

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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AUSTRALIA - ARTICLE XIX NOTIFICATION

Action in respect of Knitted and Woven Dresses

The following communication dated 15 June 1976 has been received from the Permanent Mission of Australia.

The Australian Government wishes to advise the Contracting Parties, in accordance with Article XIX of the GATT, that it has decided to introduce increased duties on some imports of the following items of apparel:

- (a) ex Australian tariff item 60.05 - dresses containing wool, silk or man-made fibres
- (b) ex 61.02 - dresses containing wool and exceeding 56 cm. in length (except for dresses for infants in arms, parts and fabric shaped for making garments).

Imports of all categories of knitted and woven dresses falling within tariff items 60.05 and 61.02 (including those notified above) at levels of up to 3.5 million garments per year (compared with an import of 1.3 million in 1972/73, 3.6 million in 1973/74 and 3.5 million in 1974/75) will be admitted at pre-existing rates of duty. Imports in excess of 3.5 million garments per year will incur additional duties of \$A 14 per kg. The new duty arrangements will apply to import clearances on and after 1 July 1976.

These arrangements involve the temporary suspension in part of bound tariff rates in order to remove the threat of serious injury to domestic producers caused by increasing levels of imports.

The measures now announced were recommended by the Textiles Authority within the Australian Industries Assistance Commission following a public inquiry at which evidence was presented by all interested parties.

The new duty arrangements are short-term measures of assistance to the local industry pending the expected receipt towards the end of 1976 of a report by the Industries Assistance Commission on the long-term protective needs of the Australian clothing industry.

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