

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/134
26 November 1975

Special Distribution

REPORT OF THE THIRTEENTH MEETING

1. The TSB held its thirteenth meeting of 1975¹ on 22 and 23 October. The report of the twelfth meeting was approved and has been circulated (COM.TEX/SB/131).
2. The TSB had previously received two notifications from the European Economic Community concerning measures taken by the Community under Article 3:6 of the Arrangement with respect to imports of certain textile items from the Republic of Korea. The TSB was requested by the EEC to defer its consideration of these measures pending the outcome of the bilateral negotiations which are in progress between the two parties. The Republic of Korea acquiesced in the EEC's request and agreed that the TSB's examination should be deferred for a reasonable time pending further bilateral negotiations. Taking into account that both parties were in agreement on the question of the deferral, the TSB concurred.
3. The TSB reviewed a notification by Sweden of an agreement under Article 4 with the Republic of Korea. It was agreed that this should be circulated for information. This has been done in COM.TEX/SB/133. The TSB took note of the statement by Sweden that paragraph 9 of this agreement and similar texts in other bilateral agreements would be applied consistently with the provisions of the Arrangement.
4. At Sweden's request, the TSB heard a general statement by a Swedish representative on Sweden's textile policy. The TSB will revert to certain matters arising from this statement at a later meeting.
5. The TSB examined an agreement under Article 4 between Norway and the Republic of Korea and agreed that it should be circulated to participating countries for information. This has been done in document COM.TEX/SB/132. The TSB noted that the quotas agreed had been designated in terms of value rather than of quantity. The TSB further observed that due to price and currency fluctuations the denomination of quotas in value terms is unsatisfactory as a benchmark in measuring the evolution of trade. The TSB took the opportunity to draw attention to the requirements of Article 5 of the MFA and to its own earlier request that normal commercial usage in

¹Twenty-seventh meeting.

such matters as the denomination of quantitative units should be respected. The TSB also drew attention to the desirability of a clear distinction between general trade agreements and agreements on textiles based on the MFA.

6. It was agreed that the next meeting of the TSB should be held on 10 and 11 November 1975.