

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COT/W/14

2 December 1963

Special Distribution

## COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE

### Note on Statistics by the Secretariat

1. At its meeting in November 1962 (see document COT/M/2, paragraph 11) the Committee agreed, with reference to basic statistics, that:

- (a) three questionnaires based on the recommendations of the Statistical Sub-Committee should be sent to governments by the secretariat;
- (b) the replies received from individual governments on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis should be distributed by the secretariat as and when they are received;
- (c) the secretariat should consolidate and issue statistics on a quarterly and on an annual basis;
- (d) the statistics already supplied by governments to the secretariat in connexion with the Short-Term Arrangement should be distributed by the secretariat without delay.

The questionnaires were subsequently distributed as document COT/W/8. As can be seen from the attached summaries, not all the participating countries have responded to the questionnaires. The larger part of the information received has been transmitted only during recent weeks.

2. Up to now, most of the replies to the questionnaires have been submitted to the secretariat with a considerable time lag. Moreover, the data supplied were often incomplete and not always readily comparable between countries. For these reasons, the secretariat has not circulated to the members of the Committee the statistics received, but has kept them available to the members of the Committee for consultation in the secretariat. Similar considerations have kept the secretariat from circulating the statistics supplied under the Short-Term Arrangement which were submitted by only four countries.

3. With rather few data at hand, it has evidently not been possible for the secretariat to consolidate and issue statistics as referred to in point (c) above.

4. It is obvious that the Committee's statistical programme can only be meaningful if a large majority of the participating countries will be able to transmit regularly and without great delay most of the data requested in the questionnaires, which include what was envisaged by the Statistical Sub-Committee as essential information for the Cotton Textiles Committee to have available for the discharge of its functions (see document L/1717).

5. It appears from the replies to the questionnaires and comments made by several participating countries that certain countries have encountered difficulties in supplying some of the information requested. This has been the case in particular with respect to data on cotton clothing and certain made-up articles (other than household) of cotton, which in most national statistical compilations cannot be easily distinguished from those made of other fibres. As far as these two groups are concerned, the problem has already been considered by the Statistical Sub-Committee which - being aware that changes in the system of compilation of national statistics necessarily must take time - recommended that, as a temporary measure, figures for trade in these groups could cover all fibres. In addition, however, estimates should be furnished of the part represented by cotton. In making such estimates, the participation of national agencies which are not directly engaged in compilation of statistics might be necessary. To avoid unnecessary delays in the submission of the data currently available, the estimates might be supplied separately and less frequently.

6. Apart from difficulties encountered in connexion with the specified commodity groups, the compilation of certain parts of the statistics has been considered by some countries as requiring a very substantial amount of work, particularly in connexion with the monthly trade data requested in Questionnaire No. 1. This is obviously the case if these statistics are not produced on data processing machinery within the framework of the regular processing of national trade returns. As a certain time may be required before such a programme can be incorporated into the normal activities of the national data processing agencies, the consolidation of statistics by the secretariat mentioned under (c) in paragraph 1 above might for the time being be based on quarterly submissions. As regards the data on trade analyzed by provenance and destination, the system of reporting might be simplified by limiting the number of countries included.

7. If the Committee regards it as helpful, the secretariat could regularly send out enquiry forms with a standard lay-out, which would also serve as a reminder. It would also be useful and time-saving if the secretariat could have direct contact with the national statisticians responsible for the compilation in the participating countries, an arrangement which is already established with some participating countries. If experience shows that a major round of consultations would be needed a meeting of the Statistical Sub-Committee could be called.

8. Having regard to the Committee's needs for comprehensive and up to date documentation, all participating countries should endeavour to transmit the necessary data with the shortest possible delay. The secretariat would then be able to consolidate the data received and circulate a statistical paper to the Committee, tentatively on a quarterly basis.

Summary of Information Received (as of 27 November 1963) in Response to Questionnaires Included in Document COT/W/8 Dated 13 December 1962

Questionnaire No. 1

Participating country	Period covered	Basis	Quantity and value of imports and exports of textile products					Classes listed by provenance and destination	Remarks
			Cotton yarns	Cotton fabrics grey	Cotton fabrics other than grey	Household made-up articles of cotton	Clothing of all fibres		
Austria	Oct 62-June 63	Q	x	x	x	x		x	
Canada	Oct 62-July 63	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	Clothing in value only
European Economic Community	1962	A	x	x	x	x		x	
Hong Kong	1961 1962	A	x	x	x	x	x	x	(Household made-up articles and clothing are shown together, and in value only.
India	Oct 62-June 63 1961 1962 Oct-Dec.62	A A M	x	x	x	x	x	x	Household made-up articles and cotton clothing are shown in value only.
Japan	Oct 62-July 1963	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	Monthly figures are not analyzed by country and are in value only. Exports of all categories are not analyzed by destination.
Norway	Oct 62-Aug 63	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	Imports of household made-up articles and cotton clothing are not analyzed by provenance.
Portugal	1961 Oct-Nov.62	A M	x	x	x	x	x	x	) Exports only
Sweden	Oct 62-Aug 63	M	x	x	x	x	x	x	Imports of cotton clothing for 4 qtr. 1962 are not given. Figures supplied for household made-up articles and clothing are in value only
United Kingdom	Oct 62-June 63	Q	x	x	x	x	x	x	
United States	1961 1962 Oct 62-Aug 63	A A M	x	x	x	x	x	x	(The data marked as (received are still incomplete on the exports side, but it has been indicated that they will be forwarded at an early date. Trade figures by provenance and destination will be provided as they become available, beginning Oct.62 for exports and Sept.63 for imports.

x = received  
A = Annual, Q = Quarterly, M = Monthly

Note

The following participating countries have not sent any information in reply to Questionnaire No. 1: Australia, Colombia, Denmark, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Spain, United Arab Republic.

Summary of Information Received (as of 27 November 1963) in Response to Questionnaires  
Included in Document COT/W/8 Dated 13 December 1962

Questionnaire No.2

Participating country	Period covered	Production of cotton yarn	Production of cotton woven fabrics	Quantity and value of imports & exports of other misc. cotton fabrics & other made-up articles		Quantity & value of re-exports by country of provenance	Remarks
				Total	By prov. & dest.		
Austria	1 qtr.61 - 2 qtr.62	x	x				
EEC	1 qtr.62 - 2qtr.63	x	x				
Canada	4 qtr.62 - 3 qtr.63	x	x	x	x	x	Trade in misc. cotton goods is in value only. Re-exports are not analyzed by country of provenance and are in value only
	4 qtr.62 - 2 qtr.63						
Hong Kong	1 qtr.61 - 1 qtr.63	x	x				
India	4 qtr.62	x	x				
Japan	4 qtr.62	x	x				
Norway	4 qtr.62 - 2 qtr.63	x	x				
Sweden	4 qtr.62 - 2 qtr.63	x	x	x	x	x	Trade in misc. cotton fabrics and made-up articles in value only
United Kingdom	4 qtr.61 - 1 qtr.63	x	x	x	x		Figures for misc. cotton fabrics and made-up articles will be provided as the data become available
	3 qtr.63						
United States	4 qtr.62 - 2 qtr.63	x	x				

x = received

Note

The following participating countries have not sent any information in reply to Questionnaire No.2:  
Australia, Colombia, Denmark, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, United Arab Republic.

Summary of Information Received (as of 27 November 1963) in Response to Questionnaires  
Included in Document COT/W/8 Dated 13 December 1962

Questionnaire No. 2

Participating country	Period covered	Mill consumption of raw cotton	Consumption of cotton yarns of which			Total Consumption of cotton fabrics	Production & consumption of clothing of which		Remarks
			Total	Cotton weaving	Knitting industry		Carpet industry	Total	
Austria	1961, 1962	x	x	x	x	x			
Canada	1962	x	x	x		x			
European Economic Community	1960-1962	x				x			
India	1962	x				x			
Japan	1962	x		x		x			
Norway	1962	x		x		x			
Sweden	1962	x		x		x			
United Kingdom	1962	x	x	x	x	x		x	Consumers' expenditure on clothing
United States	1961, 1962	x				x			

x = received

Note

The following participating countries have not sent any information in reply to Questionnaire No. 2:  
Australia, Colombia, Denmark, Hong Kong, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Portugal, Spain, United Arab Republic.