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PRESS RELEASE

Directives of the Commission concerning  
the free movement of goods

Two directives of the Commission of the European Economic Community designed to remove a certain number of obstacles to the free movement of products within the Common Market area have been published recently in the official gazette of the Communities.

The first directive is to abolish laws and regulations making the import of a product to be allowed free movement conditional upon the export, purchase or sale of the same or of another domestic product. The directive does not however apply to the following provisions: (a) those which depend on Article 37 §1 of the Treaty (government monopolies); (b) those which form part of a national agricultural market organization; (c) those which relate to a series of products listed in an annex to the directive.

The second directive is to eliminate any difference in treatment between domestic products and foreign products to be allowed free movement by way of laws and regulations prohibiting the use of the said imported products and prescribing the use of domestic products or making the enjoyment of an advantage conditional upon the use of the latter. Articles 3 and 4 list the cases to which the directive does not apply.