COMMISSION DECISION

of 1 March 1979

authorizing the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands not to apply Community treatment to unglazed setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles, falling within heading Nos ex 69.07 and ex 69.08 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other Member States

(Only the French and Dutch texts are authentic)

(79/293/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 February 1979 by the Governments of the Benelux countries to the Commission of the European Communities, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to unglazed setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles, falling within heading Nos ex 69.07 and ex 69.08 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas in the Benelux countries the import of the products in question originating in Japan is subject to an annual quota;

Whereas the disparities which exist in the commercial policy measures applied in connection with these products by the Member States are causing deflection of trade, thereby preventing the execution of those commercial policy measures which are in force because of the difficult economic situation in the sector concerned;

Whereas it appears from the application submitted that there are serious difficulties in the industrial sector concerned, involving a considerable drop in production and employment and a progressive decline in its market share;

Whereas these economic difficulties are caused largely be unequal conditions of competition, which allow exports to be made at prices appreciably lower than those of the Community products in question;

Whereas, although the imports which gave rise to the application submitted are likely, in view of the substantial volume of the imports, to aggravate these difficulties;

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, subject to the conditions laid down in Commission Decision 71/202/EEC of 12 May 1971 [1], and in particular Article 1 thereof,

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 the products indicated below, where they originate in Japan and are in free circulation in the other Member States, and in respect of which applications for import licences were lodged after 12 February 1979 and are, at the date of this Decision, pending with the Benelux authorities:

CCT heading No	Description
ex 69.07 and ex 69.08	Unglazed setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles

Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Done at Brussels, 1 March 1979.

For the Commission

Antonio GIOLITTI

Member of the Commission

(1) OJ No L 121, 3. 6. 1971, p. 26.