

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(86) 96 final

Brussels, 19 February 1986

441.2/103

Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
amending Regulation (EEC) No 349/84 suspending tariff concessions and
increasing duties under the Common Customs Tariff with regard to
certain products originating in the United States of America
and establishing quantitative restrictions with regard to
other products originating in that country

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

By Regulation (EEC)N° 349/84 (1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) N° 483/85 (2), the Council increased customs duties and established quantitative restrictions for imports of certain products originating in the United States of America to compensate, in accordance with Article XIX(3)(a) of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, for the unilateral measures taken by the United States of America regarding the import of certain steel products.

The re-examination of these measures undertaken by the United States after their second year of application has not led to their being repealed. Under these circumstances, the Community remains free to suspend the application to the trade of the United States of America of substantially equivalent concessions or other obligations under the General Agreement.

The compensatory measures should therefore be extended for the period 1 March 1986 to 28 February 1987.

It is nevertheless necessary to adjust the level of compensation to take account of the degressive nature of the United States' measures. Since the quotas are expressed in ECU, allowance should be made for changes in the exchange rate between the ECU and the United States dollar since the entry into force of the measures;

(1) OJ N° L 40, 11.2.1984, p. 1
(2) OJ N° L 59, 27.2.1985, p. 14

Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Regulation (EEC) N° 349/84 suspending tariff concessions and increasing duties under the Common Customs Tariff with regard to certain products originating in the United States of America and establishing quantitative restrictions with regard to other products originating in that country

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 Regulation (EEC) N° 349/84(1), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) N° 483/85 (2), the Council increased customs duties and established quantitative restrictions for imports of certain products originating in the United States of America to compensate, in accordance with Article XIX (3) (a) of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, for the unilateral measures taken by the United States of America regarding the import of certain steel products ;

Whereas the re-examination of these measures undertaken by the United States of America after their second year of application has not led to their being repealed ; whereas, under these circumstances, the Community remains free to suspend the application to the trade of the United States of America of substantially equivalent concessions or other obligations under the General Agreement;

.../...

(1) OJ N° L 40, 11.2.1984, p. 1

(2) OJ N° L 59, 27.2.1985, p. 14

Whereas the compensatory measures in respect of the United States of America should therefore be extended for the period 1 March 1986 to 28 February 1987;

Whereas it is nevertheless necessary to adjust the level of compensation to take account of the degressive nature of the United States' measures; whereas, the quotas being expressed in ECU, allowance should be made for changes in the exchange rate between the ECU and the United States dollar since the entry into force of the measures;

Whereas, however, it is not appropriate to apply these measures to imports into Portugal and Spain, in view of the provisions of the Act of Accession;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

Regulation (EEC) No 349/84 is hereby amended as follows:

1. Article 1 is replaced by the following:

"Article 1

1. The Annex "Common Customs Tariff" to Council Regulation (EEC) N° 950/68 (3), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) N° 3331/85 (4), is hereby amended as follows:

.../...

(3) OJ N° 172, 22.7.1968, p. 1

(4) OJ N° L 331, 9.12.1985, p. 1

Heading number	Description	Rates of duty	
		Autonomous %	Conventional %
1	2	3	4
29.04	Acyclic alcohols and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives : A. Saturated monohydric alcohols : I. Methanol (methyl alcohol) II to V. (unchanged) B and C. (unchanged)	18,0 (a) (unchanged) (unchanged)	13,0 (b) (unchanged) (unchanged)
(a) The autonomous duty applicable to products originating in the United States of America is set at 16,9% until 28 February 1987. (b) Products originating in the United States of America do not receive the benefit of the conventional duty rate.			

Heading number	Description	Rates of duty	
		Autonomous %	Conventional %
1	2	3	4
29.14	Monocarboxylic acids and their anhydrides, halides, peroxides and peracids, and their halogenated, sulphonated, nitrated or nitrosated derivatives : A. Saturated acyclic monocarboxylic acids : I. (unchanged) II. Acetic acid and its salts and esters : a) (unchanged) b) (unchanged) c) Esters of acetic acid : 1. Ethyl acetate, vinyl acetate, propyl acetate and isopropyl acetate 2 to 4, (unchanged) III to XI. (unchanged) B to D. (unchanged)	(unchanged) (unchanged) (unchanged) 20,0 (a) (unchanged) (unchanged)	(unchanged) (unchanged) (unchanged) 11,5 (b) (unchanged) (unchanged)
(a) The autonomous duty applicable to vinyl acetate originating in the United States of America is set at 15.4% until 28 February 1987. (b) Vinyl acetate originating in the United States of America does not receive the benefit of this conventional duty.			

Heading number	Description	Rates of duty	
		Autonomous %	Conventional %
1	2	3	4
85.17	Electric sound or visual signalling apparatus (such as bells, sirens, indicator panels, burglar and fire alarms, other than those of heading No 85.09 and 85.16 : A. For use in civil aircraft, excluding parts of such goods (a) B. Other	(unchanged) 15,0 (b)	(unchanged) 4,4 (c)
(b) The autonomous duty applicable to signalling apparatus against burglary, fire and similar situations (excluding their components and parts), originating in the United States of America, is set at 8.4% until 28 February 1987. (c) Signalling apparatus against burglary, fire and similar situations (excluding their components and parts), originating in the United States of America, does not receive the benefit of this conventional duty.			

2. Article 2 is replaced by the following text:

"Article 2

The release for free circulation in Belgium, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom of products referred to in the Annex and originating in the United States of America is hereby made subject to the quota established corresponding to each product."

3. In Article 5, '28 February 1986' is replaced by '28 February 1987'.
4. The Annex is replaced by the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Communities.

It shall apply with effect from 1 March 1986.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

"ANNEX

(million ECU)

CCT heading No	NIMEXE code (1985)	Description	Quota level from 1 March 1986 to 28 February 1987
29.01 D II	29.01-71	Styrene	29028
ex 39.02 C I b)	39.02-09, 11, 12	Polyethylene in one of the forms mentioned in note 3 (d) to Chapter 39 (1)	16505
ex 93.04 A	93.04-20, 30, 41, 49, 60	Sporting and target shooting guns, rifles and carbines other than double barrelled, smooth bore	8538
ex 97.06 C	97.06-10	Gymnasium and athletic equipment	4439
ex 97.06 C	97.06-33, 34	Snow skis	5009

(1) Excluding polyethylene sheets of a thickness exceeding 0,30 mm and less than, or equal to, 0,35 mm, composed of one or more layers of polyethylene of differing quality between which are inserted a layer of aluminium, of a thickness not exceeding 20 microns, and a thin layer of paper.