COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 729/98

of 31 March 1998

amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 2577/97 concerning imports of certain textile products originating in the Russian Federation

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council 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 [1], as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC) No 1457/97 [2], and in particular Article 12(2) in conjunction with Article 25(5) thereof,

Whereas the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Russian Federation on trade in textile products initialled on 19 December 1995 expired on 31 December 1996 and whereas, pending the completion of negotiations directed towards the initialling of a new agreement with the Russian Federation, Commission Regulations (EC) No 2446/96 [3], (EC) No 562/97 [4], (EC) No 1025/97 [5] and (EC) No 2577/97 [6] were adopted in order to safeguard the economic interests of the Community in the further conduct of trade in textile products with that country;

Whereas a new textile agreement with the Russian Federation has been initialled on 28 March 1998; whereas this agreement provides for the elimination of any quantitative restriction in trade of textile products between the Parties as of 1 May 1998;

Whereas the measures introduced by Regulation (EC) No 2577/97 are applicable until 31 March 1998;

Whereas it is therefore necessary, given the sensitivity of the textiles and clothing sector, to maintain the present import regime for an additional period of one month starting on 1 April 1998 and to establish quantitative limits proportionately to the former limits;

Whereas the proposed measures are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee set up by Regulation (EC) No 517/94,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 2577/97 is amended as follows:

1. In Article 7 the date '31 March 1998' shall be replaced by '30 April 1998'.
2. Annexes I and II shall be replaced by the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on 1 April 1998.

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

Done at Brussels, 31 March 1998.

For the Commission

Leon BRITTAN

Vice-President

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[1] OJ L 67, 10. 3. 1994, p. 1.
[2] OJ L 199, 26. 7. 1997, p. 6.
[3] OJ L 333, 21. 12. 1996, p. 7.
[4] OJ L 85, 27. 3. 1997, p. 38.
[5] OJ L 150, 7. 6. 1997, p. 20.
[6] OJ L 350, 20. 12. 1997, p. 60.

ANNEX

'ANNEX I

Community quantitative limits referred to in Article 1(1) applicable from 1 January 1998 to 30 April 1998

Category (*)	Unit	Quantity
1	tonnes	1 804
2	tonnes	5 344
2a	tonnes	411
3	tonnes	701
4	1 000 pieces	1 003
5	1 000 pieces	637
6	1 000 pieces	1 117
7	1 000 pieces	315
8	1 000 pieces	959
9	tonnes	653
20	tonnes	947
22	tonnes	513
39	tonnes	335
12	1 000 pairs	1 572
13	1 000 pieces	2 063
15	1 000 pieces	395
16	1 000 pieces	287
21	1 000 pieces	474
24	1 000 pieces	488
29	1 000 pieces	219
83	tonnes	163
33	tonnes	184
37	tonnes	634
50	tonnes	197
74	1 000 pieces	211
90	tonnes	339
115	tonnes	170
117	tonnes	607
118	tonnes	358

(*) The full description of products falling within these categories is set out in Annex I to Regulation (EC) No 517/94.

ANNEX II

OUTWARD PROCESSING TRAFFIC

Community quantitative limits referred to in Article 1(2) applicable from 1 January 1998 to 30 April 1998

Category (*)	Unit	Quantity
4	1 000 pieces	347
5	1 000 pieces	796
6	1 000 pieces	2 202
7	1 000 pieces	1 406
8	1 000 pieces	1 274
12	1 000 pairs	1 698
13	1 000 pieces	501
15	1 000 pieces	1 332
16	1 000 pieces	487
21	1 000 pieces	1 931
24	1 000 pieces	982
29	1 000 pieces	1 530
83	tonnes	175
74	1 000 pieces	351

(*) The full description of products falling within these categories is set out in Annex I of Regulation (EC) No 517/94.'