

COUNCIL DECISION**of 28 July 1969****on the conclusion of an Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India on trade in coir products****(69/303/EEC)****THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,**

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community, and in particular Articles 111, 114 and 228 thereof;

Having regard to the report from the Commission;

Whereas during the 1964/67 multilateral trade negotiations the Community undertook to enter into negotiations with India with a view to reaching a satisfactory arrangement on trade in coir products;

Whereas the negotiations between India and the Community have reached a conclusion which is acceptable to the Community,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

An Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Economic Community and the Republic of India on trade in coir products, the text of which is annexed to this Decision, is concluded on behalf of the Community.

Article 2

The President of the Council is hereby authorized to designate the persons empowered to sign the Agreement and to confer on them the powers required in order to bind the Community.

Done at Brussels, 28 July 1969.

For the Council

The President

P. LARDINOIS

ANNEX**EXCHANGE OF LETTERS**

Brussels, 1 August 1969

Your Excellency,

During the 1964/67 multilateral trade negotiations, the Delegation of the European Economic Community made the following Declaration of Intent to the Indian delegation:

'The European Economic Community is ready to enter into negotiations with India with a view to seeking, in respect of trade in coir yarn, mats and matting, a mutually satisfactory arrangement whereby:

- India may have better access to the Community market;
- supplies to the EEC coir mat industry may be regulated without disturbing that market.'

In accordance with that undertaking, negotiations between the Community and the Indian Government were entered into in June 1967.

I have the honour to confirm that, taking into consideration the factors which have emerged during those negotiations, the two Parties have agreed as follows:

1. A Joint Cooperation Committee shall be established consisting of representatives of India and representatives of the European Economic Community.
2. The task of that Committee shall be to review all important aspects of the coir industry as a whole, in particular as regards raw materials, production, trade and consumption of all manufactured coir products, in order to find mutually acceptable solutions in the spirit of the Exchange of Letters mentioned above.

The Committee shall, in particular, review:

- the level of tariff protection in the Community;
- the level of export prices for raw material and processed products;
- the conditions for access to the market of the European Economic Community;
- any other problem of special interest to the Indian and Community coir industries.

3. The Committee shall submit to the respective competent authorities:
 - an interim report six months after the Committee has been established;
 - a final report one year after it has been established;

I shall be obliged if you will confirm the agreement of your Government to the contents of this letter.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

W. ERNST
*Head of the delegation of the
Commission of the European
Economic Communities*

To H.E. Mr Th. Swaminathan,
Ambassador,
Head of the Indian Delegation to the
European Communities,
Brussels

Brussels, 1 August 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 1 August 1969, in French, reading as follows:

'Au cours des négociations commerciales multilatérales de 1964/1967, la délégation de la Communauté économique européenne avait formulé à la délégation indienne la déclaration d'intention ci-après:

"La Communauté économique européenne est prête à entreprendre des négociations avec l'Inde en vue de rechercher, en ce qui concerne le commerce des filés et des tapis de coco, un arrangement mutuellement satisfaisant permettant:

- de réaliser des conditions d'accès améliorées de l'Inde au marché de la Communauté;
- d'assurer, tout en évitant la désorganisation de ce marché, la régulation des conditions d'approvisionnement de l'industrie des tapis de coco de la CEE."

Conformément à cet engagement, des négociations ont été entreprises entre la Communauté et le gouvernement de l'Inde à partir du mois de juin 1967.

J'ai l'honneur de vous confirmer que, compte tenu des éléments dégagés au cours de ces négociations, les deux parties sont convenues de ce qui suit:

1. Un Comité mixte de coopération sera créé, comportant des représentants de l'Inde et des représentants de la Communauté européenne.
2. Ce Comité aura pour tâche d'examiner tous les aspects jugés importants de l'ensemble de l'économie du coco, particulièrement en ce qui concerne les matières premières, la production, les échanges et la consommation de tous produits de coco manufacturés, afin de dégager, dans l'esprit de l'échange de lettres mentionné ci-dessus, des solutions mutuellement acceptables.

Le Comité examinera notamment:

- le niveau de la protection tarifaire dans la Communauté;
- le niveau des prix à l'exportation de la matière première et des produits transformés;
- les modalités d'accès au marché de la Communauté économique européenne;
- tout autre problème d'un intérêt particulier pour les industries indiennes et communautaires du coco.

3. Le Comité soumettra aux instances compétentes respectives:

- un rapport intérimaire six mois après sa constitution;
- un rapport définitif un an après sa constitution.

Je vous serais obligé de bien vouloir me confirmer l'accord de votre gouvernement sur le contenu de cette lettre.'

I confirm that the above correctly sets out the understanding reached between us.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

T. SWAMINATHAN
Ambassador of India

Mr Wolfgang Ernst,
Director,
Directorate-General for External Trade,
Commission of the European Economic Community, Brussels