

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 409 final

Brussels, 25 June 1982

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DECISION
on the allocation of food aid in cereals
to U N R W A and Mozambique.

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

A. Allocation of 1,187 t cereals to U N R W A

1. The purpose of this proposal is to rectify a technical anomaly in the 1981 allocation of cereals food aid to U N R W A (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees).
2. The problem arises from a change in the technical coefficient for the transformation of cereals into wheat flour. Under the 1971 Food Aid Convention each donating member was free to choose the most appropriate coefficient. The E E C calculated its donations of flour to U N R W A at the rate of 1 tonne flour to 1,33 tonne cereals, a special rate used in view of the particular type of flour supplied. In this way an allocation of 40,000 t cereals under the 1981 food aid programme was expressed in the latest convention with U N R W A as 29,743 t wheat flour and 152 t rice.
3. In March 1981, the Rules of Procedure of the 1980 Food Aid Convention were finally agreed, including a provision that cereals supplied in the form of wheat flour should in future be calculated at a rate of 73 %; that is, 1 tonne flour to just under 1,37 tonne cereals (the rate for rice remaining unchanged). Whilst it is possible to use other conversion rates, such exceptions have to be notified case by case to the Food Aid Committee in London.
4. The effect upon the 1981 allocation to U N R W A is that the Community's commitment in wheat flour and rice corresponds not to 40,000 t cereals but 41,187 t, as the following table indicates :

		<u>Cereals equivalent</u>	
<u>Products</u>		<u>1971 Convention</u>	<u>1980 Convention</u>
Flour	29,743 t	39,560 t (1,33)	40,747 t (1,37)
Rice	152 t	<u>440 t (2,9)</u>	<u>440 t (2,9)</u>
Total		<u>40,000 t</u> =====	<u>41,187 t</u> =====

5. In order to respect the Community's commitment to U N R W A as well as the rules of the Food Aid Convention, the simplest solution is to allocate to U N R W A an extra 1,187 t from the reserve of the 1981 cereals programme. This is only a book-keeping transaction, and involves neither additional expenditure for the Community, nor additional flour for U N R W A. It will however permit the small balance still owing to U N R W A to be delivered.

6. The question does not arise for 1982, since the cereals allocation to U N R W A in the 1982 programme has been increased to take account of the new coefficient.

In any case the problem should disappear in future years, if effect is given to the recent Commission proposal to transform part of the Community's contributions in flour to U N R W A's basic rations programme into financial support for the education programme.

7. In conclusion therefore the Commission proposes that the Council should allocate to U N R W A 1,187 t cereals, delivered to destination, from the reserve of the 1981 food aid programme.

B. Allocation of 13,581 t cereals to Mozambique

1. As a result of the continuing drought in Mozambique there are grave food shortages in the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Sofala and Zambezia. In the latter two provinces the rice crop has also been partly destroyed by floods. The country has acute balance of payments problems and is unable to finance commercial imports on the necessary scale. The number of people requiring emergency feeding is put at 1.4 million. The shortfall in requirements for the year 1982 is calculated at 364,000 t cereals.

2. It is proposed that the balance of 13,581 t remaining from the 1981 cereals programme should be allocated to Mozambique as an exceptional aid for delivery CIF (1). The cost of this operation is estimated at 3.6 M ECU,

(1) The Commission, after consultation with Member States, has already agreed an emergency action of 5,000 t cereals and 500 t of milk powder.

and is not an additional expense to the Community as the action will be debited within the framework of the 1981 programme already decided.

3. In conclusion therefore the Commission proposes that the Council should allocate to Mozambique 13,581 t cereals, delivered CIF, from the reserve of the 1981 food aid programme.

Proposal for a
COUNCIL DECISION
on the granting of food aid in cereals
to U N R W A and to Mozambique

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 proposal from the Commission,

whereas by its Decision 81/367/EEC (1) the Council, in the context of the 1981 cereals food aid programme, reserved certain quantities for emergency operations and other unforeseen situations,

whereas a certain quantity is still available under that reserve,

whereas the Community has received certain requests for food aid,

whereas the Community should respond favourably to those requests,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS :

Sole article

Food aid in cereals from the reserve of the 1981 programme is allocated as follows :

<u>Beneficiary</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Delivery terms</u>
U N R W A	1,187 t	DD
Mozambique	13,581 t	CIF

Done at

For the Council,

The President

(1) O.J. no. L 141 of 27.5.1981, p. 37.