II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 5 December 1975

authorizing the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands not to apply Community treatment to imports of socks of synthetic fibres falling within heading No ex 60.03 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Korea and in free circulation in Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany

(Only the French and Dutch texts are authentic)

(76/245/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 under the first paragraph of Article 115 of the Treaty, made on 1 December 1975 by the Governments of the Benelux countries to the Commission by telex from the Office of the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the European Communities, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to imports of socks of synthetic fibres falling within heading No ex 60.03 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Korea and in free circulation in Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany,

Whereas in certain areas of the Community, particularly the Benelux countries and Germany, imports of the product in question originating in the Republic of Korea may not exceed 6 500 000 and 22 000 000 pairs respectively for the period from 24 May 1975 to 31 December 1975, as laid down by Commission Regulations (EEC) No 1295/75 [1], (EEC) No 1466/75 [2] and (EEC) No 3045/75 [3], while no restrictive measures have been adopted for the rest of the Community;

Whereas these disparities in import opportunities have caused in the Benelux countries a flow of indirect trade in socks of synthetic fibres originating in the Republic of Korea and in free circulation in Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany;

Whereas this flow of indirect trade threatens to grow as a consequence of the expiry of the existing import arrangements and the implementation from 1 January 1976 of the agreement between the Community and the third country in question, laying down all necessary provisions for avoiding distortions of the market;

Whereas according to information supplied by the Governments of the Benelux countries there are serious economic difficulties in the branch of the textile industry concerned, resulting in a progressive decline of production and a constant reduction of the number of workers employed in that sector;

Whereas these economic difficulties are caused largely by unequal conditions of competition with certain countries (including the Republic of Korea), whereby such countries are enabled to export at prices lower than those of producers in the Benelux countries;

Whereas the indirect imports in question, which would be in addition to those already effected, would be likely to aggravate these economic difficulties;

[1] OJ No L 132, 23. 5. 1975, p. 32.
[2] OJ No L 146, 7. 6. 1975, p. 14.
[3] OJ No L 302, 22. 11. 1975, p. 26.

Whereas it is not possible at the present time to set in motion the machinery for bringing about the necessary cooperation from the Federal Republic of Germany;

Whereas authorization should be given, for a limited period, for the application of protective measures, under the first paragraph of Article 115,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands are authorized not to apply Community treatment to imports of the following product:

CCT heading No	Description of goods
ex 60.03	Socks of synthetic textile fibres

where they originate in the Republic of Korea and are in free circulation in Italy and the Federal Republic of Germany, and in respect of which applications for import licences were lodged after 18 November 1975.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until 31 December 1975.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Done at Brussels, 5 December 1975.

For the Commission

Finn GUNDELACH

Member of the Commission