

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/1737*

3 July 1992

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Article 4

Extension of the bilateral agreement between Canada and Singapore

The Textiles Surveillance Body received a notification from Canada of an extension of its bilateral agreement with Singapore for the period 1 January to 31 December 1992.¹

The TSB, pursuant to its procedures regarding notifications received under Article 4,² has examined the relevant documentation and is forwarding the text of the notification to participating countries for their information.

¹The bilateral agreement is contained in COM.TEX/SB/1382.

²See COM.TEX/SB/35, Annex B.

* English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

SINGAPORE NOTE

MFA 192/91

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore presents its compliments to the Canadian High Commission and has the honour to refer to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Republic of Singapore relating to the export from the Republic of Singapore of certain textiles and textile products for import into Canada (MOU) and to the High Commission's Note No. 0017 dated 28 February 1991.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore is pleased to inform the Canadian High Commission that the Canadian Authorities proposal to extend the MOU governing our bilateral textile trade for one year until 31 December 1992, is acceptable to the Singapore Authorities. All terms and conditions contained in our current MOU, including growth rates and flexibility provisions shall be applied during the extended period. The extension will not prejudice either party's position in the Uruguay Round Negotiations on textile and clothing.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Canadian High Commission the assurances of its highest consideration.

Singapore, 8 April 1991

Canadian High Commission
Singapore

TEXT OF NOTE FROM THE CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION, SINGAPORE

28 FEBRUARY 1991

"... Canadian Authorities would like to refer to the Uruguay Round of GATT Negotiations and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Republic of Singapore relating to the export from Singapore of certain textiles and textile products for import into Canada (MOU).

Given the decision to extend the Uruguay Round, it appears likely that negotiations will extend beyond the expiry on 31 July 1991, of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (MFA). No deadline for these negotiations has been set, but it is likely that this extension, combined with the time necessary for implementation of the results, would take us beyond the 31 December 1991, expiry of our current MOU.

The prolongation of the Uruguay Round Negotiations, the expiry of the MFA on 31 July 1991, and the expiry of the current MOU at the end of this year will cause considerable uncertainty in the textile and clothing industries of both Canada and Singapore. Order will soon be placed for 1992. Given this uncertainty in both countries and the need to maintain protection for the domestic textile industry in Canada, Canadian Authorities propose that the MOU governing our bilateral textile trade be extended for a period of one year, until 31 December 1992. The extension envisaged by Canadian Authorities would apply to all terms and conditions contained in our current MOU, including growth rates and flexibility provisions. The extension will be without prejudice to any changes which may be negotiated in the Uruguay Round governing textile trade beyond 1991.

Canadian Authorities would appreciate an early response to this proposal so that they can reflect on any other measures which may be necessary to ensure protection for the Canadian Industry until the results of a successful Uruguay Round are implemented..."