

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

~~COM(75) 253 final~~

Brussels, 30 May 1975

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

maintaining in effect the rules whereby
imports into the Federal Republic of Germany
and Benelux countries of synthetic socks originating
in Taiwan are subject to import authorisations

(submitted by the Commission to the Council)

COM(75) 253 final

Explanatory Statement

1. Since 1971, the European producers of synthetic socks have been subjected to growing pressure, especially in the German and Benelux markets, from imports from South East Asia, and principally from Korea and Taiwan. This pressure has manifested itself on the quantitative level by a sharp and substantial increase in imports which have risen from 12 million pairs in 1971 to about 53 million pairs in 1974 in Germany, and from 6 million pairs in 1971 to more than 12 million pairs in 1974 in Benelux. Furthermore, the abnormally low prices offered by the Korean and Taiwanese exporters, less than half the European price, have adversely affected the Community producers.
2. The combination of these two factors, quantity and price, has allowed the Korean and Taiwanese exporters to capture a large share of the market, approximately 30% in Germany and 20% in Benelux. This development has been at the expense of the knitwear producers in the regions affected, whose production has decreased considerably during the past four years. It has also had very serious effects on the already precarious position of employment in this sector.
3. Furthermore, an aggravation of the position of the Community producers seems to be imminent if regard is had to the number of import licences issued over the last few months by virtue of the Community surveillance which has been established over imports of these products⁽¹⁾.
4. It therefore seemed legitimate and necessary that the Commission should take immediate action, that is that it should limit temporarily imports originating in Taiwan as it had done for imports of Korean origin⁽²⁾.

(1) O.J. No. L 316 of 26.11.1974, page 7

(2) Doc. Com (75) - Accelerated written procedure No. C /75 of
22.5.1975

5. This measure has been restricted for the moment to those regions of the Community, which are the most directly affected, that is, to Germany and the Benelux.

6. The Commission considers that these measures should be maintained in effect for six months and, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation (EEC) No. 1439/74, Article 12, paragraph 6, is submitting to the Council the attached proposal for a Regulation regarding measures appropriate to be taken in this field.

(1) Accelerated written procedure No. 1557 of 26.5.1975

Proposal for a Council Regulation

maintaining in effect the rules whereby imports
into the Federal Republic of Germany and the Benelux countries
of synthetic socks originating in Taiwan are subject to import
authorisations

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No. 1439/74⁽¹⁾ on common rules
for imports and in particular article 13 thereof;

The Committee set up under article 5 of the said Regulation having been
consulted;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas by Regulation (EEC) No. of May 1975, the Commission
established rules whereby imports into the Federal Republic of Germany
and the Benelux countries of synthetic socks originating in Taiwan were
made subject to authorisation;

Whereas the factors which justified the establishment of these rules are
still present and whereas it is consequently necessary to maintain them
in effect for a period of six months;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

(1) O.J. No. L 159 of 15.6.1974, page 1.

Article 1

1. The rules whereby imports into the Federal Republic of Germany and Benelux countries of synthetic socks originating in Taiwan are subject to authorisation which were adopted by Commission Regulation (EEC) No. of May 1975 shall remain applicable for a period of 6 months from the date of its entry into force.

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

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council
The President