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**COMMON MARKET • EURATOM • COAL & STEEL COMMUNITY**

EEC STUDIES UNIFICATION OF  
SIX'S EXTERNAL TRADE POLICY

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WASHINGTON, D.C., March 30 -- The Commission of the European Economic Community (Common Market) has submitted to the Council of Ministers its second memorandum containing recommendations for developing a common commercial policy, as required by Article 111 of the Treaty of Rome.

(Article 111 states that "member states shall coordinate their commercial relations with third countries in such a way as to bring about, not later than at the expiry of the transitional period, the conditions necessary to the implementation of a common policy in the matter of external trade.")

The Commission's memorandum includes a program of action fixing objectives to be attained in regard to the six EEC member states' import and export systems. It notes that, though realization of the common commercial policy must be as rapid as possible, the policy itself must be worked out pragmatically and with regard to the aims of the Treaty of Rome, which stresses the harmonious development of world trade, the progressive abolition of restrictions on international trade and the removal of customs barriers.

Recommendations for Import System

The objectives of the action program, in its outline of procedures to be followed to attain uniformity in the import systems of the countries, are:

- a) Alignment of liberalization lists in trade with the other members or other countries with comparable economies: The ultimate aim is complete liberalization according to the GATT rules, and this will apply equally to other countries with comparable economies.
- b) Alignment of quota policies in trade with countries which are not members of GATT or whose economic structure is not comparable with that of the European Economic Community: The objective to be attained during the transitional period is the gradual introduction of trade regulation arrangements based on uniform principles. Not later than the end of the transitional period, common import rules will apply to all products coming from these countries. National quotas will be replaced, under the procedures laid down in Article 113 of the Treaty, by quotas negotiated or established on proposals made by the Commission.
- c) Alignment of protective commercial measures: Article 113 of the Treaty states that after the expiry of the transitional period the common commercial policy shall be based on uniform principles, particularly in regard to protective commercial measures, including measures to be taken in cases of "dumping" or subsidies.

Action Program Covers Exports

For the alignment of export arrangements, the action program sets forth:

- a) Progressive harmonization, by the end of the transitional period, of any aid given by member states to exports to non-member countries.
- b) The progressive removal of restrictions on international trade as part of an export policy worked out on common lines. The ultimate aim is to align at the highest possible level all liberalization measures affecting exports to non-member countries.
- c) The harmonization of measures to promote trade and of export drives staged by member states in non-member countries.