COMMISSION DECISION

of 24 May 1976

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

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(76/650/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 12 May 1976 by the Italian Government to the Commission by telex from the office of its Permanent Representative to the European Communities, for authorization to apply protective measures to imports of woven fabrics of cotton other than gauze or terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, unbleached, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of Brazil and in free circulation in the Netherlands,

Whereas the importation into the Community of the products in question originating in the Republic of Brazil is the subject of an Agreement negotiated between the Community and the Republic of Brazil which was initialled on 1 April 1976;

Whereas, under the Agreement, the Republic of Brazil has undertaken to limit as from 1 January 1976 its exports of certain textile products to the Community to certain ceilings allocated among the Member States;

Whereas the quota share allocated to Italy for the bleached and unbleached woven cotton fabrics, falling within heading No ex 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff which are the subject of the Agreement is 3 337 metric tons;

Whereas there are serious economic difficulties in the sector of the textile industry in question, which manifest themselves in a drop in production and a high rate of unemployment;

Whereas, according to the information supplied by the Italian Government, considerable quantities of the products in question have already been imported into Italy from Brazil during the early part of this year, but, because they were exported prior to the entry into force of the provisions of the Agreement, are not to be counted against the agreed quota share, most of which has in any case already been used;

Whereas, because of this exceptional and temporary situation, it is certain that direct imports into Italy in 1976 will be greater than the annual amount provided for in the Agreement;

Whereas, in the light of all these factors, the indirect import transaction which prompted this application, although an isolated transaction, is likely at the present time to further exacerbate the above economic difficulties;

Whereas it is not possible at the present time to set in motion the machinery for bringing about the necessary cooperation from the Netherlands and the other Member States;

Whereas authorization should therefore 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 [1], 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 the following products:

[1] OJ No L 121, 3. 6. 1971, p. 26.

CCT heading No	Description of goods
ex 55.09	Woven fabrics of cotton other than gauze or terry towelling and similar terry fabrics, unbleached

where they originate in the Republic of Brazil and are in free circulation in the Netherlands, and in respect of which applications for import licences lodged after 4 May 1976 are being considered by the Italian authorities at the date of adoption of this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 24 May 1976.

For the Commission
Christopher SOAMES
Vice-President