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OI. 1997 **COLLECTION RELIEE DES**

Vol. 1982/0013

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COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(82) 32 final Brussels, 17 Juni 1982

Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION

authorizing the United Kingdom to permit the Isle
of Man authorities to apply a system of special import
licences to sheepmeat and beef and veal

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

COM(82) 32 final

2 2 JULY 1982

Sorti du Secrétariat

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

L. INTRODUCTION

The Isle of Man is one of the British Islands situated in the middle of the Irish Sea, and in the peripheral maritime region of Europe. It is not part of the United Kingdom, but it is a British Crown dependency. It has a large degree of internal self Government but external affairs and defence are the responsibility of the UK Government. There is a population of approximately 65 000 persons, and a further 500 000 tourists visit the island during the summer months.

The Treaty of Rome is declared to apply to the Isle of Man to the extent necessary to ensure the implementation of the arrangements set out in the Treaty of Accession. Those arrangements are laid down in Protocol 3 to that Treaty.

The broad effect is that whilst the island is required by Council Regulation 706/73 to apply EEC charges/tariffs, it neither contributes to nor is eligible to receive any benefits from Community funds.

2. MEAT SECTOR SITUATION

The main figures concerning production, consumption, exports and imports of the various meats are shown in the Annex. There was an expansion of beef and sheep-meat production from the time of accession of the United Kingdom to the Community until 1975, since when there has been a rapid decrease in production. Pork production followed an opposite trend. In 1973, 70% of beef and sheepmeat production was used for demestic consumption. In 1980 this proportion fell to 50% for beef and veal, and 64% for sheepmeat, the balance being exported, mainly to the United Kingdom. Only a very small proportion of pork is exported.

In the beef case, unrestricted imports of carcase meat have been allowed from the Irish Republic from May 1979, and the import level has progressively risen until it has now reached one third of the island's domestic meat consumption.

Some imports of beef were authorised from Northern Ireland in 1979 and, from June 1981 onwards, unrestricted imports have been admitted from this region.

In the sheepmeat case, the seasonal production pattern does not entirely meet the demands arising from the high consumption levels reached during the tourist season. Therefore, before the introduction of the common organisation in the sheepmeat sector, imports were only allowed between April and July, and excess home production was exported in the autumn. Since 20 October 1980 unrestricted imports have been admitted from Ireland, Northern Ireland and New Zealand in the framework of the autolimitation agreement with the Community.

Directive 77/98 of 21 December 1976 accords the same animal health derogation to the Isle of Man as to Northern Ireland. The need to maintain the Island's high animal health status has led to the effective exclusion of third country lamb imports from any source other than New Zealand.

EXISTING MARKETING AND SUPPORT ARRANCEMENTS

The management of agricultural marketing is in the hands of the Isle of Man Agricultural Marketing Society set up by Statute in 1934. It is a producer organisation run by producers freely elected from all the parish areas of the Island and has a full-time employed staff. Its activities are split into separate entities responsible for Fatstock Marketing, Milk Marketing and one for Potatoes. All producers sell their produce to these Associations, which then manage their marketing and pay the producers.

To allow free export and import of agricultural products, those producers who wish to do so are exempt from the requirements to market through these Associations, in respect of milk, potatoes, and livestock for slaughter. Carcase meat still has to pass through the only public abattoir on the Island which is operated by the Fatstock Marketing Association (F.M.A.). The marketing costs of such exports of carcase meat are spread among all producers as they represent a lowered return to the industry as a whole. The internal marketing systems on the Island are considered to be the responsibility of the Island Government; so long as they do not interfere in the ability of individual producers to export their primary product.

However, the bulk of the sales of cattle, sheep and pigs are controlled by the FMA; in only a few cases does a producer sell his fatstock live for export to buyers in the United Kingdom or other Nember States.

Teturns to producers are supported by variable premium systems which are similar to that operated in the UK. The Isle of Man has traditionally adopted the same guaranteed price levels and the same guarantee although the Isle of Man prices are not included in arriving at the UK's weekly average market price on which the weekly

guarantee depends. The price paid to producers by the Association is either the UK average price or the guaranteed price in the week in question, whichever is the higher, less deductions to meet collection, slaughtering and dressing costs, and the Association's marketing and handling costs which are high.

The Island had a system of import controls on all agricultural products until the special relationship was agreed with the Community. Progressively these have been removed or modified in line with Community policy.

Licences are currently issued on request without limitations, and free of any charge, on imports originating in areas of comparable animal health status to the Isle of Man. In practice, these are the Republic of Ireland, N. Ireland and New Zealand. The licences are issued by the Animal Health Department of the Board of Agriculture, which is also responsible for the administration and monitoring of the arrangements for the admission of licensed imports. Recipients of an import licence are obliged to notify the Board of the arrival of each importation so that veterinary inspectors can ensure that the import consignment complies with the conditions of the licence.

4. ISLAND'S CONCERN

The IoM authorities consider that the Island's remoteness makes it essential to maintain a viable livestock industry and also to safeguard incomes for home producers. Although the producer would contrive to get some protection from the guaranteed price, the value of the premiums paid to producers would be eroded if more of the Island's domestic production were forced into exports. The Island's Exchequer would also face the higher cost of support at the level provided for under the new regime.

Experience has shown that the Island's particular geographic and economic position makes it impossible to benefit from economies of scale in purchasing and marketing. For example, as a result of the unrestricted importation of eggs since 1973 there has been a regular reduction in the Island egg-laying flock which has fallen by 59% from 93 000 to 38 000, with a further fall anticipated by 1981.

5. PROPOSED MEASURES

In order to meet the Island's concern about the need to safeguard producers' incomes within the framework of its own agricultural support system, the Commission proposes to permit the Isle of Man Authorities to apply certain trade mechanisms to control imports of beef and sheepmeat as well as cattle and sheep.

Due to the seasonal characteristics both of production and consumption of meat on the Island, the Authorities would effect import controls by means of import licences for sheepmeat and beef and veal which would be directly linked to the varying trade needs during the course of the year at times when home production failed to meet demand.

The Commission considers that these measures should be applied in such a way as to ensure equality of treatment for all products from Community or third country origins, and to maintain as far as possible the traditional pattern of trade.

The Commission also considers that these measures cannot derogate from the application of the measures taken in the basic regulations in the beef and sheepmeat sectors concerning trade with third countries, but are to be considered as supplemental to those measures.

The Commission is of the opinion that those measures can be taken in accordance with Articles 1(2) and 5 of the Protocol No 3 to the Act concerning the conditions of accession and the adjustments to the Treaties of 22 January 1972. Therefore, the Commission proposes to the Council the present decision as an authorisation given to the United Kingdom to permit the Isle of Man authorities to apply a system of special import licences to sheepmeat and beef and veal.

THE ISLE OF MAN BOARD OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

CARCASE MEAT STATISTICS IN KILOGRAMS

1) TOTAL PRODUCTION

Year	CATTLE	SHEEP	<u>PIGS</u>	TOTAL
1973	1,762,980	990,735	412,146	3,165,861
1974	2,322,685	1,070,390	386,264	3,779,339
1975	2,812,998	1,101,907	304,781	4,219,686
1976	2,472,515	871,884	334,494	3,678.893
1977	2,481,631	881,928	335,579	3,699,138
1978	2,404,073 `	811,191	389,335	3,604,599
1979	2,259,175	£06,568	396,596	3,462,339
1980	2,133,976	894,808	456,932	3,485,766
1981 (Jan-Oct)	1,937,995	706,898	337,878	3,002,771

2) HOME USE (LOCAL PRODUCTION)

Year	CATTLE	SHEEP	PIGS	TOTAL .
1973	1,237,586	683,432	412,146	2,333,164
1974	1,458,699	635,624	386,264	2,460,587
1975	1,493,843	675,387	304,781	2,474,011
1976	1,496,226	589,536	334,494	2,400,258
1977	1,456,782	566,678	335,579	2,359,039
1978	1,518,988	529,454	389,335	2,437,777
1979	1,272,704	<i>4</i> 60,290	396,596	2,149,590
1980	1,065,368	573,596	450,668	2,089,630
1981 (Jan-Oct)	883,424	322,668	322,979	1,529,071

3) EXPORT

Year	CATTLE	SHEEP	PIGS	TOTAL
1973	525,394	307,303		832,697
1974	863,986	434,766	-	1,298,752
1975	1,319,155	426,520	-	1,745,675
1976	976,289	302,343	_	1,278,637
1977	1,024,849	315,250		1,340,099
1978	885,085	281,737	, -	1,166,822
1979	936,471	326,278	-	1,312,749
1980	1,068,608	321,212	6,316	1,396,136
1981 (Jan-Oct)	1,054,571	384,230	14,899	1,453,700

4) IMPORT

YEAR	BEEF (Origin)	LAMB (Origin)	PORK (Origin)	TOTAL
1973	55,849 (N.Z.)	12,283 (N.Z.)	46,100 (N.I. & R.I.)	114,232
1974	45,473 (N.Z.)	40,899 (N.Z.)	35,781 (N.I. & R.I.)	122,153
1975	9,631 (N.Z.)	11,636 (N.Z.)	51,404 (N.I. & R.I.)	72,671
1976	28,361 (N.Z.)	25,375 (N.Z.)	22,380 (N.I. & R.I.)	76,116
1977	7,751 (N.Z.)	19,016 (N.Z.)	40,360 (N.I. & R.I.)	67,127
1978	23,448 (N.Z.)	16,919 (N.Z.)	41,923 (N.I. & R.I.)	82,290
1979	412,064 (R.I.) 29,806 (N.I.)	111,369 (N.Z.)	83,282 (R.I.) 15,630 (N.I.)	652,151
1980	498,302 (R.I.)	55,402 (N.Z.)	39,967 (R.I.) 19,567 (N.I.)	613,238
1981	239,742 (R.I.) 140,984 (N.I.)	49,710 (N.Z.)	85,890 (N.I.)	276,584

5) TOTAL ISLAND MEAT CONSUMPTION

YEAR	BEEF	LAMB	PORK	TOTAL
1973	1,293,435	695,715	458,246	2,447,396
1974	1,504,172	676,523	422,045	2,602,740
1975	1,503,474	687,023	356,185	2,546,682
1976	1,524,587	594,911	356,874	2,476,372
1977	1,464,533	585,694	375,939	2,426,160
1978	1,542,436	546,373	431,258	2,520,067
1979	1,714,574	591,659	495,508	2,801,741
1980	1,563,670	628,998	510,200	2,702,668
1981 (Jan- Oct)	1,205,409	372,378	378,657	1,956,444

6) MONTHLY IMPORT COMPARISON OF BEEF, LAMB AND PORK 1979,1980 and 1981

			BEEF		LAMB		} !	PORK	
MONTH	1979	1980	1981	1979	1980	1981	1979	1980	1981
Jan 🧻	·	49,469	38,092		NIL	NIL		NIL	NIL
Feb		35,398	21,054		NIL	NIL		4,751	NIL
March	·	29,774	33,890		NIL	NIL		6,731	NIL
April 🗸	59,612	41,250	33,973	13,369	9,102	NIL	31,259	7,044	HIL
May	30,932	37,395	24,957	55,000	30,716	31,389	1,179	1,099	NIL
June	73,983	36,105	38,030	21,840	7,730	8,103	11,232	5,409	6,129
July	73,155	60,259	49,182	21,160	7,854	10,218	16,920	10,108	22,565
August	64,497	42,433	32,154	NIL	NIL	NIL	9,598	7,574	4.823
Sept	37,617	59,200	23,907	NIL	NIL	NIL	5,580	NIL	14,021
October	32,337	28,656	26,746	NIL	NIL	NIL	4,952	NIL	8,141
November	42,501	32,702	32,614	NIL	NIL	NIL	6,555	NIL	119,448
December	27,236	45,651	26,127	NIL	NIL	NIL	11,647	16,827	10,763
	441,870	498,302	380,726	111,369	55,402	49,710	98,912	59,534	85,890

23rd November 1981.

Monthly Comparison of Market Frices for all Live Cattle including Cows in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland

in	UKE/1	00 kg	liveweight
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Month	Norther	n Ireland	Republic	of Ireland
	1981	1982	1981	1982
January February March April May June July August September October November December	73.270 75.639 81.509 82.442 83.465 83.009 78.138 77.286 80.275 79.335 83.991 88.369	92.363 92.152 93.138	64.930 65.146 70.092 72.896 71.075 70.406 70.890 72.239 73.333 74.644 74.340 75.435	80.339 81.394 84.295
ø	80 561		71 190	

- the difference in prices may be explained by the MCA charged on R.I. beef imported into N.I. (about 10 UK£/100 kg liveweight in 1981 as an average).
- the fact that a significant proportion of the total imports of beef on the Isle of Man in 1981 was from N.I. origin is due to:
 - i) less transport costs from N.I. (10 pence/kg) than from R.I. (15-20 p/kg).
 - ii) price differences for certain qualities requested by the trade (like steers of good quality) which appear to be less than the average differences recorded between N.I. and R.I.

(For 1981 the average price for Steers I (R.I.) is 78 766 UKE/100 kg and for Steers L (N.I.) 84 378 UKE/100 kg.)

iii) UK MCA to be paid on Irish beef introduced in the Isle of Man (directly or through a GB port).

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL DECISION

authorising the United Kingdom to permit the Isle of Man authorities to apply a system of special import licences to sheepmeat and beef and veal

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES.

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Communities,

Having regard to Protocol No 3 to the Act of Accession of 1972, and in particular Article 1(2) and the second paragraph of Article 5 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Community rules concerning trade with third countries in agricultural products subject to a common organisation of the market apply to the Isle of Man in accordance with Article 1(2) of Protocol No 3 to the Act of Accession and with Council Regulation (EEC) No 706/73 (1);

Whereas livestock production is a traditional activity on the Isle of Man and plays a central part in the Island's agriculture;

Whereas prior to the introduction of the common organisation of the market in sheepmeat and goatmeat—within the Community the Isle of Man, as part of its local
market organisation, applied certain mechanisms to control imports of sheepmeat into the Island in order to ensure that the need to supply the requirements of the trade could be met whilst avoiding—distortions in the
pattern of sheep production and indirectly in cattle production on the Island
and in its own agricultural support system:

⁽¹⁾ OJ No L 68, 15.3.1973, p. 1.

Whereas in the context of the trade arrangements with certain third countries pursuant to the common organization of the market which apply to the Isle of Man, subject to the Community provisions which govern the relationship between the Island and the Community, it is desirable to permit the Island authorities to apply certain measures in order to protect its own production and the working of its own agricultural support system;

Whereas therefore the United Kingdom should be permitted to authorise the Isle of Man Government to apply a system of special licences for imports of sheepmeat and beef and veal originating in third countries and in Member States of the Community, without prejudice to the measures concerning trade with third countries provided for by Council Regulations (EEC) No 805/68 (2) and No 1837/80 (3),

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

- 1. In order to limit imports the United Kingdom may authorise the Isle of Man Government to apply a system of special import licences to products of the sheepmeat and beef and veal sectors, falling within subheadings 01.02 A, 02.01 A II, 01.04 and 02.01 A IV of the Common Customs Tariff.
- 2. This system shall be applied without prejudice to the application of the measures provided for in Title II of Regulations (EEC) No 805/68 and (EEC) No 1837/80.
- 3. This system shall be applied in such a way as to ensure equality of treatment for all products from whatever source and for all importers of meat, while maintaining as far as possible the traditional patterns of trade and taking account of the Communities, rules as to animal health.
- 4. The United Kingdom shall inform the Commission of the measures taken in pursuance of paragraph 1.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the United Kingdom.

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

⁽²⁾ OJ No L 148, 28.6.1968, p. 24. (3) OJ No L 183, 16.7.1980, p. 1.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Date: 7.1.1982

1. BUDGET HEADING : 100 (receipt

APPROPRIATIONS: 1.899,1 MioEcu 1982

2. TITLE: Draft Council Decision authorising the United Kingdom Government to permit the Isle of Man authorities to apply a system of special import licences to sheepmeat and beef and veal.

- Article 1(2) and 5 of the Protocol N° 3 to the Act concerning the 3. LEGAL BASIS: conditions of accession and the adjustments to the Treaties of 22.1.1972; Regulation (EEC) N° 706/73.
- incomes in the Isle of Man by the means of import licences.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS YYXY KYPKYXY KYRK	PERIOD	OF 12 MONT	HS CURRENT	FINANCIA 82	L YEAR	FOLLOWING	FINANCIAL 83)	YEAR
CHARGED TO THE EC BUDGET (REFUNDS/INTERVENITONS)								
- NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION - OTHER								
5.1 RECEIPTS - OWN RESOURCES OF THE EC (LEVIES/CUSTOMS DUTIES) - NATIONAL		(1)		(1)			(1)	
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX								

5.2 METHOD OF CALCULATION

YES/NO

YES/NO

YES/NO

YES/NO

GBSERVATIONS :

(1) As receipts from customs duties and agricultural levies on imports to the Isle of Man do not form part of the budget of the Community, this proposal does not affect the "own resources". In addition the quantities involved are comparatively low.