

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/612
29 October 1980

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE SIXTEENTH MEETING (1980)^{1/}

1. The TSB held its sixteenth meeting of 1980 from 29 September to 2 October. The following members or alternates were present: Messrs. Bajwa, Beck, Chau, Lee, Kujirai (part attendance), Martin, Pullinen, Safioen, Santos-Neves, Shepherd.
2. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Kujirai and of his alternate, Mr. Imai, for part of the meeting, the TSB agreed to Japan's request that Mr. Shinzeki should sit as alternate for the days of 30 September and 1 October.
3. The report of the fifteenth meeting was adopted and has been transmitted to the Textiles Committee as COM.TEX/SB/607.

Review of notifications

Finland-Hong Kong

4. The TSB reviewed a new Article 4 bilateral agreement between Finland and Hong Kong, covering the period 1 August 1980-31 July 1982. The TSB took note of the fact that the products under restraint had been reduced to three categories as compared with four in the previous agreement. It noted that the base levels agreed were 5.5 per cent above restraint levels in the earlier agreement, thus restoring cutbacks which had previously been made. The TSB also took note of the fact that the growth rate of 3 per cent reflected the parties' understanding that implementation of the growth rate of not less than 6 per cent set out in Annex B could contribute to the existing threat to Finland's minimum viable production. The TSB noted that swing of 5 per cent had been agreed upon to take account of exceptional circumstances as referred to in paragraph 5 of Annex B, and that the provisions for carryover and carry forward were above those laid down in that paragraph.

Finland-Macao

5. The TSB reviewed an amendment to the Article 4 bilateral agreement between Finland and Macao, introducing new restraints on one category (woven blouses of cotton and man-made fibres) for the period July 1980-December 1981. The TSB noted the statement by Finland that the growth rate of 2 per cent reflected the parties' understanding that the implementation of the rate of not less than 6 per cent set out in Annex B could contribute to the existing threat to Finland's minimum viable production.

Major Review

6. The TSB completed its report to the Textiles Committee for the forthcoming major review of the operation of the Arrangement since 1978. This report has been circulated as COM.TEX/SB/610, together with Addenda 1-4 showing the evolution of restrictions maintained or introduced on trade in textiles by participating countries since the entry into force of the Arrangement.

^{1/} Hundred-and-eleventh meeting overall.