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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

REGULATION (EEC) No 1626/73 OF THE COUNCIL
of 18 June 1973
subjecting to authorization the importation into Italy of tape recorders from third countries

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community ;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 1025/70 [1] of 25 May 1970, establishing common rules for imports from third countries, and in particular Article 10 thereof ;

Having regard to Council Regulation (EEC) No 109/70 [2] of 19 December 1969, establishing common rules for imports from state-trading countries, and in particular Article 7 thereof ;

After consultation with the Advisory Committees set up under Article 5 of Regulation (EEC) No 1025/70 and of Regulation (EEC) No 109/70 ;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission ;

Whereas, on 9 March 1973, the Italian Government informed the Commission, by telex, of the increased difficulties in the Italian tape recorder market caused by the rising imports of these products and requested the Commission to summon urgently meetings of the Advisory Committees required under Regulations (EEC) Nos 1025/70 and 109/70 ;

Whereas, according to the information supplied by the Italian Government, particularly the information given at the consultation meetings, and from the other information available to the Commission, imports of tape recorders from third countries to Italy have increased considerably during the last three years ; whereas this information discloses that imports which amounted to 99 000 units in 1969 have increased to 478 000 units in 1972, which represents an average annual increase of 69 % ;

Whereas during the same period the annual Italian production of these products has decreased from 380 000 to approximately 136 000 units ; whereas the share of imports from third countries in the Italian market has increased continuously, rising from 18 % in 1969 to approximately 54 % in 1972 ;

Whereas these imports, especially those originating from certain third countries, are obtained at relatively low prices, generally at a level considerably lower than that prevailing on the Italian market ;

Whereas it is clear, from these facts, that tape recorders are being imported into Italy in such greatly increased quantities and under such conditions as to cause serious harm to the interests of Italian producers of like products, and that the situation threatens to get worse and would be difficult to remedy, unless immediate action were taken in order to safeguard the interests of the Community ;

Whereas the imports in question are at present particularly detrimental to Italy but are not so far causing similiar harm in other Member States of the Community ; whereas it is consequently justified to limit the protective measures to imports into Italy ;

Whereas discussions with the main supplier country with a view to avoiding a deterioration of the situation in the Italian market have not changed the trend of imports ;

Whereas it is therefore necessary as regards the importation of these products into Italy to take provisional protective measures consistent with the

(1) OJ No L 124, 8. 6. 1970, p. 6.
(2) OJ No L 19, 26. 1. 1970, p. 1.

relevant international rules ; whereas these measures must limit the imports in question, and, given the interim nature of the measures, limit them for a period not exceeding the time necessary to enable consideration of any further measures which may be required ;

Whereas the seriousness of this situation is due to the greatly increased quantities imported and to the price at which they are imported ; whereas a ceiling should therefore be provisionally adopted which would reduce the serious impact of these imports and eliminate the threat of the situation becoming worse ;

Whereas, depending on trends in imports of tape recorders into the Community markets (including the Italian market), the safeguard measures under consideration might be amended, or might be repealed when the serious situation has been remedied, as a result, possibly, of an understanding with the third countries concerned ; whereas these measures might be extended to other Member States of the Community, or to the whole Community, if trends in the imports in question should threaten serious harm to the interests of other Community producers besides Italian producers ;

Whereas, in view of the necessity to take urgent measures, the Commission has adopted, in accordance with Article 10 of Regulation (EEC) No 1025/70 and Article 7 of Regulation (EEC) No 109/70, Regulation (EEC) No 1060/73 [1] subjecting to authorization the importation into Italy of tape recorders from third countries and establishing Community surveillance over these imports ; whereas, in accordance with the provisions referred to above, it is desirable that the appropriate measures should be taken ;

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION :

Article 1

1. The importation from third countries into Italy of the products listed below shall be subject to the production of an import authorization, and shall not exceed, in respect of the period 1 April 1973 to 31 December 1973, the number of units given below :

CCT heading No	Description of goods	Units
92.11	Gramophones, dictating machines and other sound recorders and reproducers, including record-players and tape-decks, with or without sound-heads ; television image and sound recorders and reproducers, magnetic :	
	A. Sound recorders and reproducers :	
	III. Combined sound recorders and reproducers	225 000

2. Paragraph 1 shall not apply to the products referred to above imported into the Community under an agreement establishing a customs union or free-trade area (or providing for their establishment) between the Community and one third country or more.

3. The import authorizations referred to in paragraph 1 shall be issued by the Italian Republic.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*.

[1] OJ No L 121, 8. 5. 1973, p. 1.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Luxembourg, 18 June 1973.

For the Council

The President

A. LAVENS