

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/91

11 July 1975

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

Original: English

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Articles 7 and 8

Bilateral Agreement Between the United States and Thailand

The Textiles Surveillance Body has received from the Government of the United States a notification of a bilateral agreement between the United States and Thailand concerning trade in textiles. This notification has been submitted to the TSB in accordance with its decision that actions taken vis-à-vis non-participants in the Arrangement should be notified.¹

The TSB, pursuant to his procedure regarding bilateral agreements, has examined the relevant documentation and is circulating the text of the agreement to participating countries in the Arrangement for their information.

¹See COM.TEX/SB/18, paragraph 3.

5 May 1975

UNITED STATES AND THAILAND AMEND
TEXTILE AGREEMENT

The United States and Thailand agreed to amend the bilateral agreement on trade in cotton textiles between the two countries by exchange of notes and letters in Bangkok on 21 April 1975. Texts of the notes and letters follow:

Note No. 1

21 April 1975

Excellency:

I have the honour to refer to the Cotton Textile Agreement between our two Governments effected by an exchange of notes dated 16 March 1972, and to recent discussions between representatives of our two Governments concerning exports of textiles from Thailand to the United States. As a result of these discussions, I propose that the Agreement be amended as provided in the following paragraphs:

(a) The following shall be added to paragraph 6 of the Agreement: "For the Third Agreement Year only, which begins 1 April 1974, exports of products in Group I shall be subject only to the aggregate limit, and the specific limits in Group I shall be considered as consultation levels. In the event that exports from Thailand to the United States are about to exceed such consultation levels during the Third Agreement Year, the Royal Thai Government may make a specific request to the Government of the United States for increases in the consultation levels. Such a request will be sympathetically considered by the United States."

(b) The following sentence shall be added to paragraph B: "In the Third Agreement Year only, if the two Governments agree that actual trade has developed in a manner which establishes that the aggregate limit will prevent exports to the United States which would otherwise occur, the United States agrees to increase the aggregate limit by two million square yards equivalent. Such increase shall be used for exports in Group I only and shall not be considered in computing any adjustments under paragraph 6 (Swing), paragraph 8 (Growth) or paragraph 9 (Carryover)."

(c) The following paragraphs shall be added to the Agreement: "19 Traditional folklore handicraft textile products, certified as such by the Royal Thai Government according to the agreed definitions, shall be excluded from the purview of this Agreement. Traditional folklore handicraft textile products are defined as those items that are uniquely and historically traditional Thai products cut, sewn or otherwise fabricated by hand in cottages, which are units of the cottage industry. A certification procedure shall be established by an administrative arrangement pursuant to paragraph 14 of this Agreement."

If the foregoing proposal is acceptable to your Government, this note and your Excellency's note of acceptance on behalf of the Royal Thai Government shall constitute an amendment of the Cotton Textile Agreement effected by exchange of notes signed 16 March 1972.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed)

Edward E. Masters
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

His Excellency
Major General Chatichai Choonhavan
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Bangkok

Note No. 2

21 April 1975

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of 21 April 1975 concerning exports of cotton textiles from Thailand to the United States which reads as follows:

(See Note No. 1)

In reply, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand accepts the proposal set forth in your note quoted above and to confirm that your note and the present note in reply constitute an amendment of the Cotton Textile Agreement between our two Governments effected by exchange of notes signed 16 March 1972 which enters into force as from 1 April 1974.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my high consideration.

(signed) Chatichai Choonhavan
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Edward E. Masters,
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. of the United States of America
Bangkok

Note No. 3

21 April 1975

Excellency:

With reference to the arrangement between the United States of America and Thailand concerning trade in cotton textiles effected by an exchange of notes signed 16 March 1972, and recent discussions between representatives of our two Governments, it is the understanding of my Government that in implementing paragraph 7 of the abovementioned arrangement it is not necessary for the Royal Thai Government to divide evenly over the Agreement Year those exports which require a different pace of authorization due to seasonal factors.

It is further understood that our two Governments agree to negotiate a new bilateral agreement during the Third Agreement Year beginning 1 April 1974, or as soon thereafter as possible. The new Agreement will cover trade in cotton, wool and man-made fibre textiles in conformity with the provisions of the arrangement regarding international trade in textiles. Pending completion of such negotiations, the United States will not restrain exports of man-made fibre and wool textile products in the absence of the conditions prescribed in the arrangement regarding international trade in textiles.

I would very much appreciate it if you could confirm these understandings on behalf of your Government.

Sincerely,

(signed) Edward E. Masters
Chargé d'Affairs, a.i.

His Excellency
Major General Chatichai Choonhavan
Minister
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Bangkok

Note No. 4

21 April 1975

Chargé d'Affaires,

With reference to your letter of 21 April 1975 in which you refer to the arrangement between the United States of America and Thailand concerning trade in cotton textiles effected by an exchange of notes signed 16 March 1972, and recent discussions between representatives of our two Governments, I am pleased to confirm to you that the understandings contained in your letter under reference are acceptable to the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Sincerely,

(signed) Chatichai Choonhavan
Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Edward E. Masters,
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. of the United States of America,
Bangkok.