

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/70

7 May 1975

Special Distribution

---

Textiles Surveillance Body

Original: English

## ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

### Notifications Under Article 2, Paragraph 1

Attached is a notification received by the TSB from THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Textiles Arrangement. As required by the provisions of this paragraph the TSB is circulating this notification to participating countries in the Arrangement for their information. A summary tabulation of this notification prepared by the secretariat is also attached.

It is to be noted that the TSB, in the light of paragraph 11 of COM.TEX/2, is continuing to examine the notifications received in order to ensure the completeness and adequacy of the information, and is requesting the supply of additional information wherever necessary. Any additional information thus received will also be circulated.

It is, of course, open to any party to the Arrangement to request the TSB or the secretariat to seek any further information or clarification they may wish to have from the parties concerned, or to supply any additional information of relevance. Such information will also be circulated.

Letter No. 1

Geneva, 4 June 1974

Dear Sir,

I am writing in reference to your letter GATT/AIR/UNNUMBERED, dated 14 January 1974, concerning notification of restrictions according to paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles.

I have the pleasure to inform you that our foreign trade system and our methods of restriction, including trade in textiles, are shown in document BOP/130, dated 27 April 1973. This document also contains the statement submitted by the Arab Republic of Egypt on the occasion of the 1973 consultations with Egypt under Article XVIII:12(b) of the General Agreement.

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

(Signed) Nabil Salem  
First Secretary  
Commercial Bureau

Mr. Olivier Long  
Director-General,  
GATT  
Villa Le Bocage  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Genève 10

Letter No. 2

Geneva, 24 July 1974

Dear Sir,

With reference to our letter dated 4 June 1974, concerning notification of restrictions according to paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles, and in response to the secretariat's request for more detailed information relating to our notification, I have the pleasure to inform you that I have received the following from our authorities:

1. Egypt does not apply any special restrictions on the import of textiles.
2. System of foreign trade as detailed in document BOP/D.30, applies to textiles.
3. The trade agreements between Egypt and other countries, do not include any quotas for importing textiles into Egypt.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Nabil Salem  
First Secretary  
Commercial Affairs

Mr. P. Wurth  
Chairman of the Textiles  
Surveillance Body,  
GATT  
Villa Le Bocage  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Genève 10

Letter No. 3

Geneva, 29 March 1975

Dear Mr. Ambassador,

Further to our letters dated 4 June and 24 July 1974, concerning Egypt's notification of restrictions to the TSB according to paragraph 1 of Article 2 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles, and in response to your request for further clarification in this respect, I have the honour to communicate to you the following information received from our authorities.

In general there are no specific regulations restricting imports of textile products into Egypt. However, the importation of these products, as is the case of all imports, is subject to prior consideration and approval by the competent organization through its "Commodity Committee". In the case of textiles, the competent organization is the Egyptian General Organization for Spinning and Weaving.

The Commodity Committee of the said Organization is guided, in its consideration of import requests submitted to it, by the country's needs bearing in mind in particular, the foreign exchange availability and the domestic production. The approval of the Committee is based on the merit of the case under consideration in the light of price level, specifications and delivery date. Such approval is usually final and serves as authorization for the importation of the products considered. Thus, such textile items as may be refused by the Committee are not allowed to be imported.

It is to be noted, however, that the refusal of such items is not to be considered as an all-time refusal; import requests for the like products from the same country might be approved by the Committee if circumstances so permitted.

Please accept, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely yours

(Signed) Mahmoud A.B. Hamza  
Minister  
Commercial Affairs

H.E. Ambassador P. Wurth  
Chairman,  
Textiles Surveillance Body  
GATT  
Villa Le Bocage  
1211 Genève 10

Notification to the Textiles Surveillance Body Under Article 2(1) by EGYPT

Date of notification	BTN number	Product description	Type of measure applied	Country affected	Levels of imports affected		Effective date of entry	Expiry date	Remarks
					Quantity	Value			
24.7.1974	-	All textile products	No special restrictions on textile imports						<p>1. There are no import quotas for textiles in the general trade agreements.</p> <p>2. System of foreign trade has been described in GATT document BOP/130, which is also applicable to textiles. An extract from this document (page 4, para. 2) outlines the foreign trade policy:</p> <p>... "Thus trade is conducted on a commodity rather than on a country basis in a non-discriminatory manner and in accordance with the sole criteria of commercial considerations. Moreover, the import policy is not essentially a restrictive policy since it is primarily designed to regulate imports in such a way as to satisfy the country's needs for essential foodstuffs and other supplies on the one hand, and for raw materials, intermediate and capital goods required for development purposes on the other within the framework of the foreign exchange budget allocations and priorities."</p>