

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/110
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Textiles Surveillance Body

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ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Report on Status of Restrictive Measures Under Article 2, Paragraph 4

Note by the Chairman

The Textiles Surveillance Body has received from the Government of ROMANIA a report under Article 2:4 on the status of the restrictive measures originally notified by it in document COM.TEX/SB/23.

With regard to the consultations and negotiations which are in progress with a view to bringing into conformity with the Arrangement the bilateral quotas applied to imports of textiles from the EEC and Finland, the TSB expressed the hope that such negotiations would be successfully concluded as soon as practicable.

In view of the communication from the Government of Romania, the TSB concurred in an extension of the time-limit in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 2(ii) of the Arrangement. The TSB requested a report from Romania on the progress made, by 31 October 1975.

The TSB is circulating this notification to countries participating in the Arrangement for their information.

Letter No. 1

Geneva, 21 April 1975

Sir,

With reference to your letter of 27 March concerning reports under Article 2, paragraph 4 of the Arrangement regarding International Trade in Textiles, I have the honour, on the instructions of the Romanian authorities, to communicate the following:

As already notified to the Textiles Surveillance Body (document COM.TEX/SB/23), Romania does not make use of quantitative import restrictions as instruments of trade policy. The bilateral import quotas notified by Romania in 1974 reflected the situation as set forth in the quota lists annexed to bilateral agreements concluded between Romania and certain countries parties to the Arrangement, established as a result of the quantitative restrictions imposed by those countries on exports from Romania. Romania is prepared to eliminate these quotas on imports of textiles as soon as the countries which apply restrictions on Romanian exports decide to eliminate them.

The bilateral trade agreements concluded by Romania with Austria and Spain provided for a reciprocal elimination of bilateral quotas in their mutual trade for all products including textiles.

As regards other countries - Benelux, Denmark, Finland, France, Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, United Kingdom and Sweden - which unilaterally apply quantitative restrictions on Romanian exports after 1 January 1975, Romania is still applying import quotas for the headings and in the amounts already notified.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) Mircea Petrescou
Minister-Counsellor

Letter No. 2

Geneva, 17 June 1975

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Romania at Geneva presents its compliments to the Textiles Surveillance Body and has the honour to communicate the following:

1. Consultations and negotiations are proceeding with the Commission of the European Economic Community with a view to bringing the bilateral quotas into conformity with the provisions of the Arrangement regarding International Trade in Textiles.

2. On the occasion of meetings of the joint Romanian-Finnish Committee, in October 1974 and January 1975, Romania proposed to Finland that negotiations be initiated on the basis of the Textiles Arrangement with a view to regulating the question of bilateral quotas in textile trade.

The two parties are in contact in order to find an acceptable solution.

3. The notification by Romania concerning quotas on imports of textiles from Sweden is no longer valid, since Romania does not apply quotas on textiles imports from Sweden, but the "pro memoria" system. Furthermore, Sweden has not exported any textiles to Romania and the notification by the latter concerning Sweden in 1974 was not included in the TSB document COM.TEX/SB/23.

4. Romania expects the countries which since 31 March of this year have applied quotas on textile imports from Romania (namely, the EEC countries, Sweden, Finland and Norway) to take immediate action with a view to regulating bilateral trade in textiles consistently with the provisions of the Textiles Arrangement.

The above elements are to be considered as supplementary information to the notification addressed by Romania to the TSB in accordance with the provisions of Article 2:2(ii) of the Textiles Arrangement.

The Permanent Mission of the Socialist Republic of Romania takes this opportunity to express to the Textiles Surveillance Body the renewed assurances of its highest consideration.