



**BILLE NA gCOMHPHOBAL EORPACH (RIALACHAIN A
DHAINGNIU), 1973**

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (CONFIRMATION OF
REGULATIONS) BILL, 1973**

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Bill is to confirm the undermentioned Regulations made under the European Communities Act, 1972. Section 4 (1) of that Act provides that Regulations made under the Act shall cease to have statutory effect unless they are confirmed by Act of the Oireachtas passed within six months after they are made or are regulations merely revoking wholly regulations previously made under the Act. As the first regulation under the Act requiring confirmation was made on 13 December 1972 it is necessary to provide for enactment of a confirmatory Bill by 12 June 1973 at the latest.

(1) *European Communities (Motor Vehicles) Regulations, 1972*

Under Protocol No. 7 to the Act annexed to the Treaty of Accession to the European Communities Ireland is authorised to retain until 1 January 1985 the motor assembly scheme provided for in the Motor Vehicles (Registration of Importers) Act, 1968, subject to certain modifications. One of the modifications relates to an annual global quota with effect from 1 January 1973 for fully built up vehicles originating in the Community but not receiving special treatment under the scheme. Some of those for whom Protocol No. 7 provides would not qualify for registration under existing conditions. These Regulations which came into operation on 1 January 1973 provide for the registration of such new importers under the Act and enable the allocation of the quota to be effected by administrative action.

(2) *European Communities (Crystal glass) Regulations, 1972*

These regulations which came into operation on 1st January 1973, are designed to give effect to EEC Directive No. 69/493 of 15 December 1969, relating to the approximation of the laws of Member States relating to crystal glass.

The regulations specify standards and methods of testing for various classes of crystal glass and lay down rules for labelling and description.

(3) *European Communities (Shipbuilding) Regulations, 1972*

These regulations, which came into operation on 1 January 1973 align with the Common Customs Tariff of the European Communities Irish customs regulations exempting from duty materials for use in shipbuilding. Although there was no significant practical difference between the Irish and Community regulations, alignment was necessary because the Irish customs regulations permitted entry free of duty of goods imported for use in shipyards in the building, repairing or refitting of ships, boats, etc. whereas the Common Customs Tariff covers goods imported for incorporation in certain categories of ships, boats etc. of at least 12 metres in length, (with certain stated exceptions including sea-going fishing boats and life-boats).

(4) *European Communities (Rules of Court) Regulations, 1972*

New rules of Court are required to provide court procedures in relation to matters arising out of this country's membership of the European Communities. Examples of these matters are: the reference of cases from our courts to the Court of Justice of the European Communities for preliminary rulings as provided for in Article 177 of the EEC Treaty and the corresponding provisions of the ECSC Treaty and the Euratom Treaty; the enforcement of Community Judgments; and taking evidence here on behalf of the European Court.

These Regulations which came into operation on 1st January 1973 empower the rule-making authorities to make the necessary rules.

(5) *European Communities (Textiles) Regulations, 1972*

The NIMEXE system of tariff classifications which replaced by seven digit code numbers Ireland's system of numerical/alphabetical classification was introduced in the Customs Tariff of Ireland dated 1st January, 1973 to comply with EEC requirements. These regulations which came into operation on 1st January, 1973 substitute the NIMEXE Classifications for the tariff headings in the Control of Imports (Quota No. 51) (Miscellaneous Textiles) Order, 1964 and the Control of Imports (Quota No. 52) (Miscellaneous Textiles Piece Goods) Order, 1964 in order to take account of certain technical classification changes which occurred in the concordance between the Irish Tariff and the EEC Common Customs Tariff. The regulations incorporate a technical amendment changing the name of China (Nationalist) to Taiwan (Formosa) in the Schedule of countries in the Quota Orders.

(6) *European Communities (State Financial Transactions) Regulations 1972*

These Regulations which came into operation on 1 January 1973 enable payments necessitated by our membership of the European Communities to be made from the Central Fund. These payments are being treated in the same way as other committed charges such as debt service costs and judicial salaries and will not fall to be voted annually by the Dáil.

The main payments which will arise are as follows:—

EEC Budget

European Investment Bank (Reserve and Capital)

European Coal and Steel Community (Reserve)

Financial Aid to Turkey under the Association Agreement with that country (Our contribution in this instance will be submitted for Dáil approval in due course)

These amounted to £1.6 million in 1972/73 and are estimated at about £6 million in 1973/74, based on an exchange rate of 2.4 UA's to £1. They also empower the Central Bank to advance to the Minister for Finance moneys required to make Ireland's contributions to the European Investment Bank.

The regulations provide that repayable advances may be made from the Central Fund to the Minister for Agriculture to enable him to discharge his function in connection with the Common Agricultural Policy.

There is provision that advances made under the Regulations shall be repaid on terms and conditions determined by the Minister for Finance. Interest on these advances will be charged at the current Exchequer lending rate which is at present 9 per cent per annum.

The Minister for Finance is enabled to guarantee borrowings by the Minister for Agriculture from non-Exchequer sources for the purposes of the Common Agricultural Policy including borrowings made abroad.

The regulations also provide that all moneys payable into accounts under the control of a Minister and arising from membership of the Communities be paid into or otherwise disposed of for the benefit of the Exchequer unless there is a specific legal provision to pay to some individual or body.

The administration costs arising out of this or any other regulation made under Section 3 of the European Communities Act, 1972 may be met from funds provided by the Oireachtas.

(7) *European Communities (Enforcement of Community Judgments) Regulations, 1972*

These Regulations which came into operation on 1 January 1973 are made necessary by the provisions in the EEC Treaty, the ECSC Treaty and the Euratom Treaty regarding the enforcement in Member States of judgements of the European Court, and of decisions of the Council or of the Commission of the European Communities which impose pecuniary obligations on persons other than States. These judgements and decisions are referred to in the Regulations as "Community Judgements". The Treaties provide that enforcement shall be governed by the rules of *civil procedure* in the State in whose territory the enforcement is carried out. Under the Regulations, the national authority for enforcement of Community judgements is the Master of the High Court and a Community judgement to which an enforcement order has been appended by the Master is given the same force and effect as a judgement or order of the High Court and is enforced in the same way under our national law. The EEC, ECSC and EURATOM Treaties all provide that enforcement of Community judgements may be suspended only by a decision of the Court of Justice of the European Communities. The Regulations accordingly provide that neither section 23 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1951 (which relates to the remission of punishment, forfeitures and disqualifications), nor section 9 of the Enforcement of Court Orders Act, 1940 (which relates to the release from prison of persons imprisoned for non-payment of debts), shall apply to a Community Judgement.

(8) *European Communities (Aliens) Regulations, 1972*

The Council of the European Communities has issued directives and made regulations, as required by the EEC Treaty, to implement the Treaty provisions regarding free movement of persons and services. The effect of these directives and regulations is to require Member States of the Communities to liberalise their national regimes of entry and residence in relation to nationals of other Member States availing themselves of the right of establishment, right to supply services and right of free movement of workers.

The European Communities (Aliens) Regulations, 1972 accordingly confer rights of entry and residence on certain categories of persons who are nationals of Member States of the Communities. The Regulations are based on Directives EEC 64/220, 64/221 and EEC 68/360 but take account of the special transitional provision in regard to free movement of workers that has been made in favour of this country in the Treaty of Accession to the Communities. The regulations came into operation on the 1st January 1973.

(9) *European Communities (Customs) Regulations, 1972*

These regulations came into operation on 1 January 1973.

Deferred Payments of Customs Duties

EEC Directive 69/76 provided that persons liable to pay customs duties, charges having equivalent effect or agricultural levies on imported goods shall at their request and subject to their giving adequate security and complying with certain conditions be granted a period of deferment of payment not exceeding thirty days on average. These Regulations enable effect to be given to the provisions of the Directive.

The Directive does not apply to the customs duties of a fiscal nature or to the fiscal elements of such duties which the Commission decided could be retained by this country until 31 December, 1975. The duties in question are those on beer, spirits, hydrocarbon oils, wines, tobacco, table waters, cider, perry, matches, tyres and tubes and motor vehicles and parts and accessories thereof.

Council Directive 68/312 requires the lodgement with Customs of a "summary declaration" (the equivalent of a report under Irish law) in respect of imported goods not later than 24 hours after their arrival. Irish law was in accord with this requirement subject to the following exceptions: (a) Section 9 of the Customs and Inland Revenue Act, 1881 provided that diamonds and bullion could be landed without report on entry while (b) under Section 49 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876 as amended by Section 3 of the Revenue Act, 1898 a period of 72 hours after arrival was allowed for presentation of an account of bullion and coin (this also applied to diamonds by direction of the Commissioners of Customs in 1901). These Regulations bring Irish law into harmony with the requirements referred to.

Time and entry of goods by sea

Council Directive 68/312 provides that, after arrival, imported goods must be either placed under a customs procedure or re-exported within certain time limits. For goods imported by sea, the maximum limit is 45 days (inclusive of Sundays and holidays) from the date of importation or, where goods are removed from the port for examination at another place, from the date of their arrival at that place. The Directive requires direct intervention by customs to place goods under a customs procedure if the time limit is exceeded. These Regulations extend the former time limit for making entry for goods imported by sea from 14 days to 45 days.

Application of Customs Acts to agricultural levies of EEC

These regulations provide that the charges fixed by the European Commission on imports of certain agricultural products or goods resulting from the processing of these products, following the adoption by this country of the Community's common agricultural policy, are treated for administrative purposes as Customs duties. These charges take the form of import levies, compensatory amounts, variable components etc. Provision is also made for the approval as Customs warehouses of premises used for the storage for exportation of agricultural products which qualify for payment of export restitution when placed in Customs warehouse.

Election regarding calculation of certain duties

EEC Directive 71/235 set out a number of handling operations (for example, crushing of dried vegetables and/or packaging them) which may be performed on goods lodged in customs warehouses. Before these Regulations were made, Irish law provided that, depending on the nature of the goods, the amount of duty payable on them when they were removed from warehouse for home use was related to their quantity and description at the time of warehousing, or, for certain goods (for example, where goods are subject to natural waste in a warehouse) at the time they were withdrawn from warehouse. The EEC Directive mentioned provided for another possibility, that is, that the person withdrawing the goods could elect to have them charged to customs duty by reference to their quantity and description before they underwent the first or any subsequent handling operation in warehouse. These regulations brought Irish law into line with the Directive in this respect.

Amendment of Sections 95 to 97 of the Act of 1876

Section 95 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876, dealing with operations which could be performed on goods in warehouse, provided that the goods must also be repacked in the warehouse. It was necessary to remove this condition to comply with the provisions of EEC Directive 71/235 (relating to the operations which may be carried out on goods lodged in customs warehouses).

The EEC Directive on customs warehousing (69/74) admits of goods being released from warehouses for the purpose of being "placed under another customs procedure", for example, being delivered, without payment of duty, for processing under the "inward

processing" regime. The latter regime, broadly, permits the processing of goods without payment of any duty if they are intended for subsequent exportation to places outside the territory of the EEC.

Irish law permitted the removal of goods from a customs warehouse if they were for home use or if they were for exportation, or for shipment as stores; the Revenue Commissioners were empowered to permit any goods to be taken out of warehouse for a temporary period (for example, samples) if security was given for their due return to warehouse.

In order to bring Irish law into conformity with Directive 69/74, the Regulations amend section 96 of the Customs Consolidation Act, 1876 so as to allow goods to be taken out of warehouse without payment of duty and without their having to be returned to warehouse and amend Section 97 of the Customs Consolidation Act so as to allow the release of goods from warehouse for the purpose of their being "placed under another customs procedure".

Removal etc. of Customs seal, lock or mark

These regulations make it an offence to remove wilfully and prematurely or to tamper with any seal, lock or mark used to identify or secure goods moving under customs control between Member States. It also provides for a penalty of £100 on summary conviction for the offence.

Amendment of Section 38 of Finance Act, 1932

Implementation of the provisions of Council Directive 69/73, which lays down rules to apply to goods imported from third countries for the purpose of undergoing a process of manufacture and subsequent exportation, is largely accomplished within the framework of Section 38 of the Finance Act, 1932, but that Section is extended by this Regulation in order to bring it into line with the Directive.

The Regulations amend the Act to provide for the diversion of imported raw materials or goods made from them to the home market on payment of duty as an alternative to re-exportation subject to certain conditions, and for the basis on which duty on diverted goods is to be calculated.

The importation of raw materials without a condition of re-exportation and without payment of any duty, or the waiver of duty on raw materials already imported, is also provided for where Community raw materials of the same kind as those imported are incorporated in goods for export.

Customs Drawback not payable on Processed Goods

The regulations implement the provisions of Council Directive 69/73 prescribing rules under which raw materials imported into the Community for the purpose of undergoing a process of manufacture and subsequent exportation may be relieved from payment of customs duty. The former drawback system in operation in this country whereby duty could be paid on raw materials at importation and later reclaimed on the exportation of goods made from those raw materials cannot be continued (except in the case of the main revenue duties) owing to the absence from the system of certain controls required by the Directive.

Amendment of Section II of Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1958

Goods produced, manufactured etc. in the Shannon Customs-free Airport and brought into the remainder of the State for consumption there were exempted from the customs duties normally applicable to imported goods and were liable instead to any duties applicable to the ingredients used in their manufacture.

Effect was given to this in Section II, Finance (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1958.

Shannon Customs-free Airport was designated a free-zone for the purposes of the EEC Directive (No. 69/75) relating to Free Zones and the present Regulations contain the amendments to Section II necessary for compliance with that directive in the year 1973. The changes introduce special provisions relating to the calculation of customs duty on goods which are subjected only to handling operations in the free-zone; and more zone traders than hitherto are required to maintain records (necessary to implement the Free Zone and other Directives) and keep them available for inspection.

Valuation of goods for customs purposes

This regulation covers aspects of the Community procedures for the valuation of goods for Customs purposes not covered by Community Regulations. It also provides for the furnishing of information and documents thought necessary by the Revenue Commissioners for the proper valuation of the goods and for the imposition of a penalty of £50 for non-compliance with these provisions.

(10) *European Communities (National Catalogue of Agricultural Plant Varieties) Regulations, 1972*

These regulations provide for the maintenance by the Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries of a National Catalogue of varieties of agricultural crops, the seed of which may be officially accepted for certification and sale in the State. This gives statutory effect to certain provisions of the EEC directives concerning the certification and marketing of agricultural seeds. The crops covered by the regulations are beet, forage crops (including grass and clover), cereals, potatoes, oil-bearing and fibrous crops. The certification and marketing of seeds of these crops in the EEC is covered by various directives and these will be brought into operation in Ireland on a gradual basis during the transitional period of our membership.

The regulations came into operation on 1 January 1973.

(11) *European Communities (Judicial Notice and Documentary Evidence) Regulations, 1972*

These regulations provide that judicial notice shall be taken of the Treaties governing the European Communities, of the Official Journal of the Communities and of decisions of, or expressions of opinion by, the European Court of Justice. The Regulations also provide for the proof in evidence of the Treaties, of acts adopted by the Community Institutions, of Judgements or Orders of the European Court and of documents in the custody of Community Institutions or of a Minister of State.

The regulations came into operation on 1 January, 1973.

(12) *European Communities (Cycle Tyres) Regulations, 1973*

The purpose of the European Communities (Cycle Tyres) Regulations, 1973 (S.I. No. 14 of 1973), is to remove Finland, (ex-EFTA non-applicants Group), Israel, Malta, Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Cyprus, Lebanon and Algeria from the scope of the Control of Imports (Quota No. 2) (Cycle Tyres) Order, 1934, as amended, which limits the imports of cycle and motorcycle tyres and tubes. This was necessary in order to liberalise the quota in respect of countries with whom the EEC has concluded free trade area agreements. Some of the relevant agreements had not been formally concluded but it was decided to remove all those countries from the quota in the one operation because there was no active trade interest in cycle and motorcycle tyres and tubes originating in those countries. The quota had been liberalised in 1963 in respect of the other countries with whom the Community had agreements.

The regulations came into operation on 22 January, 1973.

(13) *European Communities (Seeds of Perennial Ryegrass and Cereals) Regulations, 1973*

These regulations provide as follows:—

- (a) that perennial ryegrass marketed in this country after 1st February, 1973, must be certified seed of varieties regis-

analysis of fibre content. The maximum penalties are £200 and/or imprisonment for six months. This provision is in the interests of home production of certified ryegrass seed and is designed to prevent the marketing of low grade uncertified seed and to ensure that perennial ryegrass seed marketed here is of acceptable varieties and up to certified standard. All home production of perennial ryegrass is certified.

(b) That oat, barley or wheat seeds shall not be sold unless they comply with certain prescribed standards. This provision is to prevent the marketing of low-grade seeds and is an intermediate step in the application of the full EEC standards.

(c) That the premises of persons engaged in the assembly and storage of cereal seeds must be approved by the Minister. This is to ensure that assemblers have adequate facilities to handle cereal seeds properly.

The regulations came into operation on 1 February, 1973.

(14) *European Communities (Fruit and Vegetables) Regulations, 1973.*

These regulations came into operation on 1 February, 1973, and made provisions for the implementation of the section of the EEC marketing regulations which requires that a wide range of fruit and vegetables offered for sale at wholesale or retail level must conform to EEC standards of quality, grading, packaging and labelling. The regulations made by the Minister provide that authorised officers have the necessary powers of access to premises and records and to take samples of fruit and vegetables where necessary. Penalties for particular offences under the regulations are also prescribed.

(15) *European Communities (Common Agricultural Policy) (Market Intervention) Regulations, 1973.*

These regulations, which came into operation on 1 February, 1973, were necessary in order to carry out market intervention as may be required for a number of agricultural products under Community regulations. Market intervention is an essential part of the EEC agricultural price support arrangements. It provides for market purchases by an official national agency, acting on behalf of the Community, of the main agricultural products. Any financial losses are met from the Guarantee Section of the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund.

The intervention system is being operated by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. The products for which intervention may take place include wheat and barley, butter and skim milk powder, cattle and beef, pigmeat, sugar, certain horticultural products and certain types of fish.

The main activities in relation to intervention will include the purchase, storage and resale of products, as well as payments for denaturing of wheat and sugar.

The regulations also provided for the setting up of a Committee comprising representatives of farm organisations and commodity trading interests, which will be consulted as appropriate and will be kept in touch with intervention activities.

(16) *European Communities (Bacon Levy Periods) Regulations, 1973.*

The purpose of the Regulations was to amend the provisions of Section 34 of the Pigs and Bacon (Amendment) Act, 1939 (No. 35 of 1939) as amended by Section 3 (1) of the Pigs and Bacon Act, 1940 (No. 24 of 1940), relating to the making of orders by the Pigs

and Bacon Commission fixing the rates of levy on pig carcasses used for the production of bacon.

The reason for making the Regulations was that a considerable portion of the levy payable to the Pigs and Bacon Commission by Bacon factory licencees under the levy order in effect for the quarter commencing on 1 January, 1973, was intended to be applied in support of our pigmeat exports, and as such support would be in conflict with Community provisions, it was desired to provide in the new Regulations for the creation of a new levy period commencing on 1 February, 1973. This would enable the Pigs and Bacon Commission in turn to make an order fixing a new (reduced) rate of levy with effect from that date. An amendment of Section 34 (4) of the Pigs and Bacon (Amendment) Act, 1939 was thus called for, since the sub-section provided that a levy period was any period of three months commencing on any 1st day of April, 1st day of July, 1st day of October or 1st day of January.

The Pigs and Bacon Commission made the necessary consequential Order on 31 January 1973, fixing the new reduced rate of levy to come into effect on 1 February 1973.

(17) *European Communities (An Bord Baine) Regulations, 1973*

Arising from Ireland's entry into the EEC and having regard to Article 37 of the Treaty of Rome and Article 44 of the Treaty of Accession to the Communities arrangements were made to terminate as from 1 February, 1973 (the date on which the Common Agricultural Policy of the EEC became applicable here) the operations of An Bord Baine as a central export marketing body occupying a monopoly trading position by virtue of its statutory powers and State aids. (The Board's marketing activities were carried on as from 1 February 1973 by a co-operative society established by the dairy industry under the name of An Bord Baine Co-operative Ltd.).

As it was desired, however, that the Bord should remain in existence as a virtually nominal body for some time after 1 February 1973 in order that its accounts, transfer of its assets, etc. could be finalised, it was necessary to withdraw as from 1 February 1973 certain powers and obligations under the Dairy Produce Marketing Act, 1961.

The European Communities (An Bord Baine) Regulations, 1973, which came into operation on 1 February, 1973 repealed Sections 36 (3), 37 (4), 38 (3) and 44 and 45 of the Dairy Produce Marketing Act, 1961 and had the effect of withdrawing the Board's power to make levies and of removing the obligations to purchase butter at a price fixed by the Government and to sell butter on the home market at a price fixed by the Government.

(18) *European Communities (Names and labelling of Textile Products) Regulations, 1973*

These regulations were made by the Minister for Industry and Commerce on 13 February, 1973, in order to give effect to the European Communities Council Directive No. 71/307/EEC of 26 July, 1971 (as adapted by the Treaty of Accession of Ireland to the Communities) relating to the name and labelling of textile products. The regulations, which came into force on 13 February, 1973, prohibit the sale of textile products unless they comply with the provisions of the EEC Directive.

The Regulations provide that all textile products including made up goods must be labelled or marked to indicate the name, description and particulars of the fibre content whenever they are put on the market for production or commercial purposes. Such markings may, however, be replaced by a clear indication of contents set out in accompanying commercial documents when such products are not being offered for sale to the end consumer. The names and descriptions of the fibres listed include animal and vegetable fibres such as wool, silk, cotton, kapok, flax, hemp, jute and a large number of man-made fibres such as acrylic, nylon polyester and so on.

The regulations also provide for enforcement and for methods of

analysis of fibre content. The maximum penalties are £200 and/or imprisonment for six months.

(19) *European Communities (Measuring Instruments) Regulations, 1973*

These Regulations were made to implement, in so far as this country is concerned, Directives No. 71/316/EEC: on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to common provisions for both measuring instruments and methods of meteorological control.

No. 71/317/EEC: on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to 5 to 50 kilogramme medium accuracy rectangular bar weights and 1 to 10 kilogramme medium accuracy cylindrical weights.

No. 71/318/EEC: on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to gas volume meters No. 71/319/EEC: on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to meters for liquids other than water.

These Directives provide for harmonisation of meteorological control of certain measuring instruments, i.e. medium precision weights, gas meters and volumetric meters for liquids other than water. They require that gas meters and volumetric meters which bear the EEC symbols of model approval and the EEC marks of initial verification, and medium precision weights that bear the EEC mark of initial verification must be allowed to be used for trade in all member States. The directives also prescribe in detail the meteorological properties of the instruments and the tests which must be made by the competent authorities of Member States before model approval and EEC initial verification can be granted for the instruments.

The Directives provide for optional harmonisation, i.e. instruments checked in accordance with our existing Weights and Measures Control can continue to be used in this country but we must also allow the use of instruments which have been checked by us or by another member country in accordance with EEC procedures. We must also be prepared to grant EEC type approval and initial verification in so far as our technical resources allow.

*Department of Foreign Affairs,
May, 1973*

The European Communities (Fishery Limits) Regulations, 1973
Implement the provisions of Articles 100 and 101 of the Treaty relating to Ireland's accession to the EEC. Those Articles authorise Ireland, notwithstanding the EEC fishery regulation which provides equality of access to and exploitation of fishery waters by fishing vessels of the member States, to restrict fishing by such vessels in certain areas of our exclusive fishery limits.

The making of the regulations was necessary in order to avail of the derogation granted under Articles 100 and 101 of the Treaty of Accession.

Fishing vessels of other member States are permitted to fish in the outer six mile belt of our twelve mile exclusive fishery limits from Cork Harbour to Carnsore Point for all species of fish and from C. Wt. W108809/G/2. 875. 5/73. C.&Co. (7159). G.16. Lough for varieties other than shellfish. There is no change in position in the area from Lough Foyle to Cork Harbour as we succeeded in retaining the 12

analysis of fibre content. The maximum penalties are £200 and/or imprisonment for six months.

(19) European Communities (Measuring Instruments) Regulations, 1973.

These Regulations were made by the Minister for Industry and Commerce on 13 February, 1973, in order to give effect to the European Council Directive No. 71/318/EEC of 26 July, 1971 (as adapted by the Treaty of Accession of 1972) relating to the name and labelling of textile products. The regulation, which came into force on 13 February, 1973, prohibits the sale of textile products unless they comply with the provisions of the EEC Directive.

The Regulations provide that all textile products including made up goods must be labelled in or on the article the name, description and particulars of the fibre content whenever they are put on the market for production or commercial purposes. Such markings may, however, be replaced by a clear indication of contents set out in accompanying commercial labelling when such products are sold in bulk. The name and description of the textile product must be clearly marked on the label in a language which is understood by the consumer, such as wool, silk, cotton, polyester, etc.

The Regulations also provide for the marking of certain measuring instruments, i.e. medium precision weights, gas meters and volumetric meters for liquids other than water. They require that gas meters and volumetric meters which bear the EEC mark of approval, and the EEC mark of initial verification, and medium precision weights that bear the EEC mark of initial verification must be allowed to be used for trade in all member states. The directive also provides in detail the metrological provisions of the instrument and the tests which must be made by the competent authorities of member states before model approval and EEC initial verification can be granted for the instruments.

The Directive provides for general harmonisation, i.e. instruments checked in accordance with the existing Weights and Measures Act, 1963, and continued to be used in this country, but we must also allow the use of instruments which have been checked by us or by other member states in accordance with EEC provisions. We must also be prepared to grant EEC type approval and initial verification in certain technical areas where the new power meter Act, 1963.

(18) European Communities (Names and Labelling of Textile Products) Regulations, 1973

These regulations were made by the Minister for Industry and Commerce on 13 February, 1973, in order to give effect to the European Council Directive No. 71/318/EEC of 26 July, 1971 (as adapted by the Treaty of Accession of 1972) relating to the name and labelling of textile products. The regulation, which came into force on 13 February, 1973, prohibits the sale of textile products unless they comply with the provisions of the EEC Directive.

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The Regulations also provide for the marking of certain measuring instruments, i.e. medium precision weights, gas meters and volumetric meters for liquids other than water. They require that gas meters and volumetric meters which bear the EEC mark of approval, and the EEC mark of initial verification, and medium precision weights that bear the EEC mark of initial verification must be allowed to be used for trade in all member states. The directive also provides in detail the metrological provisions of the instrument and the tests which must be made by the competent authorities of member states before model approval and EEC initial verification can be granted for the instruments.