COMMISSION DECISION

of 18 July 1978

authorizing Ireland to apply protective measures to trade within the Community in twine, cordage, ropes and cables, whether or not plaited, falling within heading No 59.04 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Portugal and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the English text is authentic)

(78/626/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 29 May 1978 by the Irish Government to the Commission of the European Communities, for authorization to apply protective measures to trade within the Community in twine, cordage, ropes and cables, whether or not plaited, falling within heading No 59.04 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Portugal and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas, in accordance with Article 3 of Protocol 1 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Portuguese Republic (1), the Member States apply different customs duties to imports of the said products from Portugal; whereas in Ireland such imports are subject to customs duties, while in the other Member States they are exempt from duties;

Whereas the disparities in the trade tariff measures applied to these products by the Member States are causing a deflection of trade and thus preventing the execution of the commercial policy measures which are in force in Ireland because of the difficult economic situation in the sector concerned;

Whereas the application submitted shows that there are serious difficulties in the said sector, involving a considerable drop in production and employment and a progressive decline in its market share;

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

Whereas authorization should accordingly be given for the application of protective measures under the first paragraph of Article 115;

Whereas these measures may consist of levying an additional import charge, designed to offset the existing disparities,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Ireland is hereby authorized to levy on imports of twine, cordage, ropes and cables, whether or not plaited, falling within heading No 59.04 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Portugal and in free circulation in the other Member States, a countervailing charge of an amount not exceeding the customs duties which it applies to imports of the said products coming direct from Portugal.

Article 2

Ireland shall without delay inform the Commission of the measures taken under this Decision.

Article 3

This Decision shall apply until 31 December 1978.

Article 4

This Decision is addressed to Ireland.

Done at Brussels, 18 July 1978.

For the Commission

Wilhelm HAFERKAMP

Vice-President

(1) OJ No L 301, 31. 12. 1972, p. 165.