

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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NOTIFICATION IN PURSUANCE OF PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE UNDERSTANDING  
REGARDING NOTIFICATION, CONSULTATION, DISPUTE  
SETTLEMENT AND SURVEILLANCE

Communication from Canada

The following communication dated 5 February 1993, has been received from the Permanent Mission of Canada for circulation to the contracting parties.

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of the 28 November 1979 "Understanding Regarding Notification, Consultation, Dispute Settlement and Surveillance", the purpose of this note is to provide information on the recent Canadian Government decision to make autonomous reductions in most-favoured-nation rates of duty on a range of textile products.

In essence, this action is designed to bring Canadian textile tariffs more into line with those of other industrial countries and involves phased reductions so that maximum most-favoured-nation rates for fibres, yarns and fabrics (including certain lightweight wool fabrics and specialty textiles) will be 5 per cent, 10 per cent and 16 per cent, respectively. As of 1 January 1993, the changes have begun to be implemented via cuts of 1.5 percentage points per year. In a few instances, this staging arrangement has resulted in the full reduction having been put in place as of 1 January this year. But, in most cases, full implementation will take several years. In any event, all of the cuts involved are scheduled to be completed by 1 January 1998.

Additional background information on these tariff changes is provided in the enclosed press release and accompanying material, in English and French.<sup>1</sup> Included is a complete listing of the tariff items affected and of the staging arrangements via which each reduction is being implemented.

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<sup>1</sup>This information may be consulted in office 1072 at the GATT Secretariat.