

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM (89) 169 final

Brussels, 25 April 1989

Proposal for a
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

totally suspending certain customs duties
applicable by the Community of Ten
to imports from Spain and Portugal

(presented by the Commission)

COMMUNICATION TO THE COMMISSION

1. In December 1988 the Council authorized the Commission to begin negotiations with Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland for the conclusion of additional protocols to the free trade Agreements between the Community and those countries in order to enable them to suspend totally their customs duties on imports from Spain of products covered by the Agreements.

Those protocols are now being concluded.

2. By Regulation (EEC) No 839/88 of 28 March 1988¹ the Council has already suspended totally the customs duties applied by the Community of Ten to industrial products and fishery products imported from Spain and Portugal once the level of such customs duties falls to 2 % or less.
3. By Regulation (EEC) No 3482/88 of 7 November 1988 (2), the Council has already suspended by 5 points the customs duties that the Community of Ten applied on the importation of preparations and preserves of sardines from Spain and Portugal.
4. Spain has requested that the Ten should also suspend totally the customs duties on industrial products and fishery products.
5. In the interests of simplification and uniformity, it is proposed that Portuguese products - for which the tariff dismantling process is not yet complete - should also be covered by the total suspension of customs duties.
6. The result of the proposed measure on the following products, originating in the countries indicated below, will be that the customs duties will also be removed (application of the additional protocols of 1987/1988) :

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| - Algeria | Tunas, prepared and preserved (CN Codes 1604 14 10 and 1604 20 70) |
| - Egypt | Shrimps, fresh or frozen (CN Codes 0306 13 and 0306 23) |
| - Tunisia | Tunas, prepared and preserved (CN Codes 1604 14 10 and 1604 20 70) |

Community statistics for 1987 do not however mention any importations from the above countries.

¹ OJ L 87, 31.3.1988, p. 1.

² OJ No L 306 of 11.11.1988, p. 1.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. In December 1988 the Council authorized the Commission to begin negotiations with Austria, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland for the conclusion of additional protocols to the free trade Agreements between the Community and those countries in order to enable them to suspend totally their customs duties on imports from Spain of products covered by the Agreements.

Those protocols are now being concluded.

2. By Regulation (EEC) No 839/88 of 28 March 1988¹ the Council has already suspended totally the customs duties applied by the Community of Ten to industrial products and fishery products imported from Spain and Portugal once the level of such customs duties falls to 2 % or less.
3. By Regulation (EEC) No 3482/88 of 7 November 1988 (2), the Council has already suspended by 5 points the customs duties that the Community of Ten applied on the importation of preparations and preserves of sardines from Spain and Portugal.
4. Spain has requested that the Ten should also suspend totally the customs duties on industrial products and fishery products.
5. In the interests of simplification and uniformity, it is proposed that Portuguese products - for which the tariff dismantling process is not yet complete - should also be covered by the total suspension of customs duties.
6. For the foregoing reasons the Commission proposes that the attached proposal for a Regulation be adopted.

¹ OJ L 87, 31.3.1988, p. 1.

² OJ No L 306 of 11.11.1988, p. 1.

Proposal for
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No

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totally suspending certain customs duties applicable by the Community of Ten to imports from Spain and Portugal

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal, and in particular Articles 33 and 192 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas the progressive dismantling of Spanish tariffs has notably improved access to the hitherto heavily protected Spanish market; whereas, however, the economic impact of the progressive reductions in the customs duties applied by the Ten to imports of Spanish industrial products is relatively modest because of the low level of the basic customs duties;

Whereas in the interests of parallelism and non-discrimination identical measures should be applied in respect of Portuguese industrial products for which customs duties have not yet been abolished;

Whereas measures should be taken to improve the new Member States' trade deficit.

Whereas by Regulation (EEC) No 3482/88 of 7 November 1988 (1), the Council has already defined a specific system of partial suspension of customs duties for preparations and preserves of sardines,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The collection of customs duties applicable in the Community of Ten pursuant to the Act of Accession of Spain and Portugal to imports of the following products, from Spain and Portugal, shall be totally suspended :

- products listed in Annex II to the Treaty in so far as they are the subject of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3796/81 of 29 December 1981 on the common organization of the market in fishery products (2), as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No (3), excluding preparations and preserves of sardines of codes 1604 13 10 and ex 1604 20 50 (4) of the Combined Nomenclature,
- products not listed in Annex II to the Treaty,

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 July 1989.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President

(1) OJ No L 306 of 11.11.1988, p. 1.

(2) OJ No L 379 of 31.12.1981, p. 1.

(3)

(4) TARIC codes 1604 20 50*11 and 1604 20 50*19, applicable on the date of entry into force of the present Regulation.

FICHE D'IMPACT SUR LA COMPETITIVITE ET L'EMPLOI

La suspension totale des droits de douane résiduels sur les produits industriels et les produits de la pêche importés de l'Espagne dans les Dix pourrait avoir un certain effet sur la compétitivité et l'emploi, le désarmement tarifaire complet n'étant prévu que pour le 1er janvier 1993 (le 1er janvier 1996 pour certaines conserves de poissons).

Pour le Portugal, l'impact serait beaucoup plus inférieur parce que les produits industriels portugais bénéficient déjà de l'exemption dans les Dix.

FICHE FINANCIERE

1. Ligne budgétaire concernée : Chap. 12 art. 120

2. Base juridique : art. 33 et 192 de l'acte d'adhésion de l'Espagne et du Portugal

3. Intitulé de la mesure tarifaire :

Proposition de règlement du Conseil portant suspension totale de certains droits de douane applicables par la Communauté à Dix aux importations de l'Espagne et du Portugal

4. Objectif : accélérer le désarmement tarifaire entre les Dix et l'Espagne ainsi que le Portugal.

5. Pertes de recettes :

Le projet de règlement du Conseil concerne les droits de douane basés sur la nouvelle nomenclature combinée, pour laquelle des données statistiques exactes quant aux importations en provenance de l'Espagne et du Portugal dans la Communauté dans sa composition au 31 décembre 1985 ne sont pas encore disponibles.

Sur la base des importations totales, du nombre des lignes tarifaires concernées, de l'évolution du désarmement tarifaire ainsi que du fait que les droits de douane (D.D.) égaux ou inférieurs à 2 % sont supprimés lors de chaque réduction tarifaire (Règlement (CEE) N° 839/88 du Conseil du 28 mars 1988 - J.O. n° L 87 du 31.3.1988, p. 1), les pertes en D.D. sont estimées comme suit :

a) Année 1989 (période du 1er juillet au 31 décembre): 43.959.000 Ecu

b) Année 1990 : 27.814.000 Ecu

c) Années 1991 et 1992 :

négligeables du fait de l'application du Règlement N° 839/88 précité.

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Office for Official Publications of the European Communities
L - 2985 Luxembourg

Series: DOCUMENTS

1989 — 6 pp. — Format: 21.0 × 29.7 cm

EN

ISSN 0254-1475

ISBN 92-77-48883-2

Catalogue number: CB-CO-89-166-EN-C

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