

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(89) 295 final

Brussels, 16 June 1989

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC)

amending Annex 1 of Regulation (EEC) N° 288/82  
on common rules for imports

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(presented by the Commission)

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EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

In the multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT which started in 1986, following the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Punta del Este, the Tropical Products sector was identified as a priority sector. This priority applied to both the timing of the negotiations and the implementation of the results.

The Community's commitment to this objective was demonstrated by it being the first developed country to submit a detailed offer in October 1987 an example which was not followed until much later by the other participants. However, as the Mid-term Review in Montreal approached other participants, both developed and developing, tabled their proposals. In November 1988 the Commission sent to the Council a proposal which elaborated the Community's position on Tropical Products. It consisted of four elements:

a special action in favour of the least-developed developing countries;

tariff reductions on a selected list of tropical products;

elimination of certain quantitative restrictions on tropical products applied by Member States;

invitation to Member States applying excise duties on tropical beverages to indicate their intentions, if possible, on their eventual reduction or elimination;

The Council gave its agreement to the Commission proposal and at Montreal accepted that further small modifications were necessary in order to reach a result in the negotiations that was acceptable to all parties. The Community's contribution provides for tariff concessions on trade amounting to more than 10 bn Ecu, the elimination of certain national quantitative restrictions and a number of specific measures in favour of the LLDCs. The aim of this proposal for a Council Regulation is to put into effect the elimination of certain quantitative restrictions on tropical products applied by Member States.

**PROPOSAL FOR A**

**Council Regulation (EEC) N°  
of 1989  
amending Annex 1 of Regulation (EEC) N° 288/82  
on common rules for imports**

**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 proposal from the Commission,

Whereas the multilateral trade negotiations under the GATT opened pursuant to the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Punta del Este on 20 September 1986 resulted in an interim result in the Tropical Products Negotiating Group at the Montreal Mid-term Review in December 1988;

Whereas the Community's contribution to this result on Tropical products consists of three elements: first, a significant number of tariff reductions on a mfn basis, secondly, the elimination of a number of quantitative restrictions on tropical products applied by Member States and finally a series of concessions for least-developed developing countries that would ensure duty free access for practically all tropical products as well as improved access where necessary for tropical roots and rice;

Whereas the Community has found the concessions made by other countries participating in the negotiations constitute an acceptable result;

Whereas the Punta del Este Ministerial Declaration provides for the early implementation of results obtained in the area of Tropical Products and the Community has found it necessary, therefore, to implement its contribution on Tropical Products on an autonomous basis, pending the end of the current round of multilateral trade negotiations;

Whereas it is now necessary to delete those quantitative restrictions on tropical products, set out in the Community's contribution to the result obtained at the Montreal Mid-term Review, from Annex I of Regulation (EEC) N° 288/82;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. The quantitative restrictions on certain products originating in third countries maintained by certain Member States as set out in the Annex shall be abolished from 1 July 1989.
2. The products to which these quantitative restrictions apply shall be deleted from Annex I of Regulation N° 288/82.

Article 2

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

It shall apply with effect from the 1 July 1989.

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

Done at Brussels,

For the Council

The President

CN code	Description
1302	Vegetable saps and extracts; pectic substances, pectinates and pectates; agar-agar and other mucilages and thickeners, whether or not modified, derived from vegetable products:
	- Vegetable saps and extracts:
1302 19	- - Other:
1302 19 30	- - - Intermixtures of vegetable extracts for the manufacture of beverages or of food preparations
3203 00	Colouring matter of vegetable or animal origin (including dyeing extracts but excluding animal black), whether or not chemically defined; preparations as specified in note 3 to this chapter based on colouring matter of vegetable or animal origin:
	- Colouring matter of vegetable origin and preparations based thereon:
ex 3203 00 19	- - Other
5310	Woven fabrics of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading N° 5303:
5310 10	- Unbleached:
5310 10 10	- - Of a width not exceeding 150 cm
5310 10 90	- - Of a width exceeding 150 cm
5310 90 00	- Other

CN code	Description
5311 00	Woven fabrics of other vegetable textile fibres; woven fabrics of paper yarn:
ex 5311 00 90	- Other than woven fabrics of paper yarn
5608	Knotted netting of twine, cordage or rope; made up fishing nets and other made up nets, of textile materials:
ex 5608 90 00	- Other than wool or fine animal hair or cotton
5702	Carpets and other textile floor coverings, woven, not tufted or flocked, whether or not made up, including 'Kelem', 'Schumacks', 'Karamanie' and similar hand-woven rugs:
5702 20 00	- Floor coverings of cononut fibres (coir)
	- Other, of pile construction, not made up:
5702 39	- - Of other textile materials:
5702 39 90	- - - Other
	- Other, of pile construction, made up:
5702 49	- - Of other textile materials:
5702 49 90	- - - Other
	- Other, not of pile construction, not made up:
ex 5702 59 00	- - Of other textile materials other than cotton
	- Other, not of pile construction, made up:
ex 5702 99 00	- - Of other textile materials other than cotton

CN code

Description

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5705	Other carpets and other textile floor coverings, whether or not made up:
ex 5705 00 90	- Of other textile materials other than cotton
5905 00	Textile wall coverings:
5905 00 50	- Of jute

## Impact on SME

This proposal will eliminate a number of national quantitative restrictions on certain tropical products imported into the Community. It is difficult to evaluate the impact of such measures on SME. However given that the products concerned are of tropical origin the impact is likely to be small.





Commission of the European Communities

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