

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

L/4807
14 May 1979

Limited Distribution

Original: French

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - RESTRICTIONS
ON IMPORTS OF APPLES

The following note, dated 4 May 1979, has been received from the Permanent Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities.

I have the honour to advise you, for the information of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, that under regulation (EEC) No. 687/79 of 5 April 1979 (O.J. No. L/86 of 6 April 1979) the Commission of the European Communities has laid down measures limiting imports of apples (CCT heading No. 08.06 A II) which will have the effect of reducing total imports during the current marketing year.

Having regard to the critical situation prevailing in the apple sector of the Community (production amounting to 6,661,000 tons and record stocks), measures having the effect of restricting the quantity of apples that can be offered for sale in normal trade channels and allowing the reduction of surpluses have become applicable on the territory of the Community. It will not be possible to dispose of existing stocks in the normal way and consequently, in accordance with the provisions of regulation (EEC) No. 1035/72, they will be withdrawn from the market in large quantities. Under the same regulation, products withdrawn from the market are intended for disposal outside normal trade channels (distribution free of charge to certain consumer groups, distillation, or even destruction).

The third countries interested in the measures under reference have already been informed bilaterally.

The Commission is prepared to enter into consultation with any contracting party having a substantial interest in exporting to the Community and which wishes to examine these measures with it.

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