

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/810
10 December 1982

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

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

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its eighth meeting of 1982 on 8-10 November.
2. Present at this meeting were the following members and/or alternates: Messrs. Beck/Keck^{2/}, Delgado, Hyun/Chau^{2/}, Haron, Sato and Shepherd.
3. The report of the seventh meeting was read and adopted, and is contained in COM.TEX/SB/801.
4. The following subjects were discussed:-

Annual Report of the TSB to the Textiles Committee

5. The TSB had a first discussion of the text of its annual report to the Textiles Committee. It was agreed to include in the report any agreements, measures or amendments reviewed up to and including this meeting. The final text of the report is to be forwarded to the Textiles Committee for its meeting in mid-December.

Article 4 notifications

United States/Hong Kong

6. The TSB continued its review of a new bilateral agreement concluded, under Article 4 of the Arrangement, between the United States and Hong Kong, and agreed to revert to this subject again at its next meeting.

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

^{2/} Part-attendance

United States/Singapore

7. The TSB reviewed four notifications from the United States of amendments to its bilateral agreement with Singapore concerning:

- (a) the addition of four categories (353, 354, 653 and 654) relating to down and feather filled apparel, to the coverage of the bilateral agreement;
- (b) the establishment of a new specific limit for category 320 (other cotton fabrics);
- (c) an increase in the consultation level for category 319 (cotton duck);
- (d) an increase in the consultation level for category 341 (cotton blouses).

8. In respect of the first of these amendments, the TSB noted that the product coverage of the agreement was thereby brought into line with the new US categorization system, in which the products concerned are now classified as apparel meeting the criteria of Article 12:1 of the MFA, and that the categories in question would be subject to the consultation provisions of the bilateral agreement.

9. The TSB agreed to transmit these notifications to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/802).

Austria/Korea

10. The TSB began an examination of a new agreement concluded under Article 4 of the MFA between Austria and Korea, valid from 1 August 1982 to 31 December 1986. Some clarification of certain elements in this agreement was requested from the two parties concerned. The TSB agreed to revert to this notification at its next meeting.

United States/Thailand

11. The TSB received four notifications from the United States concerning amendments to its bilateral agreement with Thailand. These amendments related to:-

- (a) An increase in the consultation level for Category 345 (cotton sweaters) for the 1982 agreement year;

- (b) The creation of a new merged Category (Category 315 (print cloth) plus TSUSA Number 326.0092, previously included in Category 320), with a new specific limit, and a new designated consultation level for Category 320, for the 1982 agreement year;
 - (c) A six-month extension of the agreement to end on 30 June 1983;
 - (d) A further increase in the DCL for new Category 320.
12. In reviewing these amendments, the TSB noted that:
- (a) The growth rates established in the original agreement were applied to all specific limits included in the extension, with the exception of the new merged Category;
 - (b) The limit established for the new merged Category was below the level of trade for 1981, and was not in accord with Annex B, paragraph 1, of the Arrangement.
13. The TSB observed that the treatment given to products covered by the new merged Category with respect to Thailand appeared to be less favourable than that extended to some non-participants.
14. The TSB was informed by the United States that the question of the level for the new merged Category would, as requested by Thailand, be discussed in the course of consultations between the parties to be held in February 1983, and recommended that the two parties, in their forthcoming consultations, redress this situation.
15. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit these notifications to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/803).

EEC/Egypt

16. The TSB reviewed a notification from the EEC of a modification to its bilateral agreement with Egypt, introducing new agreed restraints on T-shirts (category 4) into France and Ireland for the 1982 agreement year. It was agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/804).

EEC/Korea

17. The TSB received a notification from the EEC of three modifications to its bilateral agreement with Korea, introducing new agreed restraints on categories 13 (briefs) into the Community, 74 (women's knitted suits) into the United Kingdom and Ireland, and 80 (babies' wear) into the United Kingdom for 1982.

18. In reviewing this notification, the TSB noted that the level established for one category may have been below that of the relevant MFA reference period, but that levels for the other two were higher.

19. The TSB agreed to circulate this notification to the Textiles Committee for information (COM.TEX/SB/805).

EEC/Macao

20. The EEC reviewed a notification from the EEC of a modification to its bilateral agreement with Macao introducing new agreed restraints on category 74 into the United Kingdom and Ireland. It was agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/806).

Article 7 notification

EEC/Turkey

21. The TSB received a notification from the EEC concerning the suspension of imports from Turkey of Category 4 into the Community and of Category 2 into France. These measures having been taken by the Community under Article 60 of the Additional Protocol to the EEC/Turkey Association Agreement, the TSB felt that it could not address itself to their conformity with the MFA.

22. The TSB noted that the remarks contained in paragraphs 11 and 12 of COM.TEX/SB/779, addressed to previous measures similarly taken under the Association Agreement, were also applicable in this case.

23. The TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee under Article 7 of the MFA, for information. (COM.TEX/SB/807).

Articles 7 and 8 notification

United States/Haiti

24. The TSB received a notification from the United States concerning a new bilateral agreement with Haiti, valid from 1 March 1982 to 29 February 1984, replacing the previous agreement under Article 4 of the Arrangement. Haiti, which was a participant in the Arrangement as extended by the 1977 Protocol, has not yet acceded to the 1981 Protocol. The TSB agreed to transmit this agreement to the Textiles Committee, bearing in mind the Committee's request that actions taken vis-à-vis non-participants should be notified (COM.TEX/SB/808).

Article 11 notifications

25. The TSB took note of replies received from Romania, India, Hong Kong and the United States to the Chairman's request for information on all restrictions maintained by participants on textile and clothing products (COM.TEX/SB/773, paragraph 10). It was agreed to transmit all replies received to date to the Textiles Committee in COM.TEX/SB/809 and Addenda, and to include in the Annual Report all replies received up to 29 November 1982.

26. The TSB has not reviewed any of the Article 11 notifications received, since a number of MFA participants have not yet responded to the Chairman's request. The TSB has therefore agreed to revert to the review of these notifications when a larger number of replies are available. Participants are therefore urged to expedite their submissions.