

# Procedure file

Basic information		
CNS - Consultation procedure Regulation	<a href="#">1994/0232(CNS)</a>	Procedure completed
Uruguay Round: common rules for imports (repeal. Regulation (EC) No 518/94)		
Subject 6.20.01 Agreements and relations in the context of the World Trade Organization (WTO)		

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	<b>RELA</b> External Economic Relations		04/11/1994
		PSE <a href="#">RANDZIO-PLATH Christa</a>	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	<b>BUDG</b> Budgets		03/11/1994
		V <a href="#">MÜLLER Edith</a>	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	Health	<a href="#">1823</a>	22/12/1994

Key events			
05/10/1994	Legislative proposal published	COM(1994)0414	Summary
14/11/1994	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
12/12/1994	Vote in committee		Summary
12/12/1994	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0108/1994</a>	
14/12/1994	Debate in Parliament		
14/12/1994	Decision by Parliament	T4-0185/1994	Summary
22/12/1994	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
22/12/1994	End of procedure in Parliament		
31/12/1994	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	

Procedure reference	1994/0232(CNS)
Procedure type	CNS - Consultation procedure
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Legal basis	EC before Amsterdam E 113
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

#### Documentation gateway

Legislative proposal	COM(1994)0414	05/10/1994	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	<a href="#">A4-0108/1994</a> <a href="#">OJ C 018 23.01.1995, p. 0019</a>	12/12/1994	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading	T4-0185/1994 <a href="#">OJ C 018 23.01.1995, p. 0054-0072</a>	14/12/1994	EP	Summary

#### Additional information

European Commission	<a href="#">EUR-Lex</a>
---------------------	-------------------------

#### Final act

<a href="#">Regulation 1994/3285</a> <a href="#">OJ L 349 31.12.1994, p. 0053</a> Summary
--

## Uruguay Round: common rules for imports (repeal. Regulation (EC) No 518/94)

This proposal for a regulation sought to implement the new agreement on protection measures which was agreed as part of the negotiations of the Uruguay Round. The regulation transposed into Community legislation the new agreement which re-established multilateral control of protection measures and required measures which avoided this control procedure to be removed. Protection measures could only be applied to the conditions which were laid down by the agreement and in accordance with the procedures established therein. All measures said to be in the "grey zone", namely arrangements which sought to obtain a reduction in imports and exports, or in the regulated marketing of products, or any other similar measure, were therefore prohibited and were to be removed. The only exception to this was the arrangement between the EU and Japan concerning certain types of car, which was due to expire on 31 December 1999. As far as the Community was concerned, respect for the obligations resulting from the agreement involved the termination, within 180 days of the entry into force of the WTO Agreement, of any measure in the grey zone and the revision and modification of the common regime applying to imports, in particular as far as protection was concerned, established by Regulation (EC) No 518/94. The new regulation also introduced a number of details relating to: - the definition of "material injury", of "threat of material injury" and of "Community producers"; - the causality link which existed in the investigation assessment factors; - the rights of the interested parties; - the provisional protection measures to be applied in critical circumstances; - the determination of the quota levels (average level of imports over the last 3 years) and the arrangements for the distribution of a quota among all the supplier countries; - the duration of the protection measures (4 years maximum); - the progressive relaxation of the measures after a period of 1 year and the mid-term review after 3 years; - the succession of protection measures (ban on any new measures being taken for the same product within a period of at least 2 years); - the minimum import thresholds below which the measures could not be applied to developing countries which were members of the WTO. ?

## Uruguay Round: common rules for imports (repeal. Regulation (EC) No 518/94)

Parliament approved the Commission's proposal, subject to the nine modifications it had introduced. The aims of these amendments were as follows: - to ensure that the workers concerned were consulted when assessing the Community interest; - to provide for the consultation of workers' representative associations when determining the Community interest; - to specify that the Commission, following a call for intervention by a Member State, should give its opinion on the introduction of a Community investigation procedure, and on the adoption of control and/or provisional protection measures, within the following five days; - to lay down the procedure to be followed for determining the Community interest; - to ensure that the Commission submits each year to Parliament and the Council a report on the measures which were applicable to the protection against subsidized imports from countries which were not members of the European Union; - to set the date of entry into force of the Regulation for 1.01.1995. ?

## Uruguay Round: common rules for imports (repeal. Regulation (EC) No 518/94)

The Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 3285/94 implementing a common system to be applicable to imports into the Community, and repealing Regulation (EC) No 518/94. The present Regulation transposes into Community legislation the new agreement on protection measures which was agreed as part of the negotiations of the Uruguay Round. The latter re-establishes multilateral control of protection measures and requires that measures which avoid this control procedure are removed. Protection measures can only be applied to the conditions which are laid down by the agreement and in accordance with the procedures established therein. All measures said to be in the "grey zone", namely arrangements which seek to obtain a reduction in imports and exports, or in the regulated marketing of products, or any other similar measure, are therefore prohibited and are to be removed. The only exception to this is the arrangement between the EU and Japan concerning certain types of car, which is due to expire on 31.12.1999. Certain products which come under Regulation (EC) Nos 517/94 and 519/94 (mainly textile products which are not covered by the agreements or bilateral arrangements, apart from a certain number of products which are clearly defined in the Annex to the present Regulation) are also specifically excluded from the scope of the regulation. However, the common regime should also apply to ECSC products. As far as the Community is concerned, respect for the obligations resulting from the agreement involves the termination, within 180 days after the entry into force of the WTO Agreement, of any measure in the grey zone and the revision and modification of the common regime applying to imports, in particular as far as protection is concerned (established by Regulation (EC) No 518/94). The new regulation also introduces a number of details relating to: - the definition of "material injury", of "threat of material injury" and of "Community producers"; - the causality link which exists in the investigation assessment factors; - the rights of the interested parties; - the provisional protection measures to be applied in critical circumstances; - the determination of the quota levels (average level of imports over the last 3 years) and the arrangements for the distribution of a quota among all the supplier countries; - the duration of the protection measures (4 years maximum); - the progressive relaxation of the measures after a period of 1 year and the mid-term review after 3 years; - the succession of protection measures (ban on any new measures being taken for the same product within a period of at least 2 years); - the minimum import thresholds below which the measures cannot be applied to developing countries which are members of the WTO (as a rule, 3% of imports of the product concerned into the Community by a given country). The Regulation enters into force on 01.01.1995 and shall be directly applicable. ?