COMMISSION DECISION

of 3 October 1977

authorizing the French Republic not to apply Community treatment to table linen, bed linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the People's Republic of China and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the French text is authentic)

(78/4/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 23 September 1977 by the French Government to the Commission by telex from the Office of its Permanent Representative to the European Communities, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to table linen, bed linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the People's Republic of China and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas for the products in question, falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff, the French Republic in accordance with the Council Decision of 13 December 1976 [1], has opened in respect of the People's Republic of China, an overall quota of FF 7 385 000, which has been allocated in its entirety among the importers who have lodged applications ;

Whereas, according to information supplied by the French Government, the textile industry concerned is facing serious economic difficulties resulting in a considerable drop in production ;

Whereas indirect imports of the product 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 specified in the Commission Decision of 12 May 1971 [2], and in particular Article 1 thereof ;

Whereas the requests for licences which gave rise to the application under Article 115 should not be covered by such authorization in view of the small amounts involved,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

The French Republic is authorized not to apply Community treatment to table linen, bed linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen falling within heading No ex 62.02 of the Common Customs Tariff where the products in question originate in the People's Republic of China and are in free circulation in the other Member States, and in respect of which applications for import licences are lodged after the date of this Decision.

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until new opportunities arise in the French Republic for the importation of the products in question from the People's Republic of China or until 31 December 1977, whichever is the earlier.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels, 3 October 1977.

For the Commission

Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

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[1] OJ No L 365, 31. 12. 1976, p. 1.

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