II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 16 June 1977

authorizing the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands not to apply Community treatment to knitted or crocheted jerseys, pullovers, slipovers, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers falling within heading No ex 60.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Macao and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the Dutch and French texts are authentic)

(77/542/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 8 June 1977 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 knitted or crocheted jerseys, pullovers, slipovers, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers falling within heading No ex 60.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Macao and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas, under the Agreement between the Community and Macao negotiated under Article 4 of the Arrangement regarding international trade in textiles, Macao has undertaken to limit its exports of the products concerned to the Benelux countries to a certain ceiling;

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 progressive 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 Macao), whereby such countries are enabled to export at prices lower than those of producers in the Benelux countries;

Whereas indirect imports of the products 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 other Member States;

Whereas authorization should 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

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

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 knitted or crocheted jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers falling within heading No ex 60.05 of the Common Customs Tariff, where they originate in Macao and are in free circulation in the other Member States, and in respect of which applications for import licences were lodged after 31 May 1977.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until new opportunities arise in the Benelux countries for the importation of the products in question from Macao and in any case not later than 31 December 1977.

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, 16 June 1977.

For the Commission

Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President