COMMISSION DECISION

of 22 December 1976

authorizing the Italian Republic not to apply Community treatment to certain tube and pipe fittings — joints of malleable cast iron, falling within subheading ex 73.20 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Poland and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the Italian text is authentic)

(77/134/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 20 December 1976 by the Italian Government to the Commission by telex from the Office of its Permanent Representative, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to certain tube and pipe fittings — joints of malleable cast iron falling within subheading ex 73.20 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Poland and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas for imports of the products in question, Italy, in accordance with the Council Decision of 18 December 1975 [1], has opened in respect of Poland a quota of Lit 320 million, which is now used up;

Whereas there are serious economic difficulties in the national industry concerned resulting *inter alia* in a growing rate of unemployment;

Whereas the indirect imports on which the application is based are likely to aggravate these economic difficulties owing to the considerable amount involved (about 60 % of the quota referred to above);

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

Whereas authorization should be given for the application of protective measures under the first paragraph of Article 115, subject to the conditions specified 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 the following tube and pipe fittings: joints of malleable cast iron falling with subheading ex 73.20 of the Common Customs Tariff, where they originate in Poland and are in free circulation in the other Member States, and in respect of which applications for import licences lodged after 13 December 1976 are, at the date of this Decision, still pending with the Italian authorities.

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Italian Republic.

Done at Brussels, 22 December 1976.

For the Commission

P. J. LARDINOIS

Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ No L 332, 29. 12. 1975, p. 1.

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