

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/1097*
7 October 1985

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Article 4:4

Bilateral Agreement between Norway and Singapore

The Textiles Surveillance Body has received a notification from Norway of a bilateral agreement with Singapore, concluded under Article 4 of the MFA, valid for the period 1 July 1984 to 30 June 1988.¹

The TSB, pursuant to its procedures regarding bilateral agreements notified under Article 4², has examined the relevant documentation and is forwarding the text of the notification to participating countries for their information.³

¹In its notification under Article 2:1 (COM.TEX/SB/1007), Norway had informed the TSB that it had concluded an agreement with Singapore under the 1981 Protocol of Extension.

²See COM.TEX/SB/35, Annex B.

³For the TSB's observations on this notification, see COM.TEX/SB/1104.

* English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF NORWAY
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE
RELATING TO THE EXPORTS FROM SINGAPORE OF CERTAIN
TEXTILE PRODUCTS FOR IMPORTS INTO NORWAY

Introduction

1. This Agreement sets out the arrangements that have been made between the Government of Norway and the Government of Singapore regarding the exports of certain textile products from Singapore 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.

Coverage

3. These arrangements apply to Singapore's export to Norway of the textile products listed in Annex A to this Agreement, when these are made of cotton, wool or man-made fibres, or blends thereof, in which one, 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). Notwithstanding these provisions, this Agreement shall also apply to the products described in Annex A which are manufactured from impregnated fabrics as defined in a note to Annex A.

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 between Singapore and the competent Norwegian authorities 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 authorities of Singapore shall be informed by the competent authorities in Norway as soon as 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 classification indicated by the competent Norwegian authorities at the point of entry, in conformity with the provisions of this Agreement.

Restraint levels

6. For products listed in Annex B to this Agreement, Singapore shall for each agreement year during the term of this Agreement restrain its exports to Norway to the limits set out in Annex B, or the limits modified as provided for in Article 7 of this Agreement.

Flexibility provisions

7. Any quantitative limit set out in Annex B may, after notification by the Government of Singapore to the Government of Norway, be exceeded in either year of any two subsequent agreement years by carry forward and/or carryover.

Carryover and carry forward taken together shall not exceed 10 per cent, of which carry forward shall not represent more than 5 per cent.

Products covered by the Agreement without quantitative limits

8. Imports of textile products covered by this Agreement which are not subject to quantitative limits shall be subject to a system of administrative control. These products will be subject to a system of export certification.

When import licences of a product listed in Annex A not subject to a quantitative limit have been issued up to an extent which may cause concern to the Norwegian industry, Norway may request consultations in order to establish a quantitative limit for the product concerned.

Pending a mutually acceptable solution through this consultation, Norway may fix a quantitative limit at the volume reached by imports of the product in question in the twelve-month period preceding notification; due consideration be given to shipments in transit and to consignments for which export certificates/certificates of origin have been issued prior to receipt of notification to avoid undue difficulty to the importers in Norway and exporters in Singapore.

Administration

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

Circumvention

10. In conformity with Article 8 of the MFA, the Government of Singapore and the Government of Norway shall co-operate to avoid circumvention of the Agreement.

When information available to the Norwegian authorities indicates that products of Singapore origin listed in Annex B to this Agreement have been imported into Norway by trans-shipment, rerouting or otherwise, in circumvention of the arrangement set out in this Agreement, Norway may ask for consultations as provided for in Article 15 of this Agreement, with a view to arriving at a mutually satisfactory solution.

Seasonal fluctuations

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

Rules of origin

12. The Government of Norway will admit imports of textile products of Singapore origin, listed in Annex A, only when such products are covered by an export certificate/certificate of origin and comply with provisions of Annex C. Such a document shall be issued by the competent authority in Singapore.

Re-exports

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

Where the competent Norwegian authorities have evidence that products exported from Singapore and set off by Singapore against a quantitative limit established in Annex B have been subsequently re-exported outside Norway, the Norwegian authorities shall notify Singapore of the quantities involved. Upon receipt of such notification, Singapore 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 Singapore undertakes to promptly provide the Government of Norway with monthly statistics of all export certificates issued by the authorities for each category for each agreement year. For products listed in Annex B, these statistical reports shall also set out:

- (i) the maximum export level for each category for the relevant agreement year;

(ii) the modified limit if the quota has been modified as provided for in Article 7 of this Agreement; and

(iii) the rate of utilization of the quota.

The Government of Norway will provide the Government of Singapore with monthly statistics of licences issued for imports from Singapore of all categories covered by this Agreement.

Each government agrees to supply promptly any other available statistical data necessary to the implementation of this Agreement requested by the other government.

Consultations

15. The Government of Singapore and the Government of Norway 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 reasons 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. The Norwegian Government reserves its 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 until 30 June 1988, 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 sixty 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 at Singapore on 13 February 1985 in two originals in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

On behalf of the Government
of the Kingdom of Norway

On behalf of the Government
of the Republic of Singapore

ANNEX A

Product Categories Covered by the Agreement

<u>Category Number</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Pieces	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	Pieces	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	Pieces	Knitted or crocheted shirts, T-shirts and blouses of all kinds.
4	Kgs.	Knitted or crocheted undergarments, men's, boys', women's, girls', infants'; other than T-shirts, blouses, nightwear and panty hose.
5	Pieces	Men's and boys' shirts of all kinds, of woven material.
6	Pieces	Outer garments and other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized: pullovers, sweaters, jumpers, cardigans and jackets.
7	Kgs.	Bed linen
8	Pieces	Outer garments of woven material, women's, girls': blouses, shirts and the like.
9	Pairs	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").

<u>Category Number</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Description</u>
10	Pieces	Women's and girls' outer garments of woven material: dresses, housecoats, frocks and gowns.
11	Pieces	Outer garments of woven material, women's, girls': skirts, including divided skirts.
12	Pieces	Costumes, dresses, suits, skirts and trousers, knitted or crocheted (incl. track suits).
13	Kgs.	Gloves, mittens and mitts of textile material, not knitted or crocheted.
14	Pieces	Outer garments of woven material for infants (defined as for infants with maximum height 110 cm).
15	Pieces	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	Pieces	Undergarments, knitted or crocheted - panty hose.
17	Kgs.	Gloves, mittens and mitts, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberized.
18	Pieces	Nightwear, knitted or crocheted.
19	Pairs	Gaiters and spats (short or long ones) of textile materials.
20	Pieces	Outer garments and woven material, men's, boys', women's and girls', impregnated or coated with oil, varnish, rubber, artificial plastic materials and the like.
21	Pieces	Undergarments of woven materials, women's, and girls' wear (except nightwear).

NOTE TO ANNEX ADefinition of "impregnated fabrics" for the purpose of Article 3

1. Fabrics of cotton, wool or man-made fibres or any blend containing one or more of those fibres in which either wool represents 17 per cent or more by weight or any or all of those fibres in combination represent 50 per cent or more by weight of the unfinished fabric shall be defined as "impregnated fabrics" where those fabrics have been impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with preparations of cellulose derivatives or of other artificial plastic materials whatever the nature of the plastic material (compact, foam, sponge or expanded).

2. The definition does not cover:

- (a) fabrics which, after impregnation, coating, covering or lamination, cannot, without fracturing, be bent manually around a cylinder of a diameter of 7 mm at a temperature between 15°C and 30°C.
- (b) fabrics either completely embedded in artificial plastic material or coated or covered on both sides with such material.

ANNEX B

Category No. (as defined in Annex A)	Quantity Unit	1 July 1984- 30 June 1985	1 July 1985- 30 June 1986	1 July 1986- 30 June 1987	1 July 1987- 30 June 1988
1	pieces	61,824	62,133	62,444	62,756
2	pieces	164,860	165,025	165,190	165,355
3	pieces	66,975	67,310	67,646	67,985
4	kgs	20,605	20,708	20,812	20,915
5 + 8	pieces	226,682	226,909	227,136	227,363
6	pieces	236,986	238,171	239,362	240,559
7	kgs	6,161	6,192	6,223	6,254
9	pairs	61,824	62,442	63,067	63,697
11	pieces	34,791	35,661	36,552	37,466
12	pieces	25,000	25,625	26,266	26,922
18	pieces	20,000	20,800	21,632	22,497

ANNEX CADMINISTRATIVE CO-OPERATION

1. The competent authorities of Singapore shall issue an export certificate/certificate of origin including full and detailed description of the goods in respect of all consignments from Singapore for exports to Norway of products covered by Annex A.
2. For products covered by Annex B, the authorities of Singapore shall issue export certificate/certificate of origin as per specimen attached as Annex D, up to the quantitative limits agreed through this Agreement (eventually modified as provided for by this Agreement). The export certificate must certify that the quantity of the product in question has been set off against the quantitative limit prescribed for the category of the product in question.
3. For products covered by Annex A not subject to quantitative limits, the authorities of Singapore shall issue export certificates/certificates of origin as per specimen attached as Annex E.
4. Each export certificate shall cover only one of the categories of products listed in Annex A to this Agreement.
5. Exports shall be set off against the quantitative limits established for the year in which shipment of the goods has been effected.
6. The presentation of an export certificate, in application of paragraph 7 below, shall be effected not later than 31 July of the year following that in which the goods covered by the certificate have been shipped.
7. Importation into Norway of textile products subject to quantitative limits shall be subject to the presentation of appropriate import documents.

The competent Norwegian authorities shall issue such import documents automatically within ten working days of the presentation by the importer of the original of the corresponding export certificate.

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

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

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

9. If the competent Norwegian authorities find that the total quantities covered by export certificates issued by Singapore for a particular category in any agreement year exceed the quantitative limit established in Annex B for that category or that limit modified as provided for in this Agreement, or any limit established under Article 8 of the Agreement, the said authorities may suspend the further issues of import documents. In this event, the competent Norwegian authorities shall immediately inform the authorities of Singapore and the special consultation procedure set out in Article 15 of the Agreement shall be initiated forthwith.

10. Exports of Singapore origin not covered by export certificates issued by Singapore in accordance with the provisions of this Annex may be refused the issue of appropriate import documents by the competent Norwegian authorities.

However, if the import of such products is allowed into Norway by the competent Norwegian authorities, the quantities involved shall not be set off against the appropriate quantitative limits.

11. The export certificate 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 certificate shall bear a serial number, by which it can be identified.

The export certificate shall also contain the following information:


- (a) country of destination;
- (b) country of origin;
- (c) name and address of exporter (and manufacturer, if different from exporter);
- (d) name and address of importer;
- (e) full and detailed description of the goods (including tariff classification numbers, if possible);
- (f) relevant category number as set out in Annex A of the Agreement;
- (g) f.o.b. value;
- (h) quantity in units set out in Annex A.

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


The duplicate must bear the date of the original export certificate/ certificate of origin.

14. Singapore shall send the Norwegian Ministry of Trade the names and addresses of the governmental authorities competent for the issue and verification of export certificates together with specimens of the stamps used by these authorities. Singapore shall also notify the Ministry of any change in this information.

ANNEX D

	<p>REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE</p> <p>CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN/PROCESSING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No. _____</p>	
	Country of Origin of Goods	Country of Final Destination
	<p>NO UNAUTHORISED ADDITION/ ALTERATION MAY BE MADE TO THIS CERTIFICATE ONCE IT IS ISSUED</p>	
<p>No. & Kind of Packages Description of Goods</p>	<p>Quantity & Unit</p> <p>(*Include Brand names if necessary)</p>	
<p>SPECIMEN</p>		
<p>Best evidence has been produced to satisfy me that the goods specified above are the manufacture or produce of the country</p>		
<p>ORDINARY CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> Controller of Import and Exports Trade Development Board Republic of Singapore </p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: x-small;"> _____ Officer in Charge </p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EXPORT CERTIFICATE</p> <p style="font-size: x-small;"> This consignment is authorised for export to NORWAY and has been debited against Singapore's restraint level for Category of 19.... for Pieces only. Date </p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>	

ANNEX E

	<p>REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE</p> <p>CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN/PROCESSING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">No. _____</p>	
	Country of Origin of Goods	Country of Final Destination
	<p>NO UNAUTHORISED ADDITION/ ALTERATION MAY BE MADE TO THIS CERTIFICATE ONCE IT IS ISSUED</p>	
	<p>(*include Brand names if necessary)</p>	
<p>No. & Kind of Packages Description of Goods</p>	<p>Quantity & Unit</p>	
<p style="font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-45deg);">SPECIMEN</p>		
<p>evidence has been produced to satisfy me that the goods specified above are the manufacture or produce of the country</p>		
<p>ORDINARY CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN</p> <p>For Controller of Import and Exports Trade Development Board Republic of Singapore</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Officer in Charge</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">EXPORT CERTIFICATE</p> <p>This consignment is authorised for export to NORWAY for Category of 19.....for pieces only. Date</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div>	
<p>TD 11</p>		