

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE NINETEENTH MEETING (1983)¹

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its nineteenth meeting of 1983 on 16-18 November.
2. Present at this meeting were the following members and/or alternates: Messrs. Bajwa, Chau, Delgado/Patriota, Keck/Richardson, Yittisataporn/Bondad, Sato, Shepherd and Westlund.
3. The report of the eighteenth meeting was adopted and has been circulated as COM.TEX/SB/903.
4. The following points were discussed:

Article 4 notifications

United States/Philippines

5. The TSB continued its review of a notification from the United States of an Article 4 agreement concluded with the Philippines, valid from 1 January 1983 to 31 December 1986. This agreement contains an aggregate limit and specific limits for fifty-one products.
6. The TSB noted that, in relation to some products under restraint, the small share of the Philippines in United States imports was unlikely to pose a real risk to market disruption. On the other hand, the TSB noted the existence of positive elements in the agreement concerning increases in base-levels, growth and flexibility. After its review, the TSB decided to transmit the agreement to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/904)
7. The TSB also reviewed a modification to the above agreement, and agreed to transmit the notification to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/905)

EEC Thailand

8. The TSB received three notifications from the EEC concerning its agreements with Thailand.
9. The first contained a modification to its bilateral agreement concluded for the period 1978 to 1982. Under this modification, new agreed restraints had been introduced for the 1982 agreement year on women's knitted suits (Category 74), and other knitted outerwear (Category 83) into the United Kingdom.

¹ Hundred and fifty-ninth meeting overall

10. The second notification concerned a new agreement initialled under Article 4, in de facto application with effect from 1 January 1983 and valid until 31 December 1986.

11. The TSB heard a statement from the EEC, that the lower than 6 per cent growth rates reflected the acute and exceptional difficulties in the Community market for the products concerned.

12. The TSB did not address itself to the provisions of Articles 4 and 5 of this agreement concerning re-imports of textile products after processing and handloom and cottage industry products, respectively.

13. The third notification concerned a modification to the new agreement with Thailand, under which new regional restraints were agreed for the agreement period (1983-1986):

- on women's, girls' and infants' coats (Category 15B) and men's and boys' woven suits (Category 16) into the United Kingdom; and
- brassières (Category 31) and women's, girls' and infants' knitted suits and costumes (Category 74) into Ireland.

14. After its review the TSB agreed to transmit these notifications to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/906, 907 and 908)

EEC/Mexico

15. The TSB reviewed a new agreement initialled under Article 4 between the EEC and Mexico, in de facto application from 1 January 1983 and valid until 31 December 1986.

16. The TSB did not address itself to the provisions of Articles 4 and 5 of this agreement concerning re-imports of textile products after processing and handloom and cottage industry products, respectively.

17. After its review the TSB agreed to transmit the notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/909)

United States/Hong Kong

18. The TSB reviewed a notification from the United States of a modification to its agreement with Hong Kong. Pursuant to the consultation provisions of the agreement restraints on eight Categories were agreed by both parties, and restraints on four additional Categories were set by the United States for the 1983 agreement year.

¹ See paragraphs 22 and 23 of the report contained in COM.TEX/SB/841. General observations on Articles 8, 9 and 12 of this agreement are contained in the same report.

19. After its review the TSB agreed to transmit the notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/910)

EEC/Hong Kong

20. The TSB came back to the notification concerning the EEC/Hong Kong agreement, and after having additional information from Hong Kong, decided to pursue its review at a later date.

Articles 7 and 8 notification

Finland/China

21. The TSB took note of a notification by Finland of a new bilateral agreement with the People's Republic of China, notified under the provisions of Articles 7 and 8 of the Arrangement, pursuant to the request by the Textiles Committee that measures taken vis-à-vis non-participants should be notified. The agreement is valid from 1 January 1983 to 31 December 1986. It was agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee for its information (COM.TEX/SB/911)

Annual Report of the TSB

22. The TSB finalized the text of its Annual Report to the Textiles Committee.