



COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 02.06.1997
COM(97) 262 final

97/0159 (ACC)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC)

**adopting autonomous and transitional measures for the free trade agreements with
Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in certain processed agricultural products**

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this proposal is to amend and to extend, until the end of 1997, the autonomous measures applied by the EU to imports of processed agricultural goods from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania which were introduced following the enlargement of the Community and the implementation of the Uruguay Round, as laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 340/97.

Protocols adapting the Free Trade Agreements with these countries have been or soon will be initialled. However, pending the procedures for their formal adoption by the respective parties the Adaptation Protocols will not take effect on 1 July 1997. Therefore, and in order to avoid any deterioration in access to the EU market for preferential trade from Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania the measures foreseen in Regulation (EC) No 340/97 should be extended until 31 December 1997.

This proposal does not entail any additional expenditure other than those already agreed upon adoption of Regulations (EC) No 340/97 which it is replacing.

PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION

adopting autonomous and transitional measures for the free trade agreements with Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in certain processed agricultural products

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Having regard to the Act of Accession of Austria, Finland and Sweden,

Whereas, pending adaptation of Protocol 2 of the Free Trade Agreements concluded with Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania¹, Council Regulation (EC) No 340/97² was adopted, which, until 30 June 1997 maintains the degree of preference granted, thus offsetting possible negative effects the implementation of the results of the Uruguay Round may have on exports of these countries to the Community;

Whereas, pending adoption of improved concessions granted to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania by the respective Joint Committees, Council Regulation (EC) No 340/97 laid down new concessions on a provisional and autonomous basis;

Whereas the negotiations with the countries concerned for the conclusion of Protocols amending the Free Trade Agreements have been or soon will be concluded and new Protocols 2 have been or soon will be initialled; whereas procedures for the formal adoption of 'interim' Protocols covering solely the trade-related aspects of the amending protocols are underway; whereas the time schedule required for formal adoption may not allow for the entry into force of the 'interim' Protocols on 1 July 1997; whereas it is therefore advisable to extend the concessions on an autonomous basis until 31 December 1997;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. From 1 July to 31 December 1997 the goods originating from Lithuania listed in Annex I to this Regulation shall be subject to the annual tariff quotas and preferential duties mentioned in that Annex. The basic amounts to be taken into consideration in calculating the reduced agricultural components and additional duties applicable to the importation into the Community are given in Annex II.

¹ OJ No L 373, 31.12.1994, p.1 (Estonia)
OJ No L 374, 31.12.1994, p.1 (Latvia)
OJ No L 375, 31.12.1994, p.1 (Lithuania)

² OJ No L 58, 27.2.1997, p.25

2. From 1 July to 31 December 1997 the goods originating from Latvia listed in Annex III to this Regulation shall be subject to the annual tariff quotas and preferential duties mentioned in that Annex. The basic amounts to be taken into consideration in calculating the reduced agricultural components and additional duties applicable to the importation into the Community are given in Annex II.
3. From 1 July to 31 December 1997 the goods originating from Estonia listed in Annex IV to this Regulation shall be subject to the annual tariff quotas and preferential duties mentioned in that Annex. The basic amounts to be taken into consideration in calculating the reduced agricultural components and additional duties applicable to the importation into the Community are given in Annex II.

Article 2

1. The quotas referred to in Annexes I, III and IV to this Regulation shall be administered by the Commission in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 1460/96 establishing the detailed rules for implementing the preferential trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products, as provided for in Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 3448/93³.
2. The volumes of the tariff quotas indicated in Annexes I, III and IV to the present Regulation shall be reduced to take account of the volume of goods imported from 1 January to 30 June 1997 under the equivalent quotas set out in Annexes I, III and IV to Regulation (EC) No 340/97.

Article 3

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

It shall apply with effect from 1 July 1997.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

³ OJ No L 187, 26.7.1996, p. 18

ANNEX I

LITHUANIA

Order No	CN code	Description	1997 quota (tonnes)	Preference
09.6533	1518 00 10 1518 00 31 1518 00 39 1518 00 91 1518 00 95 1518 00 99	Animal and vegetable fats	300	5.5% 0% 3.5% 5.5% 0% 5.5%
09.6501	17049071 17049075	Boiled sweets Caramels	400	EAR
09.6503	1806 90	Chocolate	500	EAR
09.6528	2203 00	Beer	400	4.4%
09.6525	2208 60 11	Vodka	330	0.73 ECU/% vol/hl+2.87 ECU/hl
09.6534	2402 20 90	Cigarettes	40	36.9%

ANNEX II

Basic amounts to be taken into consideration in calculating agricultural components and additional duties

	ecus/ECU/ Ecu/ ecu/écus/ecua/ 100 kg
Trigo blando / Blod hvede / Weichweizen / Μαλακό σιτάρι / Common wheat / Blé tendre / Grano tenero / Zachte tarwe / Trigo mole / Tavallinen vehnä / Vete	8.524
Trigo duro / Härd hvede / Hartweizen / Σκληρό σιτάρι / Durum wheat / Blé dur / Grano duro / Durum tarwe / Trigo duro / Durumvehnä / Durumvete	13.231
Centeno/ Rug / Roggen / Σίκαλη / Rye / Seigle / Segala / Rogge / Centeio / Ruis / Råg	8.306
Cebada / Byg / Gerste / Κριθάρι / Barley/ Orge / Orzo / Gerst / Cevada / Ohra / Korn	8.306
Maiz / Majs / Mais / Καλαμπόκι / Maize / Maïs / Granturco / Maïs / Milho / Maissi / Majs	7.408
Arroz descascarillado de grano largo / Ris, afskallet, langkornet / Reis, langkörnig, geschält / Αποφλοιωμένο ρύζι μακρόσπερμο / Long-grain husked rice / Riz décortiqué à grains longs / Riso semigreggio a grani lunghi / Langkorrelige gedopte rijst / Arroz em películas de grãos longos / Pitkäjyväinen esikuorittu riisi / Ris, skalat långkornigt	23.706
Leche desnatada en polvo / Skummetmælkspulver / Magermilchpulver / Αποβουτυρωμένο γάλα σε σκόνη / Skimmed-milk powder / Lait éréme en poudre / Latte scremato in polvere / Magere-melkpoeder / Leite desnatado em pó/ Rasvaton maitojauhe / Skummjölkspulver	26.730
Leche entera en polvo / Sodmælkspulver / Vollmilchpulver / Πλήρες γάλα σε σκόνη / Whole-milk powder / Lait entier en poudre / Latte intero in polvere / Vollemelkpoeder / Leite inteiro ein pó / Rasvainen maitojauhe / Mjölkspulver	33.423
Mantequilla / Smør / Butter / Βούτυρο / Butter / Beurre / Burro / Boter / Manteiga / Voi / Smör	48.575
Azúcar blanco / Hvidt sukker / Weißzucker / Λευκή ζάχαρη / White sugar / Sucre blanc / Zucchero bianco / Witte suiker / Açúcar branco / Valkoinen sokeri / Vitt socker	32.565

ANNEX III**LATVIA**

Order No	CN code	Description	1997 quota (tonnes)	Preference
09.6535	1704 90 65 1704 90 71 1704 90 75	Sugar confectionery	250	EAR
09.6536	1806 31 00 1806 32 10 1806 32 90 1806 90 11 1806 90 19	Chocolate	500	EAR
09.6537	1901 90 11 1901 90 19 1901 90 91 1901 90 99	Food preparations	200	EAR EAR 8.2% EAR
09.6538	1905 30	Biscuits	200	EAR
09.6527	2104 10	Soups and broths	36	5.7%
09.6513	2105	Ice-cream	30	EAR
09.6528	2203 00	Beer	500	4.4%
09.6525	2208 60 11	Vodka	330	0.73 ECU/% vol/hl+2.87 ECU/hl
09.6529	2208 70 10	Liqueurs	12	0.89 ECU/% vol/hl+5.74 ECU/hl

ANNEX IV**ESTONIA**

Order No	CN code	Description	1997 quota (tonnes)	Preference
09.6515	1704 10 11 1704 10 19 1704 90 71 1704 90 75	Sugar confectionery	150	EAR
09.6530	1805 00 00	Cocoa powder	31	0%
09.6517	ex 1806 1806 10 15	Chocolate confectionery, excluding CN code 1806 10 15	500	EAR 0%
09.6519	1905	Bakery goods	120	EAR
09.6521	2102 10 39	Yeasts	2000	EAR
09.6539	2103 90 90	Sauces and preparations	600	5.7%
09.6523	2105	Ice-cream	12	EAR
09.6531	2203	Beer	500	4.4%
09.6525	2208 60 11	Vodka	100	0.73 ECU/% vol/hl+2.87 ECU/hl
09.6529	2208 70 10	Liquors	18	0.89 ECU/% vol/hl+5.74 ECU/hl
09.6532	2208 90 69	Other spirits	18	0.89 ECU/% vol/hl+5.74 ECU/hl
09.6534	2402 20 90	Cigarettes	50	36.9%

FINANCIAL STATEMENT		Date: 25/04/97	
1. BUDGET HEADING : Article 120		APPROPRIATIONS :	
2. TITLE :			
Proposal for a Council Regulation adopting autonomous and transitional measures for the free trade agreements with Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in certain processed agricultural products			
3. LEGAL BASIS : Article 113			
4. AIMS: Extending the autonomous measures taken following enlargement of the Union and the implementation of the agreements on agriculture reached in the Uruguay Round multilateral negotiations.			
5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:	Period of 12 months	Current financial year ()	Following financial year ()
5.0. Expenditures : - Charged to the EC budget (refunds/interventions) - National Authorities - Other			
5.1. Revenue: - Own resources of the EC (levies/customs duties)			
5.0. I. ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE			
5.1. I. ESTIMATED REVENUE			
5.2. METHOD OF CALCULATION :			
6.0. CAN THE PROJECT BE FINANCED FROM APPROPRIATIONS ENTERED IN THE RELEVANT CHAPTER ON THE CURRENT BUDGET			yes/no
6.1. CAN THE PROJECT BE FINANCED BY TRANSFER BETWEEN CHAPTERS OF THE CURRENT BUDGET			yes/no
6.2. WILL A SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET BE NECESSARY			yes/no
6.3. WILL FUTURE BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS BE NECESSARY			yes/no
OBSERVATIONS :			
This proposal does not entail any additional expenditure other than those already agreed upon adoption of Regulations (EC) No 340/97 which it is replacing.			

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