

# COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

COM(81) 727 final.

Brussels, 27 November 1981

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL

Concerning the administrative arrangement for fish in the  
framework of the EEC-Morocco Cooperation Agreement

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 1977 the Moroccan authorities put forward a request to the Community for a derogation from the direct transport rule in the Origin Protocol to the Cooperation Agreement in respect of fish caught on the high seas by Moroccan vessels. At present the infrastructure in Moroccan ports is insufficient to permit the fish to be landed. However, the Moroccan authorities envisage the construction of maritime facilities for this purpose. In the meantime they have requested the agreement of the Community that they be permitted to stock this fish in Las Palmas (Canary Islands) under the surveillance of Moroccan customs officials pending subsequent shipment to the Community.

It is proposed that an administrative arrangement be drawn up by the EEC-Morocco Customs Cooperation Committee according to which consignments of fish, caught by Moroccan vessels and sent to the Community via Las Palmas will be issued with EUR.1 movement certificates by Moroccan customs officers stationed in Las Palmas. As the draft text makes clear the only derogation to the rules in the Origin Protocol to the Cooperation Agreement concerns the possibility for issue of EUR.1 certificates outside Moroccan territory. It should be noted that one condition is that Moroccan customs officers are allowed to operate on Spanish territory.

DRAFT TEXT

concerning the administrative arrangement for fish in the framework of the EEC-Morocco Cooperation Agreement

The EEC-Morocco Customs Cooperation Committee agrees, because of the presently insufficient infrastructure of the fishing ports of Morocco, the following provisions to be applied for a period of one year and for a quantity of 20.000 tonnes concerning the fish catches made by Moroccan vessels and discharged at Las Palmas before being shipped to the Community :

- the issue of the movement certificates EUR.1 for the fish caught by Moroccan ships will be carried out by Moroccan customs officers stationed in Las Palmas,
- the products covered by the arrangement are those listed below and relevant to Chapter 3 of the Common Customs Tariff :
  - fish, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen, (CCT heading 03.01);
  - crustaceans and molluscs, fresh (live or dead), chilled or frozen, (CCT heading ex 03.03),
- the vessels making the catches must comply with the origin rule in Note 6 of Annex 1 of Protocol N° 2 to the EEC-Morocco Cooperation Agreement,
- the operations carried out in Las Palmas shall not go beyond discharge, stockage, reloading or any operation designed to keep the goods in the same state,
- transportation between Las Palmas and the Community Member State of destination shall be carried out respecting the provisions of Article 5 of Protocol N° 2 to the Agreement concerning the concept of direct transport,

- the Moroccan authorities shall take whatever measures, these being communicated for examination to the services of the Commission, necessary to guarantee the effectiveness of the controls carried out by the Moroccan customs officers stationed in Las Palmas, including the provisions concerning subsequent verifications as defined in Article 26 of Protocol N° 2 of the EEC-Morocco Cooperation Agreement,
- the other provisions of Protocol N° 2 to the EEC-Morocco Cooperation Agreement remain applicable,
- The competent authorities of Morocco shall forward to the Commission every three months a statement of the quantities in respect of which movement certificates EUR.1 have been issued pursuant to this administrative arrangement indicating the Member State of destination.

The arrangement will be reviewed 3 months before expiration of the one year period.

