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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

**COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 703/98
of 17 March 1998**

suspending certain concessions set out in Regulation (EC) No 3066/95 establishing certain concessions in the form of Community tariff quotas for certain agricultural products and providing for the adjustment, as an autonomous and transitional measure, of certain agricultural concessions provided for in the Europe Agreements to take account of the Agreement on agriculture concluded during the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations

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, pending approval of the Additional Protocols to the Europe Agreements adjusting certain agricultural concessions provided for in the Europe Agreements to take account of the Agreement on agriculture concluded during the Uruguay Round multilateral trade negotiations, the Community has granted through Regulation (EC) No 3066/95 ⁽¹⁾ in an autonomous and anticipated way concessions analogous to those foreseen in the Additional Protocols to those countries which were prepared to grant reciprocal treatment to the Community, that is *inter alia* the Czech Republic;

Whereas, since 29 January 1998 and despite various attempts by the Community to achieve a negotiated settlement of the problem, the Czech Republic has unilaterally increased the import duties for certain agricultural products originating in the Community; whereas this measure is not compatible with the abovementioned condition of reciprocal treatment; whereas, as a consequence of this measure, the export of the products concerned to the Czech Republic is likely to be seriously restricted;

Whereas, under the Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, on the one part, and the Czech Republic, of the other part ⁽²⁾, this situation would give rise to the application of Article 117, paragraph 2 thereof; whereas, however, the said Article 117 is not applicable to the concessions granted autonomously by Regulation (EC) No 3066/95;

Whereas, pending the approval of the Additional Protocol to the Europe Agreement, which will set out concessions identical to those provided for by Regulation (EC) No 3066/95, it is appropriate to protect the Community's trade interests by autonomously suspending in an equivalent way certain of the concessions set out in the said Regulation,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. Without prejudice to import licences already issued, the following concessions set out in Annex IV to Regulation (EC) No 3066/95 are hereby suspended.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 328, 30. 12. 1995, p. 31. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 1595/97 (OJ L 216, 8. 8. 1997, p. 1).

⁽²⁾ OJ L 360, 31. 12. 1994, p. 1.

Order No	CN code	Description (1)	Rate of duty applicable (2) (% of MFN)	Annual quantities				Specific provisions
				From 1. 7. 1997 to 30. 6. 1998 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 1998 to 30. 6. 1999 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 1999 to 30. 6. 2000 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 2000 (tonnes)	
09.4621	0103 92 19	Live swine, domestic species	20	5 830	6 095	6 360	6 625	(6)
	0203 11 10	Meat of domestic swine						
	0203 12 11							
	0203 12 19							
	0203 19 11							
	0203 19 13							
	0203 19 15							
	0203 19 55							
	0203 19 59							
	0203 21 10							
	0203 22 11							
	0203 22 19							
	0203 29 11							
	0203 29 13							
	0203 29 15							
	0203 29 55							
	0203 29 59							
1602 41 10	Prepared/pressed hams of domestic swine					(6)		
1602 42 10	Prepared/pressed shoulders of domestic swine							
1602 49	Other, of domestic swine							
09.4622	0207 11	Chicken carcasses, fresh, chilled or frozen	20	2 860	2 990	3 120	3 250	
	0207 12							
	0207 13 50	Cuts of fowls of the Species <i>Gallus domesticus</i>						
	0207 13 60							
	0207 14 50							
	0207 14 60							
09.4609	0207 13 10	Boneless cuts of fowls of the species <i>Gallus domesticus</i>	20	2 530	2 645	2 760	2 875	
	0207 14 10							
09.4601	0207 32 11	Ducks	20	550	575	600	625	
	0207 32 15							
	0207 32 19							
	0207 33 11							
	0207 33 19							
	ex 0207 35 15	Fresh, chilled or frozen boneless cuts of ducks						
	ex 0207 36 15							
	ex 0207 35 53	Fresh, chilled or frozen duck breasts and cuts thereof, with bone in						
	ex 0207 36 53							
ex 0207 35 63	Fresh, chilled or frozen duck legs and cuts thereof, with bone in							
ex 0207 36 63								
09.5301	0207 32 51	Geese	20	1 430	1 495	1 560	1 625	
	0207 32 59							
	0207 33 51							
	0207 33 59							
	0207 35 11							
	0207 35 23							
	0207 35 51							
	0207 35 61							
	0207 36 11							
	0207 36 23							
	0207 36 51							
	0207 36 61							
	ex 0207 35 31	Whole wings of geese, with or without tips, fresh, chilled or frozen						
	ex 0207 36 31							
	ex 0207 35 41	Backs, necks, backs with necks attached, rumps and wing tips, of geese, fresh, chilled or frozen						
	ex 0207 36 41							
	ex 0207 35 71	Goose paletots, fresh, chilled or frozen						
	ex 0207 36 71							

Order No	CN code	Description ⁽¹⁾	Rate of duty applicable ⁽²⁾ (% of MFN)	Annual quantities				Specific provisions
				From 1. 7. 1997 to 30. 6. 1998 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 1998 to 30. 6. 1999 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 1999 to 30. 6. 2000 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 2000 (tonnes)	
09.4610	0207 25 10 0207 25 90 0207 26 10 0207 26 50 0207 27 10 0207 27 50	Turkeys	20	440	460	480	500	
	2009 70 30 2009 70 93 2009 70 99 2009 80 99	Apple juice Apple juice Apple juice Blackcurrant juice	48 48 48 36	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	Unlimited	

⁽¹⁾ Notwithstanding the rules for the interpretation of the Combined Nomenclature, the wording of the description of products should be regarded as indicative; the applicability of the preferential arrangements is determined, in the context of this Annex, by the coverage of the CN codes. Where ex CN codes are mentioned, the applicability of preferential arrangements is determined on the basis of the CN code and the corresponding description considered together.

⁽²⁾ In cases where an MFN minimum duty exists, the applicable minimum duty is equal to the MFN minimum duty multiplied by the percentage indicated in this column.

⁽³⁾ Excluding tenderloin presented alone.

2. The Commission may, in the light of further developments in trade with the Czech Republic, extend, in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 3066/95, the measure set out in paragraph 1 to the following products.

Order No	CN code	Description ⁽¹⁾	Rate of duty applicable ⁽²⁾ (% of MFN)	Annual quantities				Specific provisions
				From 1. 7. 1997 to 30. 6. 1998 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 1998 to 30. 6. 1999 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 1999 to 30. 6. 2000 (tonnes)	From 1. 7. 2000 (tonnes)	
09.4611	0402 10 19 0402 21 19 0402 21 91	Skimmed milk powder Whole milk powder Whole milk powder	20	2 530	2 645	2 760	2 875	
09.4612	0405 10 11 0405 10 19 0405 10 30 0405 10 50	Butter	20	1 100	1 150	1 200	1 250	
09.4613	0406	Cheese and curd	20	1 760	1 840	1 920	2 000	

Article 2

When reciprocity is re-established, the Commission shall repeal the measures set out in Article 1, in accordance with the procedures laid down in Article 8 of Regulation (EC) No 3066/95.

Article 3

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

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

Done at Brussels, 17 March 1998.

For the Council
The President
 G. STRANG