# COMMISSION DECISION

of 25 August 1976

**authorizing the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands not to apply Community treatment to imports of bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of India and in free circulation in the other Member States**

**(Only the French and Dutch texts are authentic)**

(76/777/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 19 August 1976 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 bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the Republic of India and in free circulation in the Federal Republic of Germany,

Whereas the importation of the products in question originating in the Republic of India is the subject of an Agreement negotiated between the Community and India signed on 10 November 1975;

Whereas, under the Agreement, the Republic of India has undertaken to take all necessary steps to limit its exports to the Community of household linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff to a certain ceiling allocated among the Member States;

Whereas the quota share allocated to the Netherlands, which amounts to 315 000 kg for 1976, is wholly taken up;

Whereas according to information supplied by the Governments of the Benelux countries there are serious economic difficulties in the branch of the textile industry in question resulting in a 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 India), 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;

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 and the other Member States;

Whereas authorization should accordingly be given, for a limited period, 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;

Whereas the request for a licence which gave rise to the application under Article 115 need not be covered by this authorization because of the small amount involved,

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 bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff where they originate in the Republic of India and are in free circulation in the other Member States and in respect of which applications for import licences were lodged after 18 August 1976.

*Article 2*

This Decision shall apply until new opportunities arise in the Benelux countries for the importation of

[1] OJ No L 126, 3. 6. 1971, p. 26.

the products in question from the Republic of India and in any case not later than 31 December 1976.

*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, 25 August 1976.

*For the Commission*

Christopher SOAMES

*Vice-President*