

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/1520*

15 December 1989

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Articles 7 and 8

Amendment of the Bilateral Agreement between the United States and the German Democratic Republic

The Textiles Surveillance Body received a notification from the United States of a modifications in its agreement with the German Democratic Republic resulting from the implementation of the Harmonized Commodity Code by the United States.¹

The notification was made in accordance with a request made by the Textiles Committee that agreements concluded with non-participants in the MFA be notified. The TSB is forwarding the text of the notification to participating countries for their information.

¹The bilateral agreement is contained in COM.TEX/SB/1305.

*English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

24 October 1988

United States and the German Democratic Republic
Amend Bilateral Agreement

The United States and the German Democratic Republic exchanged notes in Berlin on 22 December 1987 and 9 May 1988 to amend their bilateral textile agreement. Text of the notes follow.

United States Note

Berlin
22 December 1987

The Embassy of the United States presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic and has the honour to refer to the bilateral agreement regarding textile trade between the German Democratic Republic and the United States, effected through the exchange of notes dated 10 May 1986 and 27 February 1987 (the Agreement).

As a result of the announced intention of the Government of the United States to convert to the Harmonized System, the Embassy has the honour to propose, on behalf of the Government of the United States, that the Agreement be amended as follows.

1. Upon adoption of the Harmonized System, units of measurement will shift to the metric system. Simultaneously with the adoption of the Harmonized System by the Government of the United States, Annex A of the Agreement shall be amended as follows in order to reflect the new conversion factor (to square metres):

Category	Description	Conversion factor	Unit of measure
334	Other men's and boys' cotton coats.	34.5	doz.

2. Paragraph 2 shall be amended, simultaneously with the adoption by the United States Government of the Harmonized System, to read as follows:

(A) The category of textile products covered by the agreement and the rate of conversion into square metres equivalent are set out in Annex A. For the purposes of this agreement, textile products shall be classified as:

(A) (I) Tops, yarns, piece goods, made-up articles, garments and other textile manufactured products, all being products which derive their chief characteristics from their textile components of cotton, wool, man-made fibre, or blends thereof, in which any or all of those fibres in combination represent the chief weight of the product, are subject to this agreement. Components of an article which are not considered relevant to the classification under the general rules of interpretation or the legal notes to Section XI of the Harmonized System, are likewise to be disregarded here. For the purposes of this agreement, textile products covered by this paragraph shall be classified as:

(a) cotton textiles, if the product is in chief weight of cotton, or if cotton with wool and/or man-made fibres in the aggregate equal or exceed fifty per cent by weight of the component fibres thereof and the cotton component equals or exceeds the weight of each of the total wool and/or man-made fibre components, unless the product is a woven fabric in which wool equals or exceeds thirty-six per cent by weight of all fibres, in which case the product will be a wool textile;

(b) wool textiles, if the product is in chief weight of wool, or, in the case of products which are chief weight of silk or non-cotton vegetable fibres, wool exceeds seventeen per cent by weight of all fibres;

(c) man-made fibre textiles, if the product is in chief weight of man-made fibres, or if the man-made fibres in combination with cotton and/or wool in the aggregate equal or exceed fifty per cent by weight of the component fibres thereof and the man-made fibre component exceeds the weight of the total wool and/or cotton component, unless:

(1) the product is knitted or crocheted apparel in which wool equals or exceeds 23 per cent by weight of all fibres, in which case the product will be a wool textile; or

(2) the product is apparel, not knitted or crocheted, in which wool equals or exceeds 36 per cent by weight of all fibres, in which case the product will be a wool textile;

(3) the product is a woven fabric in which wool equals or exceeds 36 per cent by weight of all fibres, in which case the product will be a wool textile.

(II) Coverage under this paragraph is intended to be identical with the terms of Article 12 of the Arrangement regarding International Trade in Textiles. In the event of a question regarding whether a product is covered by this agreement by virtue of being chief weight cotton, wool, and man-made fibres, the chief value of the fibres may be considered.

This note and a note of confirmation on behalf of the Government of the German Democratic Republic shall constitute an amendment to the agreement.

The Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry the assurances of its highest consideration.

Embassy of the United States
Berlin, 22 December 1987

German Democratic Republic Note

[Note] No. 56/88

Berlin,
9 May 1988

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic presents its compliments to the Embassy of the United States in the German Democratic Republic and has the honour, in reply to the Embassy's Note No. 1051 of 22 December 1987, to communicate the following:

The German Democratic Republic agrees to the proposals advanced in Note No. 1051 for amendment of the Agreement Relating to Trade in [Cotton] Textiles Products concluded with the United States on 10 December 1986, and 27 February 1987.

The German Democratic Republic assumes that with the change over of the Harmonized Customs System in the United States, no tariff increases will arise for its exports in question, and that timely information will be provided about the date on which the Harmonized Customs System becomes effective.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of the United States the assurances of its highest consideration.

Berlin, 9 May 1988

Embassy of the United States
in the German Democratic Republic

Berlin