COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 7 May 1975

authorizing the Italian Republic not to apply Community treatment to woven cotton fabrics other than gauze or terry towelling and similar terry fabrics falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan or Taiwan and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(75/664/EEC)

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 115 thereof;

Having regard to the application to the Commission under the first paragraph of Article 115 of the Treaty, made on 26 April 1975 by the Italian Government by telex from the country's Permanent Representative to the European Communities, for authorization to apply protective measures in respect of the importation of certain cotton products falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan or Taiwan and in free circulation in the other Member States;

Whereas the importation into the Community of the products in question originating in the Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan or Taiwan is the subject of Agreements on trade in cotton textiles signed between the Community and the Republic of Korea on 29 March 1971 (1) and between the Community and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Taiwan on 20 April 1971 (2);

Whereas for the duration of these Agreements, each of the countries in question undertook to limit its exports of the products concerned to a certain ceiling fixed in the relevant Agreement;

Whereas, in order to ensure satisfactory utilization of this voluntary restraint ceiling, the third countries in question directed their exports to the various Member States in accordance with a scale communicated to them by the Community;

Whereas these Agreements expired in 1973; whereas, however, imports of cotton textiles originating in and coming from the countries in question continue to be effected under the voluntary restraint arrangements laid down in the Agreements, account being taken of the provisions of the new arrangement regarding international trade in textiles;

Whereas in the context of these arrangements Italy has agreed to permit in respect of the period 1 April to 30 September 1975 imports as follows: 298 metric tons for the Republic of Korea; 678 metric tons for the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and 1 288 metric tons for Taiwan;

Whereas, according to information supplied by the Italian Government, economic difficulties are being experienced in the weaving sector, taking the form of a considerable drop in production with resultant unemployment in a number of factories;

Whereas indirect imports of the products in question are likely to aggravate these economic difficulties;

Whereas, in these circumstances, authorization should be given for the application of protective measures under the first paragraph of Article 115, subject to the conditions laid down by the Commission Decision of 12 May 1971 (3), and in particular Article 1 thereof,

(1) OJ No L 55, 8. 3. 1971, p. 12.
(2) OJ No L 43, 22. 2. 1971, p. 1.
(3) OJ No L 121, 3. 6. 1971, p. 26.

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

The Italian Republic is authorized not to apply Community treatment to imports of woven cotton fabrics other than gauze or terry towelling and similar terry fabrics falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, where they originate in the Republic of Korea, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan or Taiwan and are in free circulation in the other Member States and in respect of which applications for import licences were lodged after 16 April 1975.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until 30 September 1975.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 7 May 1975.

For the Commission

The President

François-Xavier ORTOLI