

Subpart A—Restrictions and Criteria for Export Credit Guarantee Programs

§ 1493.1 General statement.

This subpart sets forth the restrictions which apply to the use of credit guarantees under the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) and the Intermediate Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103) and the criteria considered by CCC in determining the annual allocations of credit guarantees to be made available with respect to each participating country. This subpart also sets forth the criteria considered by CCC in the review and approval of proposed allocation levels for GSM-102 and/or GSM-103 credit guarantees which may be made available in connection with export sales of specific U.S. agricultural commodities to these countries. These restrictions and criteria are interrelated and will be applied and considered together in the process of determining which sales opportunities under GSM-102 or GSM-103 will best meet the purposes of the programs.

§ 1493.2 Purposes of programs.

CCC may use export credit guarantees:

- (a) To increase exports of U.S. agricultural commodities;
- (b) To compete against foreign agricultural exports;
- (c) To assist countries, particularly developing countries, in meeting their food and fiber needs; and
- (d) For such other purposes as the Secretary of Agriculture determines appropriate, consistent with the provisions of § 1493.6.

§ 1493.3 Restrictions on programs and cargo preference statement.

- (a) *Restrictions on use of credit guarantees.* (1) Export credit guarantees authorized under these regulations shall not be used for foreign aid, foreign policy, or debt rescheduling purposes.
- (2) CCC shall not make credit guarantees available in connection with sales of agricultural commodities to any country that the Secretary determines cannot adequately service the debt associated with such sales.

- (b) *Cargo preference laws.* The provisions of the cargo preference laws shall not apply to export sales with respect to which credit is guaranteed under these programs.

§ 1493.4 Criteria for country allocations.

The criteria considered by CCC in reviewing proposals for country allocations under the GSM-102 or GSM-103 programs, will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Potential benefits that the extension of export credit guarantees would provide for the development, expansion or maintenance of the market for particular U.S. agricultural commodities in the importing country;
- (b) Financial and economic ability of the importing country to adequately service CCC guaranteed debt;
- (c) Financial status of participating banks in the importing country as it would affect their ability to adequately service CCC guaranteed debt;
- (d) Political stability of the importing country as it would affect its ability to adequately service CCC guaranteed debt; and
- (e) Current status of debt either owed by the importing country to CCC or to lenders protected by CCC's guarantees.

§ 1493.5 Criteria for agricultural commodity allocations.

The criteria considered by CCC in reviewing proposals for specific U.S. commodity allocations within a specific country allocation will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (a) Potential benefits that the extension of export credit guarantees would provide for the development, expansion or maintenance of the market in the importing country for the particular U.S. agricultural commodity under consideration;
- (b) The best use to be made of the export credit guarantees in assisting the importing country in meeting its particular needs for food and fiber, as may be determined through consultations with private buyers and/or representatives of the government of the importing country;
- (c) Evaluation, in terms of program purposes, of the relative benefits of providing payment guarantee coverage

Commodity Credit Corporation, USDA

§ 1493.10

for sales of the U.S. agricultural commodity under consideration compared to providing coverage for sales of other U.S. agricultural commodities; and

(d) Evaluation of the near and long term potential for sales on a cash basis of the U.S. commodity under consideration.

§ 1493.6 Additional required determinations for GSM-103.

Notwithstanding any other provision under this part, CCC shall not guarantee under the GSM-103 program the repayment of credit made available to finance an export sale unless the Secretary of Agriculture determines that such sale will:

(a) Develop, expand or maintain the importing country as a foreign market, on a long-term basis, for the commercial sale and export of U.S. agricultural commodities, without displacing normal commercial sales;

(b) Improve the capability of the importing country to purchase or use, on a long-term basis, U.S. agricultural commodities; or

(c) Otherwise promote the export of U.S. agricultural commodities.

Subpart B—CCC Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) and CCC Intermediate Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103) Operations

§ 1493.10 General statement.

(a) *Overview.* (1) This subpart contains the regulations governing the operations of the Export Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-102) and the Intermediate Credit Guarantee Program (GSM-103). The GSM-102 and GSM-103 programs of the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) were developed to expand U.S. agricultural exports by making available export credit guarantees to encourage U.S. private sector financing of foreign purchases of U.S. agricultural commodities on credit terms. Under GSM-102, credit guarantees are issued for terms of up to three years. Under GSM-103, credit guarantees are issued for terms of from three to ten years.

(2) The programs operate in cases where credit is necessary to increase or

maintain U.S. exports to a foreign market and where private U.S. financial institutions would be unwilling to provide financing without CCC's guarantee. The programs are operated in a manner intended not to interfere with markets for cash sales. The programs are targeted toward those countries where the guarantees are necessary to secure financing of the exports but which have sufficient financial strength so that foreign exchange will be available for scheduled payments. In providing this credit guarantee facility, CCC seeks to expand market opportunities for U.S. agricultural exporters and assist long-term market development for U.S. agricultural commodities.

(3) The credit facility created by these programs is the CCC payment guarantee. The payment guarantee is an agreement by CCC to pay the exporter, or the U.S. financial institution that may take assignment of the exporter's right to proceeds, specified amounts of principal and interest due from, but not paid by, the foreign bank issuing an irrevocable letter of credit in connection with the export sale to which CCC's guarantee coverage pertains. By approving an exporter's application for a payment guarantee, CCC encourages private sector, rather than governmental, financing and incurs a substantial portion of the risk of default by the foreign bank. CCC assumes this risk, in order to be able to operate the programs for the purposes specified in § 1493.2.

(b) *Credit facility mechanism.* Typically, in export sales of U.S. agricultural commodities, payment by the importer is made under an irrevocable letter of credit. For the purpose of the GSM-102 and GSM-103 programs, CCC will consider applications for payment guarantees only in connection with export sales of U.S. agricultural commodities where the payment for the agricultural commodities will be made in one of the two following ways:

(1) An irrevocable foreign bank letter of credit, issued in favor of the exporter, specifically stating the deferred payment terms under which the foreign bank is obligated to make payments in U.S. dollars as such payments become due; or