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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 309/84

of 6 February 1984

opening, allocating and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for certain spiced and salted herring falling within subheading ex 16.04 C II of the Common Customs Tariff

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Article 28 thereof,

Whereas the production of spiced and salted herring is currently insufficient in the Community to meet the requirements of the user industries in the Community ; whereas, consequently, Community supplies of products of this type currently depend to a considerable extent on imports from third countries ; whereas it is in the Community's interest to suspend partially the Common Customs Tariff duty for the products in question, within the Community tariff quota, of an appropriate volume for a relatively limited period ; whereas, in order not to call into question the development prospects of this production in the Community while ensuring an adequate supply to satisfy user industries, it is advisable to limit the benefits of the tariff quota to products presented in immediate packings of a net capacity of 10 kilograms or more, with an average weight for four whole herring or six headless herring exceeding 1 kilogram, to open the quota for a period up to 31 March 1984, to fix the volume of this quota at 1 000 tonnes, corresponding to the needs for imports from third countries during that period, and to fix the quota duty at 10 % ;

Whereas, in particular, equal and continuous access to the quota should be ensured for all Community importers and the rate of duty for the tariff quota should be applied consistently to all imports until the quota is exhausted ; whereas, in the light of these principles, arrangements for the utilization of the tariff quota based on an allocation among Member States would seem to be consistent with the Community nature of the quota ; whereas, to correspond as closely as possible to the actual trend in the market in the product in question, allocation of the quota should be in proportion to the requirements of the Member States as calculated by reference to statistics of imports from third countries during a representative reference period and to the economic outlook for the quota period in question ;

Whereas, however, since the quota is an autonomous Community tariff quota intended to cover import needs arising in the Community, for experimental purposes, the quota volume may be allocated on the basis of the temporary import needs from third countries expressed by each of the Member States ; whereas these arrangements for allocation will equally ensure the uniform application of the Common Customs Tariff ;

Whereas, to take account of possible import trends for the product concerned, the quota volume should be divided into two instalments, the first being allocated between certain Member States and the second held as a reserve to meet subsequent requirements of Member States which have used up their initial shares and any additional requirements which might arise in the other Member States ;

Whereas, to give importers of the Member States some degree of certainty, the first instalment of the tariff quota should be fixed at a relatively high level, which in this case could be 950 tonnes ;

Whereas initial shares may be used up at different rates ; whereas, to avoid disruption of supplies on this account, it should be provided that any Member State which has almost used up its initial share should draw an additional share from the reserve ; whereas, each time its additional share is almost used up, a Member State should draw a further share, and so on as many times as the reserve allows ; whereas the initial and additional shares should be valid until the end of the

quota period; whereas this form of administration requires close collaboration between the Member States and the Commission, which latter must be in a position to keep account of the extent to which the quotas have been used up and to inform the Member States accordingly;

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 the date of entry into force of this Regulation until 31 March 1984, the Common Customs Tariff duty for spiced and salted herring presented in immediate packings of a net capacity of 10 kilograms or more, with an average weight for four whole herring or six headless herring exceeding 1 kilogram, falling within subheading ex 16.04 C II, shall be suspended at a level of 10 % within the framework of a Community tariff quota of 1 000 tonnes.

2. Within the limits of this tariff quota, Greece shall apply customs duties calculated in accordance with the relevant provisions in the 1979 Act of Accession.

Article 2

1. A first instalment of 950 tonnes of this Community tariff quota shall be allocated among certain Member States; the shares, which shall be valid until 31 March 1984, shall be as follows:

	(tonnes)
Denmark	660
Germany	220
France	20
United Kingdom	50

2. The second instalment of 50 tonnes shall constitute the reserve.

Article 3

1. If a Member State has used 90 % or more of its initial share as fixed in Article 2 (1), it shall forthwith, by notifying the Commission, draw a second share, to the extent that the reserve so permits, equal to 5 % of its initial share rounded up as necessary to the next whole number.

2. If a Member State, after exhausting its initial share, has used 90 % or more of the second share drawn by it, that Member State shall forthwith, in the manner and to the extent provided in paragraph 1, draw a third share equal to 2,5 % of its initial share rounded up as necessary to the next whole number.

3. If a Member State, after exhausting its second share, has used 90 % or more of the third share drawn by it, that Member State shall, in the manner and to the extent provided in paragraph 1, draw a fourth share equal to the third.

This process shall apply until the reserve is used up.

4. By way of derogation from paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, a Member State may draw shares lower than those specified in those paragraphs if there are grounds for believing that those specified may not be used in full. Any Member State applying this paragraph shall inform the Commission of its grounds for so doing.

Article 4

Additional shares drawn pursuant to Article 3 shall be valid until 31 March 1984.

Article 5

The Commission shall keep an account of the shares opened by the Member States pursuant to Articles 2 and 3 and shall, as soon as the notifications reach it, inform each Member State of the extent to which the reserve has been used up.

It shall ensure that the drawing which exhausts the reserve does not exceed the balance available, and to this end shall notify the amount of that balance to the Member State making the last drawing.

Article 6

1. Member States shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that additional shares drawn pursuant to Article 3 are opened in such a way that imports may be charged without interruption against their aggregate shares of the Community tariff quota.

2. Member States shall ensure that importers of the product in question have free access to the shares allotted to them.

3. Member States shall charge imports of the product in question against their shares as the product is entered with the customs authorities for free circulation.

4. The extent to which Member States have used up their shares shall be determined on the basis of imports charged against them under the conditions set out in paragraph 3.

Article 7

At the Commission's request, the Member States shall inform it of imports actually charged against their shares.

Article 8

The Member States and the Commission shall co-operate closely to ensure that this Regulation is complied with.

Article 9

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

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

Done at Brussels, 6 February 1984.

For the Council

The President

M. ROCARD