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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. 178/74) for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 803/68 concerning the value of goods for customs purposes

Rapporteur : Mr E.A. KLEPSCH

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English Edition

By letter of 2 July 1974 the President of the Council of the European Communities requested the European Parliament, pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty, to deliver an opinion on a proposal from the Commission of the European Communities to the Council for a regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 803/68 concerning the value of goods for customs purposes (Doc. 178/74).

By letter of 8 July 1974 the European Parliament referred this proposal to the Committee on External Economic Relations.

The Committee on External Economic Relations appointed Mr Klepsch rapporteur and considered the proposal at its meeting of 17 September 1974.

At the same meeting the Committee unanimously adopted the motion for a resolution and the explanatory statement.

The following were present: Sir Douglas Dodds-Parker, Vice-Chairman Mr Klepsch, rapporteur; Mr Brewis, Mr Corterier, Mr D'Angelosante, Mr De Clercq, Mr Herbert, Mr E. Muller, Mr Premoli, Mr Radoux, Mr Sandri, Mr Thornley, Mr Vandewiele. CONTENTS

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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 amending Regulation (EEC) No. 803/68 concerning the value of goods for customs purposes

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the proposal from the Commission to the Council 1 ,
- having been consulted by the Council pursuant to Article 235 of the EEC Treaty (Doc. 178/74).
- having regard to the report of the Committee on External Economic Relations (Doc. 257/74);
- 1. Approves the proposal for a regulation;
- 2. Instructs its President to forward this resolution and the report of its committee to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.

¹ OJ NO. C 88, 26.7.74, p. 33

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EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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1. Conclusion of the 'Basic Treaty on Relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic' and the establishment of diplomatic relations between the GDR and the EEC Member States has made necessary a reexamination and possible adjustment of trade relations between these countries.

In its Communication of 18 April 1973 on this question the Commission reached the conclusion that relations between the Community and the GDR should be fully subject to general Community rules. However, both the Commission and the Council felt that the special status granted to internal German trade in the relevant Protocol to the EEC Treaty should continue¹.

2. The present proposal of the Commission provides for the application of Community rules in a further sector to relations between the Member States and the GDR. The provisions of Article 8(4) of Council Regulation (EEC) No. 803/68² will thus have to be abolished. These provide exceptionally that where goods from third countries are introduced into the customs territory of the Community through the territory of the GDR, delivery costs for such transit shall not be included in the value of the goods for customs purposes.

3. The Commission emphasizes that the introduction of goods from third countries into the customs territory of the Community through the territory of the GDR cannot be regarded as pertaining to German internal trade. The proposed amendment is therefore intended to ensure a uniform determination of customs value and at the same time prevent possible discrimination against certain routes.

4. In view of the reasons put forward by the Commission, the Committee on External Economic Relations approves the proposal for a regulation.

¹ See also Council reply to a written question by Mr VREDELING (No. 485/72, OJ No. C 57, 17.7.1973)

² OJ No. L 148, 28.6.1968, p.6