

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(89) 438 final

Brussels, 18 September 1989

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties
on a number of agricultural products

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. In the second quarter of this year the Commission, with the assistance of the Economic Tariff Questions Group, examined all the requests submitted by the Member States for temporary suspension of common customs tariff duties, including requests for the prolongation of suspensions currently in force.
2. The attached proposal concerns a number of agricultural products. The proposal for industrial products is being prepared.
3. The principle followed, when examining the requests for suspension, was to grant total suspension where Community production of the product in question is minimal or non-existent, and partial suspension where Community production only partially caters for Community requirements. For the latter, the rate of suspension varies according to the supply possibilities open to users within the Community.

In this way, the Commission seeks to keep a balance between the interests of producers, users and consumers. Moreover, the need to safeguard jobs within the Community has been constantly borne in mind.

4. Given the criteria listed above, the Commission feels that suspension of duty is justified only for the products listed in the Annex to the attached draft Regulation.
5. As stated in Article 1 of the draft Regulation, the proposal will be valid for a period of 6 months.
6. Particular attention is drawn to the fact that, in order to apply it properly, this Regulation must be published at least two months before entering into force.

Draft proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No /89
of 1989

temporarily suspending the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties on a
number of agricultural products

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 28 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas production in the Community of the products specified in this Regulation is currently inadequate or non-existent; whereas producers thus cannot meet the needs of user industries in the Community;

Whereas in certain cases it is in the interest of the Community to suspend the autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties only partially, particularly since the goods in question are produced in the Community and in the other cases to suspend them totally;

Whereas, in view of the difficulty of assessing accurately short-term trends in the economic situation in the

relevant sectors, suspension measures should be taken only temporarily by fixing their period of validity by reference to the interests of Community production,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The autonomous Common Customs Tariff duties for the products listed in the Annex hereto shall be suspended at the level indicated against each of them.

These suspensions shall be valid

from 1 *January* to 30 June 1990.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 *January* 1990.

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

Done at Brussels, 1989.

For the Council
The President

ANNEX

CN code	Description of goods	Autonomous duties (%)
2 ex 0302 65 20 ex 0303 75 20 ex 0304 10 98 ex 0304 90 98	Piked dogfish (<i>Squalus acanthias</i>), fresh, chilled or frozen	6
3 ex 0302 69 95 ex 0303 79 99	Red Snapper (<i>Lutjanus Purpureus</i>), fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing (a) (b)	0
7 ex 1212 20 00	Seaweeds and other algae, for the processing industry, other than for the production of animal fodder (a)	0

(a) Control of the use for this special purpose shall be carried out pursuant to the relevant Community provisions.

(b) The suspension shall apply to fish intended to undergo any operation unless they are intended to undergo exclusively one or more of the following operations:

- cleaning, gutting, tailing, heading,
- cutting (excluding, filleting or cutting of frozen blocks),
- sampling, sorting,
- labelling,
- packing,
- chilling,
- freezing,
- deep freezing,
- thawing, separation.

The suspension is not allowed for products intended, in addition, to undergo treatment (or operations) qualifying for suspension where such treatment (or operations) is (are) carried out at retail or catering level. The suspension of customs duties shall apply only to fish intended for human consumption.

IMPACT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

1. The subject of the annexed proposal for a Regulation is the suspension of the autonomous common customs tariff duties for a number of agricultural products.
2. In this manner, the needs of user-industries, including small and medium-sized enterprises, will be met.
3. This measure, in addition to maintain^{ing} the competitive capacity of those industries, is likely to safeguard and/or improve employment.

FICHE FINANCIERE

1. Ligne budgétaire concernée : Chap. 12 art. 120
2. Intitulé de l'action : Projet de proposition de règlement du Conseil portant suspension temporaire des droits autonomes du tarif douanier commun pour un certain nombre de produits agricoles.
3. Base juridique : Art. 28 du Traité-CEE
4. Objectif de l'action : Suspension des droits du T.D.C. pour les produits susvisés.
5. Coût de l'action :
à la charge du budget de la CE :
Evaluation rendue difficile, faute de statistiques communautaires précises.

non-perception des droits :
Une pondération établie à partir des données fournies par certains Etats membres fait ressortir un coût approximatif pour l'action pendant la période du 1.1.1990 au 30.06.1990, d'environ 2.800.000 Ecus.

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