COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2361/2002

of 27 December 2002

opening a tariff quota for the year 2003 for imports into the European Community of certain goods originating in Norway resulting from the processing of agricultural products covered by Council Regulation (EC) No 3448/93

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3448/93 of 6 December 1993 laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2580/2000 [2], in particular Article 7(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 96/753/EC of 6 December 1996 concerning the conclusion of an Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Norway, of the other part, on Protocol 2 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway [3], in particular Article 2 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) The Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community, of the one part, and the Kingdom of Norway, of the other part, on Protocol 2 to the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Kingdom of Norway, approved by Decision 96/753/EC, provides for an annual tariff quota for imports from Norway of chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa. It is necessary to open that quota for 2003.

(2) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 of 2 July 1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Common Customs Code [4], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 444/2002 [5], lays down rules for the management of tariff quotas. It is appropriate to provide that the tariff quota opened by this Regulation is to be managed in accordance with those rules.

(3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for horizontal questions concerning trade in processed agricultural products not listed in Annex I,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

From 1 January to 31 December 2003, the goods originating in Norway which are listed in the Annex shall be subject to the duties set out in that annex within the limits of the annual quota indicated therein.

Article 2

The tariff quota referred to in Article 1 shall be managed by the Commission in accordance with the Articles 308a, 308b and 308c of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93.

Article 3

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

It shall be applicable from 1 January 2003.

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

Done at Brussels, 27 December 2002.

For the Commission
Erkki LIIKANEN
Member of the Commission

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[1] OJ L 318, 20.12.1993, p. 18.
[2] OJ L 298, 25.11.2000, p. 5.
[3] OJ L 345, 31.12.1996, p. 78.
[4] OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1.
[5] OJ L 68, 12.3.2002, p. 11.

ANNEX

Order No	CN code	Description	Quota	Rate of duty applicable
09.0764	ex 1806 1806 20 1806 31 1806 32 1806 90	Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa except for cocoa powder, containing added sugar or other sweetening matter falling within CN code 1806 10	5 500 tonnes	EUR 35,15/100 kg