COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) No 2359/2002

of 27 December 2002

opening tariff quotas for the year 2003 for imports into the European Community of certain products originating in the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 3448/93 of 6 December 1993 laying down the trade arrangements applicable to certain goods resulting from the processing of agricultural products [1], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 2580/2000 [2], and in particular Article 7(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 98/707/EC of 22 October 1998 relating to the conclusion of a Protocol for the adaptation of the trade aspects of Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Czech Republic, of the other part, to take into account the accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union and the results of the agricultural negotiations of the Uruguay Round, including the improvements of the existing preferential regime [3], and in particular Article 2(1) of that Decision and Articles 2 and 6 of that Protocol,

Having regard to Council Decision 98/626/EC of 5 October 1998 relating to the conclusion of a Protocol for the adaptation of the trade aspects of the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part, to take into account the accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union and the results of the agricultural negotiations of the Uruguay Round, including the improvements to the existing preferential regime [4], and in particular Article 2(1) of that Decision and Articles 2 and 5 of that Protocol,

Having regard to Council Decision 98/638/EC of 5 October 1998 relating to the conclusion of a Protocol for the adaptation of the trade aspects of the Europe Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Slovak Republic, of the other part, to take into account the accession of the Republic of Austria, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Sweden to the European Union and the results of the agricultural negotiations of the Uruguay Round, including the improvements of the existing preferential regime [5], and in particular Article 2(1) of that Decision and Articles 2 and 6 of that Protocol,

Whereas:

(1) Protocols 3 on trade in processed agricultural products to the Europe Agreements with the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia, as amended by the Protocols for the adapting of those Agreements, provide for the granting of annual tariff quotas for imports of products originating in the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia. Those quotas should be opened for 2003.

(2) Commission Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93 of 2 July 1993 laying down provisions for the implementation of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Common Customs Code [6], as last amended by Regulation (EC) No 444/2002 [7], lays down rules for the management of tariff quotas. It is appropriate to provide that the tariff quotas opened by this Regulation are to be managed in accordance with those rules.

(3) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Management Committee for horizontal questions concerning trade in processed agricultural products not listed in Annex I,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

The annual quotas for the products originating in the Czech Republic, Romania and Slovakia, set out in Annexes I, II and III are opened from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2003 under the conditions set out in the said Annexes.

Article 2

The Community tariff quotas referred to in Article 1 shall be managed by the Commission in accordance with Articles 308a, 308b and 308c of Regulation (EEC) No 2454/93.

Article 3

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

It shall apply with effect from 1 January 2003.

[1] OJ L 318, 20.12.1993, p. 18.
[2] OJ L 298, 25.11.2000, p. 5.
[3] OJ L 341, 16.12.1998, p. 1.
[4] OJ L 301, 11.11.1998, p. 1.
[5] OJ L 306, 16.11.1998, p. 1.
[6] OJ L 253, 11.10.1993, p. 1.
[7] OJ L 68, 12.3.2002, p. 11.

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

Done at Brussels, 27 December 2002.

For the Commission
Erkki LIIKANEN
Member of the Commission

ANNEX I

CZECH REPUBLIC

Serial No	CN code	Description	Quota for 2003	Rate of duty applicable
09.5417	0403 10 51 to 0403 10 99	Yogurt, flavoured or containing added fruit, nuts or cocoa	EUR 5 436 000	0 + RAC [1]
	0403 90 71 to 0403 90 99	Other, flavoured or containing added fruit, nuts or cocoa		
	0405 20 10 0405 20 30	Dairy spreads of a fat content, by weight, of 39 % or more, but not exceeding 75 %		
	1517 10 10	Margarine, excluding liquid margarine, containing more than 10 % but not more than 15 % by weight of milk fats		
	1517 90 10	Other, containing more than 10 % but not more than 15 % by weight of milk fats		
	ex 1704	Sugar confectionery (including white chocolate), not containing cocoa, excluding liquorice extract containing more than 10 % by weight of sucrose but not containing other added substances, falling within CN code 1704 90 10		
	ex 1806	Chocolate and other food preparations containing cocoa other than those of CN code 1806 10 15		
	ex 1901	Malt extract; food preparations of flour, meal, starch or malt extract, not containing cocoa or containing less than 40 % by weight of cocoa calculated on a totally defatted basis, not elsewhere specified or included; food preparations of goods of CN codes 0401 to 0404, not containing cocoa powder or containing less than 5 % by weight of cocoa calculated on a totally defatted basis, not elsewhere specified or included, other than in CN code 1901 90 91		
	ex 1902	Pasta, whether or not cooked or stuffed or otherwise prepared, excluding stuffed pasta falling within CN codes 1902 20 10 and 1902 20 30; couscous, whether or not prepared		
	1903 00 00	Tapioca and substitutes therefor prepared from starch, in the form of flakes, grains, pearls, siftings or similar forms		
	1904	Prepared foods obtained by the swelling or roasting of cereals or cereal products (for example, corn flakes); cereals, (other than maize (corn)) in grain form or in the form of flakes or other worked grains (except flour and meal), precooked, or otherwise prepared, not elsewhere specified or included		
	1905	Bread, pastry, cakes, biscuits and other bakers' wares, whether or not containing cocoa; communion wafers, empty cachets of a kind suitable for pharmaceutical use, sealing wafers, rice paper and similar products		
	2101 12 98	Preparations with a basis of extracts, essences or concentrates of coffee or with a basis of coffee, other than those of CN code 2101 12 92		