RESTRICTED COM.TEX/SB/1077<sup>\*</sup> 28 June 1985 Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

# ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

# Notification under Article 4:4

# Bilateral Agreement between Norway and Romania

The Textiles Surveillance Body has received a notification from Norway of a bilateral agreement with Romania, concluded under Article 4 of the MFA, valid for the period 1 July 1984 to 31 December 1987.

The agreement has replaced a number of bilateral quotas and restrictions under Article XIX of GATT, previously maintained by Norway.

The TSB, pursuant to its procedures regarding bilateral agreements notified under Article 4<sup>2</sup>, has examined the relevant documentation and is forwarding the text of the notification to participating countries for their information.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>In its notification under Article 2:1, Norway had informed the TSB that an agreement with Romania had been concluded under the Arrangement as extended by the 1981 Protocol (COM.TEX/SB/1007)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>See COM.TEX/SB/35, Annex B

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>For the TSB's observations on this notification, see COM.TEX/SB/1079 \*English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

# AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY AND GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA RELATING TO THE EXPORTS FROM ROMANIA OF CERTAIN TEXTILE PRODUCTS FOR IMPORTS INTO NORWAY

1. This Agreement sets out the arrangements that have been made between the Government of the Kingdom of Norway and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania regarding the exports of certain textile products from Romania for imports into Norway.

2. These arrangements have been made having regard to the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (hereinafter referred to as "the MFA") as extended by the Protocol of 22 December 1981, bearing in mind particularly the provisions of Article 1:2, and Article 4 of the MFA and Romania's status as a developing country.

#### Coverage

3. These arrangements apply to Romania's export to Norway of the textile products listed in Annex A to this Agreement, when these are made of cotton, wool, man-made fibres, or blend thereof, in which any, or all of those fibres in combination represent either the chief value of the fibres or 50 per cent or more by weight (or 17 per cent or more by weight of wool) of the product.

# Classification

4. For the purpose of classifying textile products in the appropriate category, the definitions set out in Annex A will apply.

5. In case of divergent opinions at the point of entry into Norway on the classification of products covered by this Agreement, consultations as provided for in Article 15 of this Agreement shall be held with a view to reaching agreement on the appropriate classification of the products concerned and to resolving any difficulties arising therefrom. For this purpose, the Government of Romania shall be immediately informed by the Government of Norway when a case of divergent opinions on the classification of products arises.

Pending agreement on the appropriate classification and in order to avoid disruption of trade, the products in question shall be imported on the basis of the preliminary classification indicated by the competent Norwegian authorities at the point of entry, in conformity with the provisions of this Agreement.

# Levels

6. For products listed in Annex B to this Agreement, the Government of Romania will for each period during the term of this Agreement authorize its exports to Norway up to the levels set out in Annex B, or the levels modified as provided for in various articles of this Agreement.

#### Flexibility provisions

7. Any specific level set out in Annex B may, after notification to and statistical verification by the competent Norwegian authorities be exceeded in either year of any two subsequent agreement years by carry forward and/or carryover. Carry forward and carryover taken together shall not exceed 6.5 per cent, of which carry forward shall not represent more than 3.5 per cent.

The statistical verification referred to above shall be completed as soon as possible and not later than ten working days from the date of the receipt of the notification.

## Products covered by the Agreement without specific levels

8. Imports of textile products covered by this Agreement which are not subject to specific levels shall be subject to a system of automatic import licensing.

When import licences of a product listed in Annex A not subject to specific levels have been issued up to a level corresponding to 1.5 per cent of the preceding year's total imports into Norway of that product (excepting the Categories 1, 2 and 7, for which this percentage level will be of 0.5 per cent), and its imports causes or threatens to cause market disruption as defined in Annex A of the MFA, the Norwegian Government may request consultations with a view to reaching an agreement on an appropriate specific level for the product concerned.

Pending a mutually acceptable solution through this consultation, the Norwegian Government may fix a quantitative limit at an annual level not lower than the volume reached by imports from Romania of the product in question in the twelve-month period preceding notification of the request for consultations. In such a case the annual growth rate shall not be less than 2 per cent. Goods shipped from Romania before receipt by the Romanian Government of the request for consultations will be admitted into Norway.

# Administration

9. Exports from Romania to Norway of textile products listed in Annex B shall be subject to a double-checking system of export and import licensing as specifed in Annex C of the Agreement.

#### Circumvention

10. The Government of Norway and the Government of Romania agree to co-operate fully in dealing with problems relating to circumvention of the arrangements set out in this Agreement.

When information available to the Norwegian authorities indicates that products of Romanian origin listed in Annex B to this Agreement have been imported into Norway by trans-shipment, rerouting or otherwise, in circumvention of the arrangements set out in this Agreement, the Government of Norway may ask for consultations as provided for in Article 15 of this Agreement, with a view to agree on an appropriate adjustment of the quantitative limits for the products concerned.

If the parties fail to reach a mutually satisfactory solution within a period of fifty-one days from the date when the request for consultations was made, the Norwegian Government shall, if evidence of circumvention has been provided, have the right to carry out a compensatory reduction of the corresponding specific level, for the current or the following Agreement year.

# Seasonal fluctuations

11. The Government of Romania will endeavour to ensure that exports of textile products subject to specific quantitative levels are spaced out as evenly as possible each Agreement year, due account being taken of normal seasonal factors.

# Rules of origin

12. The origin of the products covered by this Agreement shall be determined in accordance with the rules in force in Norway and the procedures for control of the origin of the products set out in Annex C.

#### Re-exports

13. Exports from Romania to Norway of textile products covered by this Agreement shall not be subject to the specific levels established in Annex B, provided that the export licence certifies that the products concerned are for re-export outside Norway.

Where the competent Norwegian authorities have evidence that products exported from Romania and set off by Romania against a specific level established in Annex B have been subsequently re-exported outside Norway, the Norwegian Government shall notify the Government of Romania of the quantities involved. Upon receipt of such notification, the Government of Romania may authorize exports for the current agreement year of identical quantities of products within the same category, which shall not be set off against the quantitative limits established in Annex B.

#### Exchange of statistics

14. For all products covered by this Agreement the Government of Romania will provide the Government of Norway with quarterly statistics of all export licences issued by the authorities for each category for the current agreement year.

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The Government of Norway will provide the Government of Romania with quarterly statistics of total imports and licences issued for imports from Romania of all categories covered by this Agreement.

Each report shall be transmitted before the end of the month following the quarter covered by the report.

Both parties agree to supply promptly any other pertinent and readily available statistical information requested by the other party.

#### Consultations

15. The Government of Norway and the Government of Romania agree to consult at the request of either government, on any question arising in the application of this Agreement.

Any request for consultations shall be notified in writing to the other party, together with a statement explaining the reason and circumstances that led to the request.

The parties shall enter into consultations within thirty days at the latest from when the request was made, with a view to arriving at a mutually satisfactory conclusion in conformity with the provisions of the MFA within a further thirty days at the latest.

#### Other textile products

16. Both parties reserve their rights under the MFA with respect to textile products not covered by this Agreement.

#### General

17. The present Agreement shall enter into force when the parties have notified each other that all internal procedures which are necessary for the fulfilment of the obligations in the Agreement have been completed.

Provided that such notifications have taken place, the Agreement shall apply with effect from 1 July 1984 to 31 December 1987 unless this is changed by application of the provisions of Article 18 of this Agreement.

18. Either party may at any time propose modifications to this Agreement. Such proposals shall lead to consultations in accordance with the procedures outlined in Article 15.

Either party may at any time denounce this Agreement provided that at least ninety days' notice is given. In that event the Agreement shall come to an end on the expiry of the period of notice.

19. The Annexes to this Agreement shall be considered as an integral part thereof.

Done in two originals at Bucharest on 10 October 1984 in the Norwegian, Romanian and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic. In case of any differenct in interpretation, the English one is text of reference.

For the Government of the Kingdom of Norway For the Government of the Socialist Republic of Romania

# ANNEX A

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Category <u>Number</u>	Description
1	Outer garments of woven material, men's, boys', women's, girls':
	- Jackets: tailored jackets, blazers, waistcoats, sports jackets (including parts of ski suits), anoraks and similar garments, parkas, one-piece suits and the like, also as parts of suits, sets and costumes.
2	Outer garments of woven material, men's, boys', women's, girls':
	- Trousers, slacks, jeans, breeches and the like (including bib and brace overalls), other than swimwear and shorts, also as parts of suits and sets.
3	Knitted or crocheted shirts, T-shirts and blouses of all kinds.
4	Knitted or crocheted undergarments, men's, boys', women's, girls', infants'; other than T-shirts, blouses, nightwear and panty hose.
5	Men's and boys' shirts of all kinds, of woven material.
6	Outer garments and other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized: pullovers, sweaters, jumpers, cardigans and jackets.
7	Bed linen
8	Outer garments of woven material, women's, girls': blouses, shirts and the like.
9	Stockings, under stockings, socks, ankle socks, sockettes and the like, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized, except women's stockings, sport stockings and thick woollen socks (known as "raggsokker").
10	Women's and girls' outer garments of woven material: dresses, housecoats, frocks and gowns.
11	Outer garments of woven material, women's, girls': skirts, including divided skirts.

Category <u>Number</u>	Description
12	Costumes, dresses, suits, skirts and trousers, knitted or crocheted (incl. track suits).
13	Gloves, mittens and mitts of textile material, not knitted or crocheted.
14	Outer garments of woven material for infants.
15	Men's, boys', women's and girls' outer garments of woven material:
	- Ulsters, overcoats, capes and coats (except those impregnated or coated with oil, varnish, rubber, artificial plastic materials and the like).
16	Undergarments, knitted or crocheted - panty hose
17	Gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized.
18	Nightwear, knitted or crocheted.
19	Gaiters and spats (short or long ones) of textile materials.
21	Undergarments of woven material, women's and girls' wear (except nightwear).
25	Table linen containing cotton or discontinous man-made fibre.

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ANNEX B

#### ANNEX C

#### ADMINISTRATIVE CO-OPERATION

1. Products originating in Romania for export to Norway in accordance with the arrangements established by this Agreement shall be accompanied by a certificate of Romanian origin conforming to the specimen attached as Annex D, including full and detailed description of the goods.

The certificate of Romanian origin shall be issued by the Ministry of Light Industry of the Socialist Republic of Romania.

2. The competent authorities of Romania shall issue an export licence in respect of all consignments from Romania for exports to Norway of products covered by Annex B. The export licence shall conform to the specimen attached as Annex E.

3. For products covered by Annex B, the competent authorities of Romania shall issue export licences up to the specific levels agreed through this Agreement (as may be modified as provided for by this Agreement). The export licence must certify that the quantity of the product in question has been set off against the specific levels prescribed for the category of the product in question.

4. Each export licence shall cover only one of the categories of products listed in Annex B to this Agreement. It may be used for one or more consignments of the products in question.

5. Exports shall be set off against the specific levels established for the year in which shipment of the goods has been effected.

6. The presentation of an export licence, in application of paragraph 7 below, shall be effected not later than 15 August of the agreement year following that in which the goods covered by the export licence have been shipped.

7. Importation into Norway of textile products subject to specific levels shall be subject to the presentation of an import licence.

The competent Norwegian authorities shall issue such import licence automatically and not later than ten working days of the presentation by the importer of the original of the corresponding export licence.

8. The competent Norwegian authorities must be notified forthwith of the withdrawal or alteration of any export licence already issued.

The competent Norwegian authorities shall cancel the already issued import licences if the corresponding export licence has been withdrawn.

However, if the competent Norwegian authorities have not been notified about the withdrawal or cancellation of the export licence until after the products have been imported into Norway, the quantities involved shall be set off against the specific levels for the category and agreement year in question, and the competent authorities of Romania shall be informed as soon as possible.

9. If the competent Norwegian authorities find that the total quantities covered by export certificates issued by the competent authorities of Romania for a particular category in any agreement year exceed the specific level established for that category, the said authorities may suspend the further issue of import licences.

In this event, the competent Norwegian authorities shall immediately inform the competent Romanian authorities and the special consultation procedure set out in paragraph 15 of the Agreement shall be initiated forthwith.

10. Exports of products of Romanian origin referred to in Annex B not covered by export licences issued by the competent Romanian authorities in accordance with the provisions of this Annex may be refused the issue of import licence by the competent Norwegian authorities.

11. The export licence and the certificate of Romanian origin may comprise additional copies duly indicated as such. They shall be made out in English. If they are completed by hand, entries must be in ink and in printscript.

Only the original, clearly marked "original" shall be accepted by the competent authorities in Norway as being valid for the purposes of export to Norway in accordance with the arrangements established by this Agreement.

12. Each export licence and certificate of Romanian origin shall bear a serial number, by which it can be identified and shall contain the information provided in Annex E (export licence) and respectively Annex D (certificate of origin). Annexes E and D should be properly completed.

13. In the event of theft, loss or destruction of an export licence or a certificate of Romanian origin, the exporter may apply to the competent governmental authority which issued the respective documents for a duplicate to be made out on the basis of the export documents in his possession. The duplicate of any such certificate or licence so issued shall bear the endorsement "duplicate".

The duplicate must bear the date of the original export licence or certificate of Romanian origin.

14. The Government of Romania shall send the Government of Norway the names and addresses of the governmental authorities competent for the issue and verification of export licences and certificates of Romanian origin together with specimens of the signatures of the authorized persions for the issue of these documents and the specimens of the stamps used by these authorities. The Government of Romania shall also notify the Government of Norway of any change in this information.

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