the Community guide prices in line with recent market trends and thus reduce the price for hake by (2%), for *Illex* squid by (1%) and for *Loligo* squid by (9%) for the 1997 fishing year.

On the other hand, since prices for octopus, cuttlefish, shrimps (other *Parapenaeus longirostris*), Greenland halibut and red bream have risen substantially, mainly in the first half of 1996, their guide prices should be increased by 4%, 1%, 2%, 1% and 3% respectively.

The Commission proposes to maintain the prices for common squid and shrimps (other *Penaeidae*).



COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No /  
of  
fixing the guide prices for the fishery products listed in Annex II to  
Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 for the 1997 fishing year

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products <sup>1</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EEC) No 3318/94<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 9 (3),

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 9 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 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 9 (2), of that Regulation, these prices should be maintained and decreased according to the species for the 1997 fishing year,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

**Article 1**

The guide prices for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1997 for the products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 and the commercial categories to which they relate are fixed in the Annex hereto.

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<sup>1</sup>OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup>OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

**Article 2**

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1997.

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. Sea-bream ( <i>Dentex dentex</i> and <i>Pagellus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in lots or in original packages containing the same products	1525
2. Squid of the species <i>Loligo patagonica</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	1013
3. Squid ( <i>Ommastrephes sagittatus</i> )	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	961
4. <i>Illex argentinus</i>	Frozen, not cleaned, in original packages containing the same products	897
5. Cuttlefish of the species <i>Sepia officinalis</i> , <i>Rossia macrosoma</i> and <i>Sepiola rondeletti</i>	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1968
6. Octopus ( <i>Octopus</i> spp.)	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1875
7. Lesser or Greenland halibut ( <i>Reinhardtius hippoglossoides</i> )	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1900
8. Whole hake of the genus <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1290
9. Fillets of hake of the genus <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	1593
10. - Prawns of the species <i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i> - Other species of the family <i>Penaeidae</i>	Frozen, in original packages containing the same products Frozen, in original packages containing the same products	4080 7985

## EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 on the common organization of the market in fishery products provides that, for tuna intended for use by the canning industry, a Community producer price is to 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.

The average Community producer price has shown a recovery over the last three years, but prices fell sharply during the first six months of 1996.

Given the significant difference between the Community producer price and the average market price for tuna, the Commission proposes to reduce its Community producer price for the 1997 fishing year by 5%.

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No**  
**of**  
**fixing the Community producer price for tuna intended for the industrial manufacture of products**  
**falling within CN code 1604 for the 1997 fishing year**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organization of the market in fishery and aquaculture products<sup>1</sup>, as amended by Regulation (EC) No 3318/94<sup>2</sup>, and in particular Article 17(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Article 17(1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 provides that a Community producer price should be fixed for tuna (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 the first and second indents of Article 9(2) and in Article 17(1) of the abovementioned Regulation, the price for the 1997 fishing year should be decreased,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

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<sup>1</sup> OJ No L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1.

<sup>2</sup> OJ No L 350, 31.12.1994, p. 15.

### Article 1

The Community producer price for the fishing year 1 January to 31 December 1997 for tuna (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 commercial category to which it relates is hereby fixed as follows :

(ECU/tonne)

Species	Commercial specifications	Community producer price
Yellowfin tuna ( <b>Thunnus albacares</b> )	Whole, weighing more than 10 kg each	1168

### Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1997.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

FINANCIAL STATEMENT			
		DATE: 7/10/1996	
1.	BUDGET HEADING: B 1-261	APPROPRIATIONS:	
2.	TITLE: Three proposals for Council Regulations fixing the guide prices for fishery products (Annex I, A, D and E, Annex II to Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92) and the Community producer price for tuna (Annex III)		
3.	LEGAL BASIS: Articles 9 and 17 of Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92		
4.	AIMS OF PROJECT: Annual fixing of prices in the fisheries sector (1997 fishing year)		
5.	FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS		1997 million ecu
5.0.	EXPENDITURE - CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (INTERVENTION)		32
5.1.	REVENUE - OWN RESOURCES OF THE EC (LEVIES/CUSTOMS DUTIES) - NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION		
5.0.1.	ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE		
5.1.1.	ESTIMATED REVENUE		
		measure restricted to the 1997 fishing year (16.10.96-15.10.97)	
5.2.	METHOD OF CALCULATING ASSISTANCE FROM THE CMO BUDGET:		
	- Community withdrawals:	ECU 16 million	
	- Community carry-overs	ECU 3 million	
	- Autonomous withdrawals and carry-overs	ECU 4 million	
	- Compensatory allowance for tuna:	ECU 9 million	
	- Private storage aid:	ECU 0 million	
6.0.	CAN THE PROJECT BE FINANCED FROM APPROPRIATIONS ENTERED IN THE RELEVANT CHAPTER OF THE CURRENT BUDGET?		
6.1.	CAN THE PROJECT BE FINANCED BY TRANSFER BETWEEN CHAPTERS OF THE CURRENT BUDGET?		
6.2.	IS A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET NECESSARY?	NO	
6.3.	WILL FUTURE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS BE NECESSARY?	YES	
OBSERVATIONS: Since this is a price fixing measure the impact on expenditure is indirect. The expenditure in question will largely depend on developments in the market situation and on quantities landed.			

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# DOCUMENTS

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