COMMISSION DECISION

of 11 December 1974

authorizing the French Republic to postpone the application of the Common Customs Tariff to seed potatoes

(Only the French text is authentic)

(75/14/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 26 thereof ;

Whereas the French Republic has applied for the year 1975 for authorization to postpone the application of the Common Customs Tariff to seed potatoes ;

Whereas, under Article 23 (3) of the Treaty, the Common Customs Tariff was from 1 January 1970 to be applied by the Member States in its entirety for, *inter alia*, seed potatoes ;

Whereas, however, the French Republic was authorized by the Decision of the Commission of 21 December 1973 (1) to continue during 1974 to apply the customs duties which it was applying on 31 December 1969 ;

Whereas if the duties under the Common Customs Tariff were applied from 1 January 1975, the existing difficulties in France would be aggravated, in the absence of a common organization of the market for the product in question, by the risk of a substantial increase in imports from third countries ; whereas the products concerned are sensitive products for which the provisions of Article 44 of the Treaty have had to be applied ; whereas, pending the introduction of a common organization of the market concerned, the French Republic should be authorized to continue to apply from 1 January 1975 in respect of imports of the products concerned from third countries, the duties which were applied on 31 December 1969, reduced in accordance with the agreement signed at the last GATT ;

Whereas a measure of derogation such as an authorization under Article 26 of the Treaty should apply for a limited period only ; whereas the authorization under Article 26 should therefore expire on the date on which the common organization of the market for the products concerned is brought into operation or on 31 December 1975, whichever is the earlier ;

Whereas imports of the products concerned into France from third countries do not represent more than 5 % in value of total imports into France from such countries during the last year for which statistical data are available,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

From 1 January 1975 until measures for the common organization of the market in seed potatoes are brought into operation or until 31 December 1975 whichever is the earlier, the French Republic is authorized to apply in respect of the products specified in the Annex the duties which it applied on 1 January 1957, aligned in accordance with Article 23 (1) (c) of the Treaty on the duties of the Common Customs Tariff.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels, 11 December 1974.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI

(1) OJ No L 33, 6. 2. 1974, p. 11.

ANNEX

CCT heading No	Description of goods
07.01	Vegetables, fresh or chilled :
	A. Potatoes :
	I. Seed potatoes (a)

(a) Entry under this subheading is subject to conditions to be determined by the competent authorities.