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(Acts whose publication is obligatory)

COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 2785/1999

of 17 December 1999

temporarily suspending some or all of the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain fishery products (2000)

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 26 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The Community relies at present on imports from third countries for supplies of certain fishery products; it is in the interest of the Community to suspend partially or totally the customs duties for these products; in order to avoid endangering the prospects for developing the production of competitive products in the Community while ensuring that the industries concerned receive the necessary supplies, it is advisable to adopt these suspension measures only from 1 January to 31 December 2000;

(2) It is for the Community to decide to suspend these autonomous duties;

(3) Having regard to the economic importance of this Regulation for European industry and the requirement that it enter into force by 1 January 2000, it is necessary to invoke the ground of urgency referred to in point I(3) of the additional Protocol to the Treaty of Amsterdam on the role of national parliaments in the European Union,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

1. From 1 January to 31 December 2000 the autonomous common customs tariff duties on the products listed in the Annex shall be suspended at the level indicated for each product.

2. Imports of the products in question shall qualify for the suspension referred to in paragraph 1 only on the condition that the free-at-frontier price laid down by the Member States, in accordance with Article 22 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3759/92 of 17 December 1992 on the common organisation of the market in fishery and aquaculture products [1], is at least equal to the reference price fixed or to be fixed by the Community for the products or categories of products in question.

Article 2

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

It shall apply with effect from 1 January 2000.

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

Done at Brussels, 17 December 1999.

For the Council

The President

K. HEMILÄ

[1] OJ L 388, 31.12.1992, p. 1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EEC) No 1891/93 (OJ L 172, 15.7.1993, p. 1).

ANNEX

	CN code & TARIC	Description	Rate of autonomous duty (%)
0001	ex 0304 10 98 60 ex 0304 90 97 31	Meat of dogfish of the species *Squalus acanthias*, fresh, chilled or frozen	6
0002	ex 0302 69 99 30 ex 0303 79 99 30	Sturgeons, fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing (a) (b)	0
0003	ex 0302 69 99 40	Lump fish *(Cyclopterus lumpus)*, with roe, fresh or chilled, for processing (a)	0
0004	ex 0302 69 99 50 ex 0303 79 99 20	Red snapper *(Lutjanus purpureus)*, fresh, chilled or frozen, for processing (a) (c)	0
0005	ex 0302 70 00 11 ex 0302 70 00 31 ex 0302 70 00 41 ex 0302 70 00 91 ex 0303 80 90 10 ex 0303 80 90 19	Hard fish roes, fresh, chilled or frozen	0
0006	ex 0303 10 00 10	Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.), frozen and headless, for the processing industry for manufacture into pastes or spreads (a)	0
0007	ex 0304 20 85 10 ex 0304 90 61 10	Fillets and meat of Alaska pollack *(Theragra chalcogramma)*, in the form of industrial blocks, frozen, for processing (a) (b)	3,5
0008	ex 0305 20 00 11 ex 0305 20 00 18 ex 0305 20 00 20	Hard fish roes, salted or in brine	0
0009	ex 0306 19 90 10 ex 0306 29 90 10	Krill for processing (a)	0
0022	ex 1604 11 00 20 ex 1604 20 10 20	Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.), for the processing industry for manufacture into pastes or spreads (a)	0
0023	ex 1604 30 90 10	Hard fish roes, washed, cleaned of adherent organs and simply salted or in brine, for processing (a)	0
0024	ex 1605 10 00 11 ex 1605 10 00 19	Crabs of the species 'King' *(Paralithodes camchaticus)*, 'Hanasaki' *(Paralithodes brevipes)*, 'Kegani' *(Erimacrus isenbecki)*, 'Queen' and 'Snow' (*Chionoecetes* spp.), 'Red' *(Geryon quinquedens)*, 'Rough stone' *(Neolithodes asperrimus)*, *Lithodes antarctica*, 'Mud' *(Scylla serrata)*, 'Blue' (*Portunus* spp.), simply boiled in water and shelled, whether or not frozen, in immediate packings of a net content of 2 kg or more	0
0025	ex 1605 10 00 92 ex 1605 10 00 94	Crabs of the species *Paralomis granulosa*	0

(a) Control of the use for this special purpose shall be carried out pursuant to the relevant Community provisions.

(b) The suspension shall apply to fish intended to undergo any operation unless they are intended to undergo exclusively one or more of the following operations:
— cleaning, gutting, tailing, heading,
— cutting (excluding filleting or cutting of frozen blocks or splitting of frozen interleaved fillet blocks),
— sampling, sorting,
— labelling,
— packing,
— chilling,
— freezing,
— deep freezing,
— thawing, separation.

The suspension is not allowed for products intended, in addition, to undergo treatment (or operations) qualifying for suspension where such treatment (or operations) is (are) carried out at retail or catering level. The suspension of customs duties shall apply only to fish intended for human consumption.

(c) However, the suspension is not allowed where processing is carried out by retail or catering undertakings.