

**COUNCIL DECISION**

of 13 September 1993

**changing the import arrangements established by Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83 and applied in the Benelux to certain State-trading countries in respect of various products**

(93/506/EEC)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

(EEC) No 3420/83; whereas the Council has not yet taken a decision on this proposal;

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community,

Whereas, for the above reasons, certain products originating in the third countries referred to in Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83 can no longer be imported into certain Member States since 1 January 1993 unless there is exceptional application of Articles 7 *et seq.* of that Regulation;

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas, in accordance with Article 7 (1) of Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83, Belgium, acting on behalf of the Benelux countries, has informed the other Member States and the Commission that it considers that changes should be made, pursuant to that Regulation, to the import arrangements applied in the Benelux to certain State-trading countries in respect of various products;

Whereas Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83<sup>(1)</sup> concerns import arrangements for products originating in State-trading countries, not liberalized at Community level;

Whereas the measure proposed entails the abolition of quantitative restrictions; whereas such a measure may, in the context of purely national arrangements, jeopardize the establishment of the common arrangements referred to above aimed at freeing all products at Community level except those subject to Community quotas and surveillance measures; whereas, pending the implementation of the common arrangements, the Benelux should be authorized to open import facilities temporarily for only small quantities to cover its immediate requirements,

Whereas it was laid down by the Council in Regulation (EEC) No 2456/92 of 13 July 1992 fixing the import quotas to be opened by Member States in respect of State-trading countries in 1992<sup>(2)</sup> that the provisions of Article 3 (2) of Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83, stipulating automatic extension of the previous year's quotas, would not be applicable for 1993; whereas this was done on the assumption that Community provisions covering the national restrictions which exist pursuant to Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83 would be implemented by 31 December 1992;

Whereas, to that end, the Commission put before the Council on 10 November 1992 a proposal for a Regulation concerning the uniform common rules applicable to imports from certain third countries, repealing Regulations (EEC) No 1765/82<sup>(3)</sup>, (EEC) No 1766/82<sup>(4)</sup> and

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

*Article 1*

Under the import arrangements laid down in Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83, the Benelux shall open import facilities, by way of exception, for the following products originating in certain State-trading countries:

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ No L 346, 8. 12. 1983, p. 6. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 2456/92 (OJ No L 252, 31. 8. 1992, p. 1).

<sup>(2)</sup> OJ No 252, 31. 8. 1992, p. 1.

<sup>(3)</sup> OJ No L 195, 5. 7. 1982, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 848/92 (OJ No L 89, 4. 4. 1993, p. 1).

<sup>(4)</sup> OJ No L 195, 5. 7. 1982, p. 21. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1409/86 (OJ No L 128, 14. 5. 1986, p. 25).

	People's Republic of China	Vietnam	North Korea	Mongolia
Prepared explosives other than propellant powders (CN code 3602 00 00)	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Gloves, mittens and mitts, specially designed for use in sports (CN code 4203 21 00)	71 700 pairs	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Ceramic hearth or floor tiles, of stoneware or of earthenware or fine pottery (CN code ex 6907 90 10)	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )
Tubes and pipes, seamless, of iron (other than cast iron) or non-alloy steel (CN codes ex 7304 20 91, ex 7304 31 10, ex 7304 31 91, ex 7304 31 99, ex 7304 39 10, ex 7304 39 20, ex 7304 39 51, ex 7304 39 59, ex 7304 90 10 and ex 7304 90 90)	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )	( <sup>1</sup> )

(<sup>1</sup>) p.m. : these goods are imported in accordance with the relevant provisions of Regulation (EEC) No 3420/83.

#### Article 2

This Decision is addressed to the Kingdom of Belgium, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

Done at Brussels, 13 September 1993.

*For the Council*

*The President*

Ph. MAYSTADT