GENERAL AGREEMENT

ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED COM.TEX/SB/1987 22 December 1994 Special Distribution

(94-2880)

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE NINTH MEETING (1994)¹

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its ninth meeting of 1994 on 1 December.

2. Present at this meeting were the following members and/or alternates: Messrs. Cheung/Lee, Fujioka, Prince, Munir/Onaner, Saint-Jacques/Glantschnig, Sophastienphong, Tagliani, Vanerio/Prado and Wentzel.

3. The report of the eighth meeting has been circulated in COM.TEX/SB/1982.

Notification under Article 2:1

Slovenia

4. The TSB began its review of a notification received from Slovenia under Article 2:1 of restrictions it maintains on imports of MFA products.

Notifications under Article 4

Canada/Costa Rica

5. The TSB received a notification from Canada of an Article 4 agreement concluded with Costa Rica, valid from 1 January 1994 until such time as both countries accede to the World Trade Organization. This agreement superseded an agreement concluded under Article 3:4 valid until 30 June 1994.

- 6. Under this agreement:
 - (a) the selective product coverage remained unchanged;
 - (b) the base level for the product under restraint was increased by substantially more than 6 per cent;
 - (c) the growth rate was set at 6 per cent; in addition, the base level for 1995 was increased over 1994 by substantially more than 6 per cent;
 - (d) carryover and carry forward were set at 10/5 per cent.

7. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/1983)

¹Two hundred and ninetieth meeting overall.

Canada/Philippines

8. The TSB received a notification from Canada of an extension with modifications of its agreement with the Philippines beyond 1994 until such time as both countries accede to the World Trade Organization.

- 9. Under this extension:
 - (a) the product coverage remained unchanged;
 - (b) the 1994 limit for one sub-item was increased by substantially more than 6 per cent; this sub-limit was abolished effective 1 January 1995, and another existing sub-limit was made into a separate restrained item as of 1 January 1995;
 - (c) all restraints for the year 1995 were increased by the applicable growth rate;
 - (d) swing continued to be available at 7 per cent; carryover/carry forward remained available at 11/6 per cent except in two cases where it remained at 11/5 per cent.

10. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/1984)

United States/Costa Rica

11. The TSB received a notification from the United States of the extension with amendments of its agreement with Costa Rica, valid for the period 1 January 1994 to 31 December 1995.

- 12. In this extension:
 - (a) the selective coverage of the agreement was extended to add one category;
 - (b) all specific limits were maintained, and the category added to the coverage of the agreement, which the United States had previously placed under a unilateral restraint, was placed under a specific limit;
 - (c) the levels of the categories previously under specific limit were increased from 1993 to 1994 by the applicable growth rates; the category newly added to the agreement was increased by substantially more than 6 per cent over the previous restraint level;
 - (d) the growth rates remained unchanged; for the newly added category, a growth rate of 1 per cent was agreed;
 - (e) all categories under specific limit continued to have Guaranteed Access Levels (GALs) at the levels of 1993; the newly added category also received a GAL;
 - (f) the flexibility provisions of the agreement remained unchanged and would also apply to the newly restrained category;
 - (g) new provisions with respect to circumvention were agreed.²

13. With respect to the paragraph 12(d) above, the TSB heard a statement by the United States that the growth rate of 1 per cent had been sought pursuant to paragraph 2 of Annex B.

²See COM.TEX/SB/1910, paragraphs 19 to 22.

14. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit this notification to the Textiles Committee. (COM.TEX/SB/1985)

Notification under Articles 7 and 8

United States/Laos

15. The TSB received a notification from the United States of an agreement concluded with Laos for the period 1 January 1993 to 31 December 1995. The TSB is forwarding this notification for the information of participating countries. (COM.TEX/SB/1986)

Notification under Article 11

<u>China</u>

16. The TSB deferred further consideration of this notification, pending reception of the additional information it had requested from China.³

Notification under Article 11:5

El Salvador/United States

17. The TSB received a communication from El Salvador notifying that the United States had withdrawn the restraint on Category 340/640, which had been the subject of a recommendation by the TSB at its meeting on 26 July 1994.⁴

³See COM.TEX/SB/1982, paragraph 21.

⁴See COM.TEX/SB/1955, paragraphs 4 to 9.