

4. If the Council decides that the reporting country shall be relieved of the whole or part of its guaranteed quantity for the crop-year concerned, the following procedure shall apply:

(a) The Council shall, if the reporting country is an importing country, invite the other importing countries, or, if the reporting country is an exporting country, invite the other exporting countries, to increase their guaranteed quantities for the crop-year concerned up to the amount of the guaranteed quantity of which the reporting country is relieved; provided that an increase in the guaranteed quantities of an exporting country shall require approval by the Council by two-thirds of the votes cast by the exporting countries and two-thirds of the votes cast by the importing countries if any importing country, within such period as the Council shall prescribe, objects to such increase on the ground that it will have the effect of making the balance of payments problems of that importing country more difficult.

(b) If the amount of which the importing country is relieved cannot be fully offset in the manner provided in (a) of this paragraph, the Council shall invite the exporting countries, if the reporting country is an importing country, or the importing countries, if the reporting country is an exporting country, to accept a reduction of their guaranteed quantities for the crop-year concerned up to the amount of the guaranteed quantity of which the reporting country is relieved, after taking account of any adjustments made under (a) of this paragraph.

(c) If the total offers received by the Council from the exporting and importing countries to increase their guaranteed quantities under (a) of this paragraph or to reduce their guaranteed quantities under (b) of this paragraph exceed the amount of the guaranteed quantity of which the reporting country is relieved, their guaranteed quantities shall, unless the Council decides otherwise, be increased or reduced, as the case may be, on a pro rata basis, provided that the increase or reduction of the guaranteed quantity of any such country shall not exceed its offer.

(d) If the amount of the guaranteed quantity of which the reporting country is relieved cannot be fully offset in the manner provided in (a) and (b) of this paragraph, the Council shall reduce the guaranteed quantities in Annex A to Article III, if the reporting country is an exporting country, or in Annex B to Article III, if the reporting country is an importing country, for the crop-year concerned by the amount necessary to make the total in the one Annex equal to the total in the other Annex. Unless the exporting countries, in the case of a reduction in Annex B, or the importing countries, in the case of a reduction in Annex A, agree otherwise, the reduction shall be made on a pro rata basis, account being taken of any reduction already made under (b) of this paragraph.