Procedure file

Basic information

CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	1996/0317(CNS)	Procedure completed

Generalized tariff preferences GSP: exclusion of the Union of Myanmar/Burma of the GSP for industrial goods

Amended by 2007/0289(CNS)
Repealed by 2012/0251(COD)

Subject
6.30.01 Generalised scheme of tariff preferences (GSP), rules of origin

Geographical area
Burma
Myanmar

Key players

European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Security and Defense Policy	PSE THEORIN Maj Britt	28/01/1997
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		
	RELA External Economic Relations	ARE SAINJON André	28/01/1997
	DEVE Development and Cooperation	PSE ROCARD Michel	26/02/1997
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	1996	24/03/1997

Key events

18/12/1996	Legislative proposal published	COM(1996)0711	Summary
21/02/1997	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
10/03/1997	Vote in committee		
10/03/1997	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A4-0085/1997	
13/03/1997	Debate in Parliament		
14/03/1997	Decision by Parliament	T4-0131/1997	Summary

24/03/1997	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
24/03/1997	End of procedure in Parliament		
27/03/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1996/0317(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
	Amended by 2007/0289(CNS) Repealed by 2012/0251(COD)
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 000
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal		COM(1996)0711 OJ C 035 04.02.1997, p. 0014	18/12/1996	EC	Summary
Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report		CES0240/1997 OJ C 133 28.04.1997, p. 0047	27/02/1997	ESC	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A4-0085/1997 OJ C 115 14.04.1997, p. 0014	10/03/1997	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T4-0131/1997 OJ C 115 14.04.1997, p. 0223-0226	14/03/1997	EP	Summary
Follow-up document		COM(2012)0525	17/09/2012	EC	Summary

Final act

Regulation 1997/552
OJ L 085 27.03.1997, p. 0008 Summary

Generalized tariff preferences GSP: exclusion of the Union of Myanmar/Burma of the GSP for industrial goods

OBJECTIVE: the regulation seeks temporarily to withdraw access to generalized tariff preferences for industrial goods from the Union of Myanmar because of this country's use of forced labour. SUBSTANCE: Pursuant to Article 9 of Council Regulation (EC) No 3281/94 applying a four-year scheme of generalized tariff preferences (1995 to 1998), these preferences may be withdrawn in whole or in part where a beneficiary country (the Union of Myanmar being one such) uses any kind of forced labour. After a complaint to the Commission by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and an examination and investigation by the Commission, it was established that this country made use of forced labour on large scale. This type of work, formally prohibited by ILO Convention No 29, was said to be imposed routinely for military operations and for civilian and military infrastructure building projects, backed by coercion and violent reprisals. Myanmar had, moreover, refused to cooperate in the investigation launched by the Commission to verify the practice of forced labour. Consequently, the Commission is requesting through the proposal that the benefits of the GSP in the industrial sector be withdrawn from the Union of Myanmar.?

Generalized tariff preferences GSP: exclusion of the Union of Myanmar/Burma of the GSP for industrial goods

In adopting the report by Mrs Maj Britt THEORIN (PSE, S) Parliament approved the Commission proposal temporarily withdrawing access to generalized tariff preferences for industrial goods from the Union of Myanmar, given that forced labour is systematically used, Amendments were made, however, to the Commission text: Parliament asked the Commission to keep the situation regarding the use of forced labour in Myanmar under continuous review. If evidence is to be provided on this practice the Commission should conduct an investigation, report its findings to the Generalized Preferences Committee and inform the European Parliament. If the Commission considers that the use of forced labour has ceased it should submit a proposal to bring the application of the Regulation to an end to the Council which, after consulting the European Parliament, shall decide on it by qualified majority. ?