COUNCIL REGULATION (EEC) No 4189/88

of 16 December 1988

opening and providing for the administration of a Community tariff quota for ferro-silicon (1989)

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, as regards ferro-silicon, the European Economic Community has undertaken to open an annual duty-free Community tariff quota of 20 000 tonnes; whereas this should, however, be reduced to 12 600 tonnes to take account of the traditional imports from EFTA countries which are free of customs duty under the Agreements concluded with those countries, and also the obligations entered into in relation to a third country which has the right of the previous negotiator for this quota volume; whereas the quota concerned should therefore be opened on 1 January 1989;

Whereas equal and continuous access to the quota should be ensured for all Community importers and the rates laid down for the quota should be applied consistently to all imports of the product in question into all the Member States until the quota is exhausted; whereas it is appropriate not to provide for allocation among Member States, without prejudice to the drawing, on the tariff quota, of such quantities as they may need, under conditions and according to a procedure to be determined; whereas this method of administration requires close cooperation between the Member States and the Commission and the latter must in particular be able to monitor the rate at which the tariff quota is used and 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 levied by 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 1989, the customs duty applicable to imports of the following product shall be suspended at the level indicated and within the limits of a Community tariff quota as shown herewith:

Order No	CN code	Description	Quota volume (tonnes)	Rate of duty (%)
09.0019	7202 21 10 7202 21 90 7202 29 00	Ferro-silicon	12 600	0

Within the limits of this tariff quota, Spain and Portugal shall apply duties calculated in accordance with the relevant provisions in the 1985 Act of Accession.

2. Imports of the product in question may not be charged against this tariff quota if they are already free of customs duties under other preferential tariff arrangements.

Article 2

The tariff quota referred to in Article 1 shall be administered by the Commission, which may take any appropriate measure with a view to ensuring the efficient administration thereof.

Article 3

If an importer presents in a Member State a declaration of entry into free circulation including a request for preferential benefit for a product covered by this Regulation, and if this declaration is accepted by the customs authorities, the Member State concerned shall draw, from the tariff quota, by means of notification to the Commission, a quantity corresponding to these needs.

The requests for drawing, with the indication of the date of acceptance of the said declarations, must be communicated to the Commission without delay.

The drawings are granted by the Commission on the basis of the date of acceptance of the declaration of entry into free circulation by the customs authorities of the Member State concerned, to the extent that the available balance so permits.

If a Member State does not use the quantities drawn, it shall return them as soon as possible to the tariff quota.

If the quantities requested are greater than the available balance of the tariff quota, allocation shall be made on a *pro rata* basis with respect to the requests. Member States shall be informed by the Commission in accordance with the same procedures.

Article 4

1. Member States shall take all appropriate measures to ensure that their drawings pursuant to Article 3 enable imports to be charged without interruption against their accumulated shares of the Community quota.

2. Each Member State shall ensure that importers of the product concerned have free access to the quota for such times as the balance of the tariff quota so permits.

3. Member States shall charge imports of the said product against their drawings as and when the goods are entered with the customs authorities under cover of declarations of entry into free circulation.

4. The extent to which the quota has been used up shall be determined on the basis of the imports charged in accordance with paragraph 3.

Article 5

At the request of the Commission, Member States shall inform it of imports actually charged against the quota.

Article 6

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

Article 7

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 January 1989.

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

Done at Brussels, 16 December 1988.

For the Council

The President

G. GENNIMATAS