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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 538/96

of 25 March 1996

amending Regulation (EC) No 517/94 concerning imports of certain textile products originating in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 113 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas Council Regulation (EC) No 2815/95 [1] in particular suspended Regulation (EEC) No 990/93 [2], introducing an embargo *vis-à-vis* the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro);

Whereas, in the absence of specific arrangements, the importation of textile products originating in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) into the Community is liberalized pursuant to Regulation (EC) No 517/94 of 7 March 1994 on common rules for imports of textile products from certain third countries not covered by bilateral agreements, protocols or other arrangements, or by other specific Community import rules [3];

Whereas the Republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia as well as the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia are currently subject, by virtue of Regulation (EC) No 517/94, to autonomous quantitiative restrictions; whereas it should be noted that autonomous restrictions were introduced *vis-à-vis* the whole of Yugoslavia when the Cooperation Agreement was suspended in 1991;

Whereas, for reasons of equality of treatment *vis-à-vis* the other Republics of former Yugoslavia and other comparable countries in respect of which the Community maintains quantitative restrictions, annual restrictions should be reintroduced in respect of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) for the same products as those which are currently subject to restrictions *vis-à-vis* the other Republics of former Yugoslavia by virtue of Regulation (EC) No 517/94;

Whereas to that end Annexes III B and VI to Regulation (EC) No 517/94 should be amended and it should be specified that the quotas will be managed in accordance with the rules laid down by that Regulation;

Whereas it would seem appropriate that the introduction of these quantitative restrictions should not be an obstacle to the importation of the goods exported before the date of entry into force of this Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annexes III B and VI to Regulation (EC) No 517/94 are hereby replaced by the text in Annex I to this Regulation.

Article 2

The quantitative restrictions established by this Regulation with regard to certain products originating in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) shall be subject to the management rules laid down in Regulation (EC) No 517/94.

Article 3

Operators may submit their applications for import authorizations to the competent authorities of the Member States as from the 10th day following the date of entry into force of this Regulation. Each application shall cover maximum quantities which may not exceed, per operator, the quantities indicated in Annex II to this Regulation.

The period of validity of the import authorizations may not extend beyond 31 December 1996.

Article 4

This Regulation shall not be an obstacle to the placing into free circulation of products which, on the date of its entry into force, were in the process of being transported to the Community, on condition that the destination of such products cannot be changed.

Article 5

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 April 1996.

[1] OJ No L 297, 9. 12. 1995, p. 1.
[2] OJ No L 102, 28. 4. 1993, p. 14.
[3] OJ No L 67, 10. 3. 1994, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1325/95 (OJ No L 128, 13. 6. 1995, p. 1).

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

Done at Brussels, 25 March 1996.

For the Council

The President

S. AGNELLI

ANNEX I

'ANNEX III B

Annual Community quantitative limits referred to in Article 2 (1), fourth indent

Republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Category	Unit	Quantity
1	tonnes	6 926
2	tonnes	8 545
2a	tonnes	1 931
3	tonnes	935
5	1 000 pieces	1 986
6	1 000 pieces	1 048
7	1 000 pieces	602
8	1 000 pieces	2 664
9	tonnes	877
15	1 000 pieces	772
16	1 000 pieces	575
67	1 000 pieces	722

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (*)

Category	Unit	Quantity
1	tonnes	2 309
2	tonnes	2 848
2a	tonnes	644
3	tonnes	312
5	1 000 pieces	662
6	1 000 pieces	349
7	1 000 pieces	201
8	1 000 pieces	888
9	tonnes	292
15	1 000 pieces	257
16	1 000 pieces	192
67	1 000 pieces	241

(*) The Community quantitative limits for 1996 are equal to three-quarters of the quantities indicated in the above table.'

'ANNEX VI

Outward processing traffic

Annual Community limits referred to in Article 4

Republics of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Category	Unit	Quantity
5	1 000 pieces	3 692
6	1 000 pieces	10 755
7	1 000 pieces	5 496
8	1 000 pieces	12 888
15	1 000 pieces	5 743
16	1 000 pieces	3 182

Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) (*)

Category	Unit	Quantity
5	1 000 pieces	1 231
6	1 000 pieces	3 585
7	1 000 pieces	1 832
8	1 000 pieces	4 296
15	1 000 pieces	1 914
16	1 000 pieces	1 061

(*) The Community quantitative limits for 1996 are equal to three-quarters of the quantities indicated in the above table.'

ANNEX II

Maximum amounts to be allocated per category for the Community limits given in the Table 'Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro)' in Annex III B to Regulation (EC) No 517/94

Category	Unit	Maximum amount
1	kilograms	5 000
2	kilograms	5 000
2a	kilograms	5 000
3	kilograms	5 000
5	pieces	5 000
6	pieces	5 000
7	pieces	5 000
8	pieces	5 000
9	kilograms	5 000
15	pieces	5 000
16	pieces	5 000
67	pieces	5 000