COUNCIL DECISION

of 17 December 1992

concerning the conclusion of the agreements in the form of exchanges of letters extending the adaptations to the voluntary restraint agreements between the European Economic Community and Argentina, Australia, New Zealand and Uruguay on trade in mutton, lamb and goatmeat

(93/61/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the recommendation from the Commission,

Whereas the voluntary restraint agreements between the European Economic Community and Argentina, Australia, New Zealand and Uruguay on trade in mutton, lamb and goatmeat were adapted in 1989 and 1990 in the context of measures taken to stabilize the markets in this sector; whereas the said adaptations shall cease to have effect on 31 December 1992;

Whereas it is necessary to provide for interim arrangements for trade in the sheepmeat and goatmeat sectors pending the conclusion of the negotiations regarding agricultural trade in the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade;

Whereas it is appropriate in these circumstances to extend the adaptations to the said voluntary restraint agreements for one year;

Whereas the effect of the implementation of the Single Market from 1 January 1993 should be taken into account;

Whereas the Commission has conducted negotiations in this connection with Argentina, Australia, New Zealand and Uruguay which have resulted in Agreements;

Whereas these Agreements should be approved,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Agreements in the form of exchanges of letters between the European Economic Community and Argentina, Australia, New Zealand and Uruguay concerning the extension of the adaptations to the voluntary restraint agreements between the European Economic Community and Argentina, Australia, New Zealand and Uruguay on trade in mutton, lamb and goatmeat are hereby approved on behalf of the European Economic Community.

The text of the Agreements are attached to this Decision.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorized to designate the person empowered to sign the Agreements in order to bind the Community.

Article 3

This Decision shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

Done at Brussels, 17 December 1992.

For the Council

The President

J. GUMMER