

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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TEXTILES COMMITTEE

Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles

Accession under Paragraph 2 of Article 13

The following is a communication received by the Director-General from the Government of Paraguay concerning its request for accession to the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of Article 13.

I have the honour to convey to you my Government's wish to initiate appropriate action with a view to accession by the Republic of Paraguay to the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles.

Paraguay is a traditional producer and exporter of cotton and its textile industry has developed substantially in recent years. In this connexion our exports are tending to become increasingly diversified in world markets. My Government therefore accepts the Arrangement without reservation. It subscribes to the obligation mentioned in Article 13, paragraph 2, in particular as regards the undertaking not to introduce new import restrictions or intensify existing import restrictions on textile products, in so far as such action would, if it had been a contracting party, be inconsistent with its obligations.

Having regard to the fact that my country's accession to the Arrangement will be subject to ratification by our Parliament, my Government will apply it on a de facto basis as from the date of provisional accession.

Furthermore, my Government expects, as from the date of its accession to the Arrangement and for matters within the purview of that instrument, to receive treatment equivalent to that granted to other participating countries having similar economic systems and level of development.

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My Government has taken note of the provisions of Article 2, paragraph 1, of the Arrangement and, in this connexion, wishes to state that Paraguay imposes no quantitative restrictions on imports of textiles, applying only customs tariffs which are, moreover, not high. This circumstance will be formally notified at the appropriate time to the Textiles Surveillance Body.

I would appreciate your conveying this request from my Government to the Textiles Committee so that it may be examined at the next meeting of that body.