

European Communities

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

1979 - 1980

7 December 1979

DOCUMENT 1-562/79

Report

drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations

on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council (Doc. 1-364/79) for a regulation on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1980)

Rapporteur: Mrs T. CARETONI ROMAGNOLI

By letter of 25 September 1979 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Articles 43 and 113 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on the proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) (Doc. 1-364/79) on the total or partial suspension of Common Custom Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1980).

On 10 October 1979 the President of the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations as the committee responsible and to the Committee on Agriculture for its opinion.

On 22 November 1979 the Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mrs Carettoni Romagnoli rapporteur.

It considered the draft report at its meeting of 29 November 1979 and adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement unanimously.

Present : Sir Fred Catherwood, chairman; Mr van Aerssen, first vice-chairman; Mr Seal, third vice-chairman; Mrs Carettoni Romagnoli, rapporteur; Mrs Agnelli, Mr Almirante, Mr Cohen (deputizing for Mr Ripa di Meana), Mr de Courcy Ling, Mr Filippi, Mr Galluzzi, Mr Giummarra, Mr Jonker, Mr Kellett-Bowman, Mrs Lenz, Mr Louwes, Mr Majonica, Mr Martinet, Mrs Moreau, Mr Pannella, Mrs Poirier, Mr Prout (deputizing for Sir John Stewart-Clark), Mrs Rabbethge (deputizing for Mr Lemmer), Mr Schmitt, Mr Seeler and Mr Welsh.

The opinion of the Committee on Agriculture is attached.

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A

The Committee on External Economic Relations hereby submits to the European Parliament the following motion for a resolution, together with explanatory statement:

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

embodying the opinion of the European Parliament on the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation on the total or partial suspension of Common Custom Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey (1980).

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council¹,
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Articles 43 and 113 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 1-364/79),
- having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations and the opinion of the Committee on Agriculture (Doc. 1-562/79),

Approves the Commission's proposal.

¹ OJ No. C 239, 22.9.1972, p. 2

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. The proposal for a regulation, on which the European Parliament must be consulted pursuant to Articles 43 and 113 of the EEC Treaty, is based on
 - the provisions of the Additional Protocol and the Interim Agreement concluded pending the entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol to the EEC-Turkey Association Agreement, which provide for the partial or total suspension of customs duties on Turkish agricultural products listed in Chapters 1 to 24 of the Common Customs Tariff;
 - the Council decision that, in the case of the agricultural products in question, Turkey would as from 1 January 1974 be treated on an equal basis with countries benefiting from generalized tariff preferences.
2. The proposal for a regulation, renewable each year, therefore lays down the implementation of these provisions for 1980.

The Commission points out that this regulation may have to be amended if the Supplementary Protocol referred to above enters into force. This is hardly likely at present for political reasons. However, the text will have to be harmonized with the regulation on suspensions under the generalized preference scheme when this has been adopted by the Council.
3. In view of the importance which the Committee on External Economic Relations attaches to the promotion of trade between the Community and Turkey, the committee approves the proposal for a regulation.

OPINION OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Letter from the chairman of the committee to Sir Fred CATHERWOOD,
chairman of the Committee on External Economic Relations

Brussels, 30 October 1979

Dear Mr Chairman,

At its meeting of 29/30 October 1979, the Committee on Agriculture¹ considered the proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation on the total or partial suspension of Common Customs Tariff duties on certain agricultural products originating in Turkey. This proposal is based on the existing Association Agreement between the EEC and Turkey and the accompanying Supplementary Protocol and on the Interim Agreement concluded between the Community and Turkey in connection with the accession of new Member States to the Community.

As in previous years, the proposal provides for a total or partial suspension of customs duties on a large number of agricultural products listed in the annexes to the Regulation. The resulting tariff advantages for Turkey will apply in the year 1980 to the products listed in the annexes. The proposal also takes account of the Council's decision that as from 1 January 1974 Turkey should not be treated less favourably than the countries and territories benefiting from generalized tariff preferences.

In the proposal, the tariff preferences to be accorded on an autonomous basis for the year 1980 are extended to Turkey for products in respect of which no provision is made for more favourable treatment in the existing agreements with Turkey.

In conclusion it should be noted that this proposal will have to be amended as soon as the abovementioned Supplementary Protocol enters into force and as soon as the Council takes a decision on the suspension of tariff duties under the scheme of generalized tariff preferences. As the proposal is a direct consequence of existing agreements with Turkey as one of the Community's association partners, the Committee on Agriculture recommends your committee to approve the proposal for a regulation.

(sgd) Sir Henry PLUMB

¹ Present : Sir Henry Plumb, chairman, Mr Bocklet, Mr Davern, Mr De Keersmaeker (deputizing for Mr Früh), Mr Delatte, Mr Diana, Mr Gatto, Mr Helms, Mr Lynge, Mr Maher, Mr Newton-Dunn (deputizing for Mr Provan), Mr B. Nielsen, Mr Papapietro, Mr Tolman, Mr Vernimmen and Mr Woltjer

