

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/779

28 July 1982

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE FOURTH MEETING (1982)¹

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its fourth meeting of 1982 on 24-25 June.
2. This was the last meeting to be held under the chairmanship of Ambassador Paul Wurth. At the end of the meeting members thanked Mr. Wurth and paid tribute to his skilled chairmanship during the eight years of the Body's existence.
3. Present² at this meeting were the following members and/or² alternates: Messrs. Beck²/Scheele, Delgado/Santos-Neves², El Gowhari/Bajwa², Haron, Hyun, Sato and Shepherd.
4. The draft report of the third meeting was adopted and has been circulated to participants as COM.TEX/SB/774.

The following subjects were discussed:

(a) General

5. In the light of the provisions of the MFA as extended by the 1981 Protocol, the TSB had a general discussion concerning information to be supplied to it by parties to Article 4 bilateral agreements for the purpose of its review of such agreements. The TSB decided to revert to this matter at a future meeting.

(b) United States/Pakistan

6. The TSB reverted to its discussion of two notifications received from the United States. The first concerned an amendment to its Article 4 bilateral agreement with Pakistan on cotton products concluded under MFA II, curtailing the last agreement period to end on 31 December 1981 instead of 30 June 1982. The second was of a new Article 4 bilateral agreement on cotton products, concluded under the 1981 Protocol of Extension and valid from 1 January 1982 to 31 December 1986. The TSB agreed to transmit these notifications to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/775 and 776).

¹Hundred and thirty fourth meeting overall

²Part attendance

(c) United States/Brazil

7. The TSB reviewed a notification received from the United States concerning a new Article 4 agreement with Brazil valid from 1 April 1982 until 31 March 1985.

8. The new agreement covers cotton and man-made fibre products and replaces an earlier restraint agreement on cotton and consultation agreement on man-made fibres. The aggregate level for all products covered by the new agreement is 7 per cent greater than that under the previous cotton agreement. Within this aggregate thirteen previous specific limits have been removed, and base levels for the three cotton textile categories still under restraint have been increased by 14 per cent in two cases and 56 per cent in one case.

9. The TSB noted that different consultation procedures had been established for cotton products on the one hand and man-made fibre categories on the other. Designated consultation levels for a number of cotton categories previously under specific restraint were lower than the former restraint levels. The TSB understood that if any new specific restraints were to be established on these cotton categories by the use of the relevant consultation procedures the provisions of Article 4 of the MFA and paragraphs 7 and 8 of the 1981 Protocol of Extension should be fully observed.

10. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/777).

(d) EEC/Turkey

11. The TSB received a notification from the European Communities concerning a number of temporary restrictions (ranging from less than two months to almost eight months), on imports of textiles from Turkey into certain regions of the Community, taken under the provisions of Article 60 of the Additional Protocol to the EEC/Turkey Association Agreement, rather than under the MFA. The TSB recalled that both parties concerned were MFA participants.

12. In this situation, the TSB felt that it could not address itself to the conformity with the provisions of the Arrangement as extended by the 1981 Protocol of measures taken outside the framework of the MFA. The TSB, however, called the attention of both parties to the provisions of paragraph 23 of the 1981 Protocol of Extension. The TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee under Article 7 of the MFA for its information (COM.TEX/SB/778).