



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION

concerning the export of certain ECSC and EC steel products from the Slovak Republic to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 2000 (extension of the double-checking system)

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The aim of the double-checking system is to improve transparency and to avoid possible diversions of trade. It is founded on the provision in the EC-Slovak Republic Europe Agreement¹ which allows either Party to introduce an administrative procedure having as its purpose the rapid provision of information on the trend of trade flows. The Parties agreed to establish such a system in 1998 in respect of certain ECSC and EC steel products by means of Decision N° 3/97² of the Association Council. By means of Decision N° 1/99³ of the Association Council the system was extended for the period between 1 January to 31 December 1999 with amended product coverage. Council Regulation (EC) N° 85/98⁴, amended by Council Regulation (EC) N° 288/99⁵ established the corresponding implementing legislation for the Community.

At its meeting on 7 October 1999, the Contact Group agreed to recommend that the Association Council should extend the double-checking system for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000.

The attached proposal consequently seeks to extend Council Regulation (EC) N° 85/98, amended by Council Regulation N° 288/99, for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000.

¹ OJ N° L 359, 31.12.94, p. 2.

² OJ N° L 13, 19.01.98, p. 71.

³ OJ L 36, 10.02.99, p. 18.

⁴ OJ L 13, 19.01.98, p. 15.

⁵ OJ L 36, 10.02.99, p. 1.

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 133 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

- (1) A Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of, the one part, and the Slovak Republic, of the other part, entered into force on 1 February 1995⁶;
- (2) The Parties decided by Decision N°/99⁷ of the Association Council to extend the double-checking system introduced by Decision N° 3/97⁸ amended by Decision N° 1/99⁹ of the Association Council, for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000;
- (3) It is consequently necessary to extend the Community implementing legislation introduced by Council Regulation (EC) N° 85/98¹⁰, amended by Council Regulation (EC) N° 288/99¹¹;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Council Regulation (EC) N° 85/98, amended by Council Regulation (EC) N° 288/99, shall continue to apply for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000, in accordance with the provisions of Decision N°/99 of the Association Council between the European Communities and their Member States, of, the one part, and the Slovak Republic, of the other

⁶ OJ L 359, 31.12.94, p. 2.

⁷ See page ... of this Official Journal.

⁸ OJ L 13, 19.01.98, p. 71.

⁹ OJ L 36, 10.02.99, p. 18.

¹⁰ OJ L 13, 19.01.98, p. 15.

¹¹ OJ L 36, 10.02.99, p. 1.

part. In the Preamble and Article 1 (1) and (4) of Council Regulation (EC) N° 85/98, references to the period 1 January to 31 December 1999 are hereby replaced by references to 1 January to 31 December 2000.

Article 2

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

This Regulation shall apply with effect from 1 January 2000.

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

Done at Brussels,

*For the Council
The President*