COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 2757/77

of 5 December 1977

opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for certain textile products falling within heading Nos 55.05 and 55.09 and subheading ex 58.01 A of the Common Customs Tariff, coming from Turkey (1978)

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 proposal from the Commission,

Whereas, pending the entry into force of the Supplementary Protocol signed in Ankara on 30 June 1973 containing the adjustments to be made to the Agreement establishing an Association between the European Economic Community and Turkey and to the Additional Protocol [1] consequent on the accession of new Member States, the Community has undertaken, in an Interim Agreement [2] which runs only for the period prior to the entry into force of this Supplementary Protocol which is applicable until 31 December 1974 but which has been extended for 1978 in accordance with the terms laid down in Article 13 thereof, to implement certain provisions of the Supplementary Protocol relating to trade in goods; whereas, under Article 6 of this Interim Agreement amending Article 1 of Annex 2 to the Additional Protocol, the Community must reduce by 75 % the customs duties on imports from Turkey of certain textile products falling within heading Nos 55.05 and 55.09 of the Common Customs Tariff, within the limit of annual Community tariff quotas of 390 tonnes for cotton yarn and 1 390 tonnes for woven fabrics of cotton; whereas the abovementioned Article 6 allocates these Community tariff quotas as follows:

— for cotton yarn:

300 tonnes to the Community as originally constituted, 40 tonnes to Denmark, 10 tonnes to Ireland and 40 tonnes to the United Kingdom;

— for woven fabrics of cotton:

1 000 tonnes to the Community as originally constituted, 20 tonnes to Denmark, 10 tonnes to Ireland and 360 tonnes to the United Kingdom;

Whereas Article 14 of the said Supplementary Protocol only provides for such an allocation of tariff quotas between the Community as originally constituted and the three new Member States until 1 July 1977; whereas, moreover, following the end of the transitional period laid down in Article 39 of the Act of Accession, it is necessary to create a common system of administration of the tariff quotas concerned, consisting in each case of the opening of a single quota divided between all the Member States according to the usual criteria and the creation of a single Community reserve, open to all Member States;

Whereas it is desirable to provide for a provisional adjustment of the tariff advantages for these goods consisting of a total suspension of the customs duties of the Common Customs Tariff and an increase in the quotas; whereas the volumes of the quotas to be opened for 1978 are therefore 1 026 tonnes for cotton yarn and 2 415 tonnes for other woven fabrics of cotton;

Whereas pursuant to Article 1 of Annex 2 to the Additional Protocol together with Article 2 of the Interim Agreement, for the duration of 1978 in particular, the Community must partially reduce the duties applicable in respect of third countries to carpets, carpeting and rugs, knotted (made up or not) of wool or of fine animal hair, (excluding hand-made carpets, carpeting and rugs) imported from Turkey; whereas it also appears advisable to improve this tariff advantage provisionally by means of a total suspension of the duties applicable to the products in question within a Community tariff quota fixed at a provisional level of 185 tonnes for 1978 and allocated in accordance with the same percentages as those adopted for 1977;

Whereas, it is necessary to guarantee to all Community importers equal and uninterrupted access to the abovementioned quotas and uninterrupted application of the rate laid down for those quotas to all imports of the product concerned into all Member States until the quota has been used up; whereas in the light of the principles mentioned above, the Community

[1] OJ No L 293, 29. 12. 1972, p. 4.
[2] OJ No L 277, 3. 10. 1973, p. 2.

nature of the quotas can best be respected by allocating the Community tariff quotas among the Member States ; whereas, in order to reflect most accurately the actual development of the market in the product concerned, such allocation shall be in proportion to the needs of the Member States, assessed by reference both to the statistics of each State's imports from Turkey over a representative period and to the economic outlook for the quota period concerned ; whereas, in spite of the limited need for imports from Turkey of the products concerned, as shown by the statistics for the majority of the Member States the Community character of the tariff quotas concerned should be safeguarded by making provisions to cover needs which might arise in these Member States.

Whereas imports into the various Member States from Turkey were as follows during the last three years for which complete statistics are available :

	1974		1975		1976	
	tonnes	%	tonnes	%	tonnes	%
Cotton yarn						
Benelux	7 000	27·76	4 255	14·13	13 648	18·31
Denmark	0	0	127	0·42	13	0·02
Germany	6 333	25·11	14 196	47·15	25 000	33·54
France	1 806	7·16	1 044	3·47	2 389	3·21
Ireland	34	0·13	0	0	145	0·19
Italy	6 690	26·53	7 999	26·57	30 019	40·28
United Kingdom	3 357	13·31	2 485	8·26	3 319	4·45
	25 220		30 106		74 533	
Other woven fabrics of cotton						
Benelux	1 000	53·70	948	64·33	535	17·38
Denmark	2	0·11	11	0·75	36	1·17
Germany	456	24·49	151	10·25	1 100	35·74
France	194	10·42	95	6·45	481	15·63
Ireland	0	0	0·5	0·03	1	0·03
Italy	210	11·28	244	16·56	835	27·13
United Kingdom	0	0	24	1·63	90	2·92
	1 862		1 473·5		3 078	

Whereas, in view of these figures and foreseeable market trends for the products concerned during 1978, the initial shares may be fixed approximately at the following percentages :

	Cotton yarn	Other woven fabrics of cotton
Benelux	16·16	20·08
Denmark	8·71	1·80
Germany	35·86	15·05
France	4·29	22·55
Ireland	2·27	0·92
Italy	23·99	7·50
United Kingdom	8·72	32·10

Whereas, in order to take into account the uncertainty of the import trends for the products concerned in the Member States, the quota volumes should be divided into two tranches, the first tranche being allocated to the Member States, and the second held as a reserve intended ultimately to cover the requirements of those Member States which have used up their initial shares ; whereas, in order to ensure a certain degree of security to importers, the first tranche should be determined at a relatively high level, which, under present circumstances, may be about 80 % of each quota volume ;

Whereas the initial quota shares of the Member States may be used up at different times ; whereas, in order to take this fact into account and avoid any break in continuity, it is important that any Member State having used up almost the whole of one of its initial quota shares should draw an additional quota share from the corresponding reserve ; whereas this must be done by each Member State as and when each of its additional quota shares is almost entirely used up, and repeated as many times as each of the reserves allows ;

whereas each of the initial and additional quota shares must be available for use until the end of the quota period; whereas this method of administration calls for close cooperation between Member States and the Commission, which must, in particular, be able to observe the extent to which the quota amount is used and inform Member States thereof;

Whereas, if at a specified date in the quota period a considerable balance remains in one or other Member State, it is essential that that Member State pays a percentage of it back into the corresponding reserve, in order to prevent a part of one or other of the Community quotas from remaining unused in one Member State when it could be used in others;

Whereas since the Kingdom of Belgium, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg are united within and jointly represented by the Benelux Economic Union, any measure concerning the administration of the shares allocated to that economic union may be carried out by any one of its members,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. From 1 January to 31 December 1978, Community tariff quotas shall be opened for the following products coming from Turkey:

(tonnes)

CCT heading No	Description	Quota
55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale	1 026
55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton	2 415
58.01	Carpets, carpeting and rugs, knotted (made up or not):	
	A. Of wool or of fine animal hair:	
	II. Other, excluding hand-made carpets, carpeting and rugs	185

2. The Common Customs Tariff duties are totally suspended within these tariff quotas.

Article 2

1. A first tranche of each of the quotas referred to in Article 1, which shall be 792 tonnes for cotton yarn not put up for retail sale, 1 947 tonnes for other woven fabrics of cotton and 151 tonnes for carpets, carpeting and rugs of wool or fine animal hair, shall be shared among the Member States; the shares which, subject to Article 5 shall be valid until 31 December 1978, shall be as follows:

(tonnes)

Member States	CCT heading No		
	55.05	55.09	ex 58.01 A II
Benelux	128	391	14
Denmark	69	35	14
Germany	284	293	36
France	34	439	26
Ireland	18	18	2
Italy	190	146	18
United Kingdom	69	625	41
	792	1 947	151

2. The second tranche of each quota, amounting to 234, 468 and 34 tonnes respectively, shall make up the corresponding reserve.

Article 3

1. If 90 % or more of one of any Member State's initial shares, as laid down in Article 2 (1) or 90 % of that share less the amount returned to the corresponding reserve where Article 5 has been applied, has been used up, that Member State shall without delay, by notifying the Commission, draw a second share in the quota equal to 15 % of its initial share, rounded up to the next unit where appropriate, to the extent that the amount in the reserve allows.

2. If, after one or other of its initial shares has been used up, 90 % or more of the second share drawn by one of the Member States has been used up, that Member State shall, in the manner provided for in paragraph 1, draw a third share equal to 7·5 % of its initial share.

3. If, after one or other of its second shares has been used up, 90 % or more of the third share drawn by a Member State has been used up, the latter shall, in the same manner, draw a fourth share equal to the third.

This procedure shall be followed until the reserve has been exhausted.

4. Notwithstanding paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, Member States may draw smaller shares than those fixed in those paragraphs if there is reason to believe that those shares might not be used up. They shall inform the Commission of their reasons for applying this paragraph.

Article 4

Each of the additional shares drawn pursuant to Article 3 shall be valid until 31 December 1978.

Article 5

The Member States shall return to the reserve, not later than 1 October 1978, the unused portion of their initial share which, on 15 September 1978, is in excess of 20 % of the initial amount. They may return a greater portion if there are grounds for believing that such portion may not be used in full.

Member States shall, not later than 1 October 1978 notify the Commission of the total imports of the products concerned effected under the Community quotas up to and including 15 Sptember 1978, and, where appropriate, the proportion of each of their initial shares that they are returning to each of the reserves.

Article 6

The Commission shall keep account of the shares opened by Member States in accordance with Articles 2 and 3, and shall inform each of them of the extent to which the reserves have been used as soon as it receives the notifications.

It shall, not later than 5 October 1978, notify the Member States of the state of each of the reserves after the return of shares pursuant to Article 5.

It shall ensure that any drawing which uses up a reserve is limited to the balance available and, for this purpose, shall specify the amount thereof to the Member State which makes the final drawing.

Article 7

1. Member States shall take all measures necessary to ensure that, when additional shares are drawn pursuant to Article 3, it is possible for imports to be counted without interruption against their accumulated shares of the Community tariff quotas.

2. Member States shall ensure for importers of the products concerned established in their territory free access to the shares allocated to them.

3. Member States shall charge imports of the said goods against their shares as and when the goods are entered with customs authorities for home use.

4. The extent to which the Member States' shares have been used up shall be established on the basis of imports counted in accordance with paragraph 3.

Article 8

On receipt of a request from the Commission, Member States shall inform it of imports of the products concerned actually charged against their shares.

Article 9

The Member States and the Commission shall cooperate closely in order to ensure that the provisions of this Regulation are complied with.

Article 10

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1978.

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

Done at Brussels, 5 December 1977.

For the Council

The President

A. HUMBLET