COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 1129/2003

of 21 January 2003

concerning the export of certain steel products from the Slovak Republic to the Community for the period from the date of entry into force of this Regulation to the date of accession by the Slovak Republic to the European Union (extension of the double-checking system)

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 the Slovak Republic, of the other part [1], entered into force on 1 February 1995.

(2) The Parties decided by Decision No 2/2003 of the Association Council [2] to extend the double-checking system introduced by Decision No 3/97 of the Association Council [3], for the period from the date of entry into force of this Regulation to the date of accession by the Slovak Republic to the European Union.

(3) It is consequently necessary to extend the Community implementing legislation introduced by Council Regulation (EC) No 85/98 of 19 December 1997 concerning the export of certain ECSC and EC steel products from Slovakia to the Community for the period 1 January to 31 December 1998 (double-checking system) [4],

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Regulation (EC) No 85/98 shall continue to apply for the period from the date of entry into force of this Regulation to the date of accession by the Slovak Republic to the European Union, in accordance with the provisions of Decision No 2/2003 between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Slovak Republic, of the other part.

Article 2

Regulation (EC) No 85/98 shall in consequence be amended as follows:

1. In the title, preamble and Article 1(1) and (4) references to the period 1 January to 31 December 2002 shall be replaced by references to 'from 8 July 2003 to the date of accession by the Slovak Republic to the European Union'.

2. Annex IV to that Regulation shall be replaced by the text contained in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 3

Goods shipped to the Community from 1 January 2003 to the date of entry into force of this Regulation shall be excluded from the scope of this Regulation.

Article 4

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 10th day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

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

Done at Brussels, 21 January 2003.

For the Council

The President

N. CHRISTODOULAKIS

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[1] OJ L 359, 31.12.1994, p. 2.
[2] See page 70 of this Official Journal.
[3] OJ L 13, 19.1.1998, p. 71.
[4] OJ L 13, 19.1.1998, p. 15.