REGULATION (EEC) No 3051/74 OF THE COUNCIL

of 2 December 1974

on the opening of tariff preferences in the form of a partial suspension of customs duties for jute manufactures originating in India, Thailand and Bangladesh and for coir manufactures originating in India and Sri Lanka

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission;

Whereas, within the context of UNCTAD, the European Economic Community offered to grant tariff preferences on finished and semi-finished products coming from developing countries; whereas the preferential treatment proposed in that offer covers, generally speaking, all finished and semi-finished industrial products covered by Chapters 25 to 99 of the Brussels Nomenclature which originate in developing countries;

Whereas the offer made by the Community includes a clause stating that the Community drew up the offer on the assumption that all the main industrialized countries which are members of the OECD would participate in granting preferences and would make similar efforts in this direction; whereas, moreover, it is evident from the conclusions worked out in UNCTAD that this offer, while being of a temporary nature, does not constitute a binding commitment and, in particular, may be withdrawn wholly or in part at a later date; whereas this possibility may be adopted *inter alia* with a view to remedying any unfavourable situations which might arise in the associated countries following the implementation of the generalized preference scheme;

Whereas, however, as regards jute and coir products, the said offer includes the elimination of customs duties only where special arrangements have been made with the developing exporting countries;

Whereas Agreements between the Community and India on jute [1] and coir [2] manufactures have entered into force; whereas the said Agreements refer, in particular, to the 'joint declaration of intent on the development of trade relations with Sri Lanka, India, Malaysia, Pakistan and Singapore' annexed to the Act of Accession [3] and laying down special regulations governing trade in these products with the Community;

Whereas, as regards Bangladesh, approval procedures are being completed concerning an agreement on an indentical basis to that of the Agreement on jute between the Community and India;

Whereas, it is provided, in particular, that the Community shall, autonomously and within the scope of its offer on the granting of generalized tariff preferences for jute and coir manufactures originating in India and Bangladesh, partially and by stages suspend the Common Customs Tariff duties relating to these products, and from 1 January 1974 so far as India is concerned;

Whereas, moreover, *ad hoc* measures are about to be finally agreed between the Community and Sri Lanka in respect of coir manufactures, and between the Community and Thailand in respect of jute manufactures;

Whereas, in accordance with Protocol 23 to the Act of Accession, the generalized tariff preference scheme became fully applicable in the new Member States on 1 January 1974; whereas, however, Article 2 (2) of the abovementioned Agreements concerning these products lays down that in Denmark, Ireland and the United Kingdom the tariff adjustments resulting from the opening of the preferences in question may be introduced in stages; whereas it also appears appropriate to apply similar provisions in respect of Thailand and Sri Lanka;

Whereas, therefore, in respect of the products covered by Article 1 of this Regulation, the Community should until 31 December 1975 allow imports

[1] OJ No L 82, 27. 3. 1974, p. 11.
[2] OJ No L 82, 27. 3. 1974, p. 17.
[3] OJ No L 73, 27. 3. 1972, p. 14.

to be partially free from customs duties in respect of jute manufactures as regards India, Thailand and Bangladesh and in respect of coir manufactures as regards India and Sri Lanka;

Whereas the benefit of these suspensions should be restricted to the said products originating in India, Bangladesh, Thailand and Sri Lanka, the concept of 'originating products' being determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 14 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 802/68 [1] of 27 June 1968 on the common definition of the concept of the origin of goods,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. From 1 January 1975, the Common Customs Tariff duties on the products listed hereinafter shall be suspended at the following preferential rates:

[1] OJ No L 148, 28. 6. 1968, p. 1.

CCT heading No	Description	Preferential rates of duty %
57.06	Yarn of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No 57.03	3·2
57.10	Woven fabrics of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No 57.03:	
	A. Of a width of not more than 150 cm and weighing per m^2:	
	I. Less than 310 g	8
	II. Not less than 310 g but not more than 500 g	7·6
	III. More than 500 g	6
	B. Of a width of more than 150 cm	11
58.02	Other carpets, carpeting, rugs, mats and matting, and 'Kelem', 'Schumacks' and 'Karamanie' rugs and the like (made up or not):	
	A. Carpets, carpeting, rugs, mats and matting:	
	ex I. Coir mats and matting and tufted carpets of other textile bast fibres of heading No 57.03 and of coir	9·2
62.03	Sacks and bags, of a kind used for the packing of goods:	
	A. Of jute or of other textile bast fibres of heading No 57.03:	
	II. Other:	
	a) Of fabric weighing less than 310 g/m^2	8
	b) Of fabric weighing not less than 310 g/m^2 but not more than 500 g/m^2	7·6
	c) Of fabric weighing more than 500 g/m^2	6

2. On importation of the said goods into Denmark and the United Kingdom, the duties to be applied shall be those of their customs tariff suspended at the level of those applied in 1973. For textile products falling within heading Nos 57.06 and 57.10, and subheading 62.03 A II, referred to in paragraph 1, Ireland shall align its national customs tariff duties on the abovementioned preferential rates on the dates and according to the timetable fixed in Article 39 (1) and (2) of the Act of Accession.

3. The benefit of the suspensions referred to in Article 1 shall be restricted to products originating in India until 31 December 1975. Products originating in Bangladesh and Thailand, except coir mats and matting and tufted carpets of coir, shall also benefit from these suspensions. Coir mats and matting and tufted carpets of coir originating in Sri Lanka shall also benefit from these suspensions. For the purposes of this Regulation, the concept of originating products shall be determined in accordance with the procedure laid down in Article 14 of Regulation (EEC) No 802/68.

Article 2

1. The Commission, in close collaboration with Member States, shall take all necessary measures to ensure that the foregoing provisions are applied.

2. The Member States shall regularly inform the Commission of imports benefiting under the preceding provisions.

Article 3

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1975.

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

Done at Brussels, 2 December 1974.

For the Council

The President

J. SAUVAGNARGUES