II

(Acts whose publication is not obligatory)

COMMISSION

COMMISSION DECISION

of 28 February 1980

authorizing the French Republic not to apply Community treatment to tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian), falling within heading No 69.11 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)

(80/319/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 20 February 1980 by the French Government to the Commission of the European Communities, for authorization not to apply Community treatment to tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian), falling within heading No 69.11 of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in the People's Republic of China and in free circulation in the other Member States,

Whereas in France the importation of the products in question originating in the People's Republic of China is, in accordance with Council Decision 80/158/EEC of 20 December 1979 [1], subject to an annual quota, which has not yet been opened;

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;

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

Whereas further indirect imports, in addition to those already made or proposed, would be likely 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 [2], and in particular Article 1 thereof;

Whereas, however, the application for a licence which gave rise to the application in question does not need to be covered by such an authorization in view of the small amount involved,

[1] OJ No L 42, 18. 2. 1980, p. 1.

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

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION :

Article 1

The French Republic is authorized not to apply Community treatment to the products indicated below, where they 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 were lodged after 18 February 1980 :

CCT heading No	Description
69.11	Tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian)

Article 2

This Decision shall apply until 30 September 1980.

Article 3

This Decision is addressed to the French Republic.

Done at Brussels, 28 February 1980.

For the Commission

Christopher TUGENDHAT

Member of the Commission