

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/915
30 January 1984

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING (1983)¹

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its twentieth meeting of 1983 on 29 November to 1 December.
2. Present at this meeting were the following members and/or alternates: Messrs. Delgado/Patriota, Hyun, Keck/Richardson, Kittisataporn, Sato, Shepherd and Westlund.
3. The report of the nineteenth meeting was adopted and has been circulated in COM.TEX/SB/912.
4. The following points were discussed:

Article 4 notifications

United States/Sri Lanka

5. The TSB received a notification from the United States of a new Article 4 agreement with Sri Lanka valid for the period 1 May 1983 to 31 May 1988.
6. In this agreement:
 - (a) all previous restraints on individual categories were maintained; the limit on combined Category 340/1/640/1 (shirts and blouses of cotton and man-made fibre) was removed;
 - (b) new restraints on five man-made fibre categories were introduced (gloves, sweaters, men's and boys' outer coats, women's, girls' and infants' coats, women's, girls' and infants' trousers);
 - (c) increases in base-levels of previously restrained cotton categories were 7 per cent and 1 per cent for the wool category;
 - (d) increases in base-levels for newly restrained categories ranged between 29.2 and 77.3 per cent, with 27.4 per cent for one sub-limit;
 - (e) growth within the agreement was at 6 per cent for all cotton and man-made fibre categories and 1 per cent for the wool category;

¹Hundred and sixtieth meeting overall

- (f) swing at 6 per cent was provided for all categories, except 5 per cent for the wool category;
- (g) carryover and carry forward were provided at 11/6 per cent.

7. The TSB noted that the removal of the limit on the combined category 340/1/640/1 resulted in the replacement of shift possibilities of 10 per cent between the sub-limits, by the swing provision. It also noted that growth and swing provisions for the cotton and man-made fibre categories were lower than in the previous agreement.

8. The TSB found the agreement on overall terms to be in conformity with the provisions of Article 4, and agreed to transmit the notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/913).

United States/Korea

9. The TSB reviewed a notification by the United States of a modification to its agreement with Korea. Pursuant to the consultation provisions of the agreement nineteen new restraints were agreed by both parties for the 1983 agreement year.

10. The TSB heard a statement by Korea expressing concern over the frequency of consultation requests. The TSB noted that, as a result of these consultations, the number of specific limits in force in 1983 have increased from thirty-two to fifty-one.

11. The TSB considered that importing countries should, when there is a need for such consultation requests, give full consideration to the implications on the trade and individual lines of production of the exporting country concerned (Articles 1:2 and 4:2 of the Arrangement).

12. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit the notification to the Textiles Committee (COM.TEX/SB/914).

Sweden/Brazil, EEC/Brazil

13. The TSB began its review of notifications concerning bilateral agreements concluded between Sweden and Brazil and between the EEC and Brazil.

Article 11 notification

14. The TSB took note of a notification received from Czechoslovakia, in reply to the Chairman's letter requesting information, pursuant to Article 11 of the Arrangement¹, that Czechoslovakia maintains no restrictions on textile imports, or any other quantitative measures which have a restrictive effect, and that it maintains no bilateral agreements designed to restrict textile imports. The notification is circulated to the Textiles Committee in COM.TEX/SB/899/Add.23.

¹COM.TEX/SB/859, paragraph 17