# COUNCIL DECISION

**of 14 March 1977**

**extending the period of validity of Decision 76/276/EEC authorizing Ireland to take protective measures in respect of footwear with uppers of leather originating in Switzerland**

(77/231/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 2841/72 of 19 December 1972 concerning safeguard measures provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation [1], and in particular Article 4 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas following the adoption of Council Decision 76/276/EEC of 24 February 1976 authorizing Ireland to take protective measures in respect of footwear with uppers of leather originating in Switzerland [2], extended by Decision 76/640/EEC [3], the Irish footwear industry has continued to encounter serious difficulties which are liable to persist; whereas statistics available for 1976 indicate a further increase in imports, a decline in exports and a continuing deterioration in the production situation;

Whereas the period of validity of Commission Decision 76/176/EEC of 22 December 1975 authorizing Ireland to take protective measures in respect of footwear with uppers of leather, falling within Common Customs Tariff subheading 64.02 A, under Article 135 of the Act concerning the conditions of accession and the adjustments to the Treaties [4], has been extended again by Decision 77/56/EEC [5];

Whereas, therefore, similar measures should be taken in respect of imports of this product originating in Switzerland in accordance with Article 26 of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Swiss Confederation;

Whereas consultations have been held with Switzerland in accordance with Article 27 of the aforementioned Agreement,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

In Article 1 of Decision 76/276/EEC '31 December 1977' shall be substituted for '31 December 1976'.

*Article 2*

This Decision is addressed to Ireland.

Done at Brussels, 14 March 1977.

*For the Council*

*The President*

J. SILKIN

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[1] OJ No L 300, 31. 12. 1972, p. 284.
[2] OJ No L 58, 5. 3. 1976, p. 9.
[3] OJ No L 223, 16. 8. 1976, p. 24.
[4] OJ No L 32, 6. 2. 1976, p. 22.
[5] OJ No L 11, 14. 1. 1977, p. 26.