COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Brussels, 16.03.2000
COM(2000) 149 final

2000/0041 (ACC)

Proposal for a

COUNCIL REGULATION

concerning the export of certain ECSC steel products from Bulgaria to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 2000 (extension of the double-checking system)

(presented by the Commission)

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The aim of the double-checking system is to improve transparency and to avoid possible diversions of trade. It is founded on the provision in the EC-Bulgaria Europe Agreement[1] which allows either Party to introduce an administrative procedure having as its purpose the rapid provision of information on the trend of trade flows. The Parties agreed to establish such a system in 1998 in respect of certain ECSC steel products by means of Decision N° 3/97[2] of the Association Council. By means of Decision N° 3/99[3] of the Association Council the system was extended for the period between 1 January and 31 December 1999. Council Regulation (EC) N° 86/98[4] established the corresponding implementing legislation for the Community.

At its meeting on 2 December 1999, the Contact Group agreed to recommend that the Association Council should extend the double-checking system for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000.

The attached proposal consequently seeks to extend Council Regulation (EC) N° 86/98 for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000.

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1 OJ L 358, 31.12.94, p. 3.
2 OJ L 13, 19.1.98, p. 85.
3 OJ L 123, 13.5.99, p. 56.
4 OJ L 123, 13.5.99, p. 18.

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THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community, and in particular Article 133 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Commission,

Whereas:

(1) The Europe Agreement establishing an association between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Bulgaria, of the other part, entered into force on 1 February 1995[5].

(2) The Parties decided by Decision N° ..../2000[6] of the Association Council to extend the double-checking system introduced by Decision N° 3/97[7] of the Association Council for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000.

(3) It is consequently necessary to extend the Community implementing legislation introduced by Council Regulation (EC) N° 86/98[8],

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Council Regulation (EC) N° 86/98 shall continue to apply for the period between 1 January and 31 December 2000, in accordance with the provisions of Decision N° ..../2000 of the Association Council between the European Communities and their Member States, of, the one part, and Bulgaria, of the other part. In the Preamble and Article 1 (1) and (4) of the Regulation, references to the period 1 January to 31 December 1999 are hereby replaced by references to 1 January to 31 December 2000.

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5 OJ L 358, 31.12.94, p. 3
6 See page ... of this Official Journal.
7 OJ L 13, 19.1.98, p. 85.
8 OJ L 13, 19.1.98, p. 1.

Article 2

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

This Regulation 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,

For the Council
The President