COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 March 1976

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

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(76/416/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 17 March 1976 by the Italian Government to the Commission by telex from the office of its Permanent Representative to the European Communities, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to woven fabrics of cotton, other than gauze and terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, unbleached, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the USSR and in free circulation in Belgium and in the Netherlands,

Whereas in pursuance of the Council Decision of 18 December 1975 [1], Italy has opened for imports of such woven fabrics of cotton from the USSR a one-year quota of 300 metric tons which is to a large extent already used up ;

Whereas, according to information supplied by the Italian Government, there are severe economic difficulties in the weaving industry, evidenced by decreased orders, an increase in stocks and a considerable fall in production, resulting in unemployment in several factories ;

Whereas indirect imports of the products concerned are likely to aggravate these difficulties ;

Whereas the machinery for bringing about the necessary cooperation from the other Member States cannot be set in motion with sufficient speed ;

Whereas in view of the above the application of protective measures should be authorized as provided in the first paragraph of Article 115, subject to the conditions laid down in the Commission Decision of 12 May 1971 [2], and in particular Article 1 thereof,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

The Italian Republic is authorized not to apply Community treatment to imports of woven fabrics of cotton, other than gauze and terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, unbleached, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the USSR and in free circulation in the other Member States, and in respect of which applications for authorization to import were lodged after 8 March 1976.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until 31 December 1976.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 24 March 1976.

For the Commission

Christopher SOAMES

Vice-President

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(1) OJ No L 332, 29. 12. 1975, p. 1.

(2) OJ No L 121, 3. 6. 1971, p. 26.