

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(74) 1937 final

Brussels, 22 November 1974

Recommendation for a decision of the Council
authorizing the opening of negotiations and consultations in GATT
concerning the variation of tariff concessions in
respect of unwrought lead, other, and unwrought zinc

(submitted to the Council by the Commission)

Explanatory Memorandum

During the XXIV:6 negotiations and the 1962-63 "Dillon Round" under the auspices of the GATT, the Community bound the duty of 1.32 u.c./100 kg. for unwrought lead, other (tariff position 78.01 A II) and for unwrought zinc (tariff position 79.01 A).

Protocols number 14 and 15 annexed to the Treaty of Accession stipulate that unwrought lead, other and unwrought zinc will, with effect from 1 January, 1974, be subject to a duty of 4.5 % with a minimum charge of 1.1 u.c./100 kg. Since 1 January, 1974 the above duty is suspended and the duty which is applied is 4.5 % with a minimum charge of 1.1 u.c./100 kg and a maximum charge of 1.32 u.c./100 kg., the reason for this being to respect the Community's GATT obligations. The suspension is limited to 31 June, 1975 at the latest.

With a view to regularising this situation and given that the conditions exist for settling the tariff problem, the Commission recommends to the Council, under Article 113 paragraph 3 of the Treaty of Rome, the authorisation of negotiations in accordance with Article XXVII paragraph 1 of the General Agreement to alter the duty of 1.32 u.c./100 kg. for unwrought lead, other and unwrought zinc.

The Special Article 113 Committee has expressed support for these negotiations and will assist the Commission in the consideration of any compensation which may be necessary to bring them to a successful conclusion.

The Commission submits to the Council the annexed draft recommendation for a decision.

Recommendation for a Decision of the Council authorizing the opening of negotiations and consultations in GATT concerning the variation of tariff concessions in respect of unwrought lead, other, and unwrought zinc

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

HAVING regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 113;

HAVING regard to the Recommendation of the Commission;

WHEREAS during the 1962-63 tariff negotiations in the framework of the GATT, the Community bound a customs duty of 1.32 u.a./100 kg. for unwrought lead, other (CCT subheading No 78.01 A II) and for unwrought zinc (CCT subheading No 79.01 A); whereas these bindings are included in the European Economic Community's list (list LXXII - EEC) annexed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

Whereas to this end tariff negotiations or consultations should be undertaken with the contracting parties of the GATT possessing rights with regard to these concessions under Article XXVIII of the General Agreement;

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Sole Article

The Commission hereby is authorized to open tariff negotiations or consultations with the contracting parties possessing rights by virtue of the provisions of Article XXVIII of the General Agreement with a view to varying the duty of 1.32 u.a./100 kg. relating to unwrought lead, other, and unwrought zinc (subheading Nos. 78.01 A II and 79.01 A respectively of the Common Customs Tariff)