

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(79) 547 final

Brussels, 18th October 1979

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
APPROVING AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS MODIFYING CERTAIN
DUTY-FREE QUOTAS FOR 1979 OPENED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROTOCOL No. 1 OF THE FREE TRADE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC
COMMUNITY AND THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND

RECOMMENDATION FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)
CONCERNING THE CONCLUSION OF AN AGREEMENT IN THE FORM OF
AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS MODIFYING CERTAIN DUTY-FREE
QUOTAS OPENED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM IN ACCORDANCE WITH
PROTOCOL No. 1 OF THE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND THE
REPUBLIC OF FINLAND

(presented by the Commission to the Council)

FINANCIAL SHEET

The increase of the duty-free quota of 7.571 t would mean a reduction of 215.773 UCE in Customs duties levied on light weight coated paper. It is unlikely that the revenue from duties levied on kraft paper would increase because of the quota reduction, as these quotas were not fully utilized in the past.

Explanatory Memorandum

1. The United Kingdom has requested that the 1979 duty free quotas for coated printing and writing paper, including light weight coated mechanical paper weighing not more than 65 gms/m² (LWC), provided for in Protocol No. 1 of the Free Trade Agreements EEC-Finland be increased. The increase is to be confined to the subquota for LWC established by the United Kingdom within the quota for coated printing and writing paper.

2. The reasons for this request are the following :
 - Since the conclusion of the Free Trade Agreement in 1973 the demand structure for paper products imported from the EFTA countries has changed considerably.

 - The demand for light weight coated paper has increased sharply.

 - There is no production of this type of paper in the United Kingdom, and due to established trade relations between users and suppliers within the Community, the United Kingdom converters are experiencing difficulties in obtaining LWC from mills within the Community in the presently tight supply situation.

3. The increase in the quotas for coated printing and writing paper would be for 1979 and would be accomplished through a temporary transfer of the quantity requested from the underutilized quota for ex 48.01 CII (kraft paper for large capacity sacks) to the former quota.

4. In view of the present shortage of light weight coated paper in the Community and fact that the increase requested is limited to the year 1979, this facilitation of imports into the United Kingdom should not cause difficulties for the Community paper industry.

.../...

5. The attached draft exchange of letters therefore propose to modify the United Kingdom duty-free quotas for coated printing and writing paper and kraft paper for large capacity sacks contained in Annex A to Protocol No. 1 of the Agreement .

6. The Finnish authorities have expressed their agreement with the procedure envisaged. It is proposed that Mr. Denman sign on behalf of the Community. The Finnish Ambassador could sign on behalf of his government.

RECOMMENDATION FOR A
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

approving an exchange of letters modifying certain duty-free quotas for 1979 opened by the United Kingdom in accordance with Protocol No. 1 of the free trade agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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

Having regard to the recommendation of the Commission;

Whereas an agreement was signed on 5 October 1973 between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland (1);

Whereas certain duty free quotas for 1979 opened by the United Kingdom in accordance with Protocol No. 1 of the free trade agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland should be modified and the exchange of letters to this effect between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland on 1979 should be approved

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

.../...

(1) O.J. No. L 328, 28.11.1973, p. 2.

Article 1

The exchange of letters of 1979 between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland modifying certain duty-free quotas for 1979 opened by the United Kingdom in accordance with Protocol No. 1 of the free trade agreement between the European Economic Community and the said country is hereby approved on behalf of the Community.

The text of the letters is annexed to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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

Letter No. 1

Sir,

According to Protocol No. 1 of the free trade agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland signed in Brussels on 5 October 1973, the United Kingdom has since 1 January 1974 opened tariff quotas for coated printing and writing paper (ex 48.07 C) as well as for kraft paper for large capacity sacks (ex 48.01 CII). The permissible maxima for these quotas were fixed on the basis of statistics available for the period 1968-1971.

Within the quota for coated printing and writing paper the United Kingdom has established a subquota for light weight coated mechanical paper weighing less than 65 grammes per square meter (LWC).

During recent years the demand for LWC has increased significantly in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. As the paper in question is at present in short supply in the Community, it is proposed that the permissible maximum for the quota which the United Kingdom may open in 1979 for coated printing and writing paper be increased by 7,571 tons to a total of 27,075 tons, it being understood that the increase will be confined to the subquota for LWC. As a compensation the permissible maximum for the quota for kraft paper for large capacity sacks would be decreased for 1979 by 7,571 tons to 41,057 tons. The quota for this type of paper has been underutilized during recent years. I should be obliged if you could confirm the agreement of the Finnish Authorities with the proposed modifications of the 1979 United Kingdom quotas.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

On behalf of the Council of
the European Communities

His Excellency
Mr. Ake WIHTOL
Head of the Finnish Mission
to the European Communities
Place Stéphanie, 20
1050 - BRUXELLES

Letter No. 2

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today in which you informed me as follows :

"According to Protocol No. 1 of the Free Trade Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland signed in Brussels on 5 October 1973, the United Kingdom has since 1 January 1974 opened tariff quotas for coated printing and writing paper (ex 48.07C) as well as for kraft paper for large capacity sacks (ex 48.01 CII). The permissible maxima for these quotas were fixed on the basis of statistics available for the period 1968-1971.

Within the quota for coated printing and writing paper the United Kingdom has established a subquota for light weight coated mechanical paper weighing less than 65 grammes per square meter (LWC).

During recent years the demand for LWC has increased significantly in the United Kingdom and elsewhere. As the paper in question is presently in short supply in the Community, it is proposed that the permissible maximum for the quota which the United Kingdom may open in 1979 for coated printing and writing paper be increased by 7.571 tons to a total of 27.075 tons, it being understood that the increase will be confined to the subquota for LWC. As a compensation the permissible maximum for the quota for kraft paper for large capacity sacks would be decreased for 1979 by 7.571 tons to 41.057 tons. The quota for this type of paper has been underutilized during recent years. I should be grateful if you could confirm the agreement of the Finnish Authorities with the proposed modifications of the 1979 United Kingdom quotas."

I have the honour to confirm the agreement of the Finnish Authorities on the foregoing.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my high consideration.

For the Republic of Finland

RECOMMENDATION FOR A
COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

concerning the conclusion of an agreement in the form of an exchange of letters modifying certain duty-free quotas opened by the United Kingdom in accordance with Protocol No. 1 of the free trade agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland.

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

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

Having regard to the recommendation of the Commission;

Whereas an agreement (1) was signed in Brussels on 5 October 1973 between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland; whereas certain duty-free quotas for 1979 opened by the United Kingdom in accordance with Protocol No 1 of the said agreement should be modified and the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters negotiated to this effect approved;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

The agreement in the form of an exchange of letters modifying certain duty-free quotas opened by the United Kingdom in accordance with Protocol No. 1 of the agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Finland is hereby approved on behalf of the Community.

The text of the letters is annexed to this Regulation.

.../...

(1) C.J. No. L 328, 28.11.1973, p. 2

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorized to designate the person empowered to sign the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters referred to in Article 1 and to grant him the powers necessary for the purpose of binding the Community.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on the third 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

