

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/790
10 November 1982

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE SIXTH MEETING (1982)^{1/}

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its sixth meeting of 1982 on 27-29 September.
2. Present at this meeting were the following members and/or alternates: Messrs. Beck^{2/}, Delgado, El Gowhari^{2/}, Haron/Angpiroj^{2/}, Hyun/Chau^{2/}, Pullinen^{2/}, Sato, Shepherd.
3. The draft report of the fifth meeting, held in July, had been approved by members and is contained in COM.TEX/SB/783.
4. The following subjects were discussed:

United States/Indonesia (Article 3:5)

5. The TSB received a notification from the United States of measures taken under Article 3:5, pending further consultations, to limit imports of Categories 340 (cotton shirts) and 347/348 (cotton trousers) for the period 28 May 1982-27 May 1983.
6. The TSB was also informed that, as a result of the further consultations, an Article 4 agreement had been reached between the parties. This agreement superseded the Article 3 action. It was, therefore, agreed to consider this new agreement and the Article 3 measures together, on receipt of the Article 4 notification.

EEC/Indonesia (Article 4)

7. The TSB received a notification from the EEC of a number of modifications to its bilateral agreement with Indonesia, in which new agreed limits had been introduced on exports of Categories 6 (trousers), 7 (blouses) and 8 (shirts) on a Community-wide basis, with specified limits for each region of the Community, for the year 1982.

^{1/} Hundred and thirty-sixth meeting overall

^{2/} Part-attendance

8. The TSB agreed to defer consideration of this notification to its next meeting, pending the receipt of certain statistical information from the EEC Commission concerning trade in these products.

Austria/Philippines (Article 4)

9. The TSB received a notification from Austria concerning a new Article 4 agreement with the Philippines, valid for one year from 1 August 1982 to 31 July 1983 and introducing restraints on exports of blouses and shirts.

10. Following discussion, it was agreed to revert to this agreement at the next meeting, following consultations by the Chairman with the two parties in order to clarify certain aspects of the agreement.

United States/Singapore (Article 4)

11. The TSB reviewed a notification received from the United States, concerning increases in the consultation levels for three categories (341, cotton blouses; 613, woven fabrics of non-continuous mmf; 641, mmf blouses) for the year 1982. It was agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/784)

Finland/Hong Kong (Article 4)

12. The TSB received two notifications from Finland concerning its bilateral agreements with Hong Kong. The first was of an amendment to the agreement concluded in 1980, under the 1977 Protocol of Extension, introducing a new restraint on exports of woven blouses of cotton or man-made fibres for the period 1 August 1981-31 July 1982. The second was of a new agreement, valid from 1 August 1982 to 31 July 1984, containing restraints on exports of underpants and briefs, shirts and blouses, and brassières, and maintaining an export authorization system with respect to infants' briefs, cotton, wool and man-made fibre sweaters and T-shirts, woven peaked caps, and ties of man-made fibres. The TSB took note of supplementary information made available on imports of the products under restraint into Finland. It was agreed to transmit these two notifications to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/785 and 786)

United States/Sri Lanka (Article 4; Article 8:4)

13. The TSB reviewed two notifications received from the United States concerning, firstly, an amendment to its Article 4 bilateral agreement with Sri Lanka, introducing sub-limits for categories 340, 341, 640 and 641 (woven shirts and blouses of cotton and man-made fibres); and secondly, an amendment to the export visa system in force between Sri Lanka and the United States, notified to the Body under Article 8:4 of the Arrangement. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit these two notifications to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/787 and 788)

United States/People's Republic of China (Article 7 and/or 8)

14. The TSB took note of a notification from the United States of an amendment to its bilateral agreement with the People's Republic of China, a non-participant in the Arrangement. This amendment concerned the establishment of a new limit for the period 19 January-31 December 1982 for a new merged cotton fabric category. The TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee for its information, in accordance with the request made by the Textiles Committee that agreements concluded with, or action taken against non-participants should be notified.
(COM.TEX/SB/789)

Switzerland/Hong Kong (Article 7)

15. The TSB received from Switzerland a notification made under the provisions of Article 7 of the Arrangement, concerning the extension of the Memorandum of Understanding and administrative arrangement regarding trade in textiles between Hong Kong and Switzerland. Pending further clarification of the period of extension of these arrangements, the TSB agreed to revert to this question at its next meeting.

Article 11 notifications

16. The TSB took note that replies had been received to the Chairman's request for information on all restrictions maintained by participating countries on textile and clothing products (COM.TEX/SB/783, paragraph 10) from the following participants: Switzerland, Finland, Austria, EEC, Sri Lanka and Singapore. The TSB agreed that information on such restrictions and any observations thereon would be included in its Annual Report to the Textiles Committee. The Body recalled that information had been requested by 30 September 1982 and urged all participants which had not yet done so to submit such information as soon as possible.

Other business

17. The Chairman informed the TSB that he had been invited by Ambassador Jaramillo, Chairman of a Workshop of developing countries exporting textiles, to address said workshop which had taken place at the end of August. The Chairman of the TSB had then spoken on the rôle of the Body and received a suggestion on the format and timing of the TSB's meetings that he transmitted to the members with the request that they reflect on it, for future discussion.