

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

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Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

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Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing

STATEMENT MADE BY THE DELEGATION OF INDONESIA, ON BEHALF  
OF ASEAN COUNTRIES, AT THE MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP  
ON TEXTILES AND CLOTHING ON 13 JUNE 1988

We have in the past been on record as stating that we have in certain respects benefited from the MFA, and this goes especially for those member countries who started getting involved in textile exports during MFA II and III as new entrants and small suppliers.

We firmly believed that MFA IV with its Protocol of Extension would lead to an even more open system, with most ambiguities removed. We paid a price in the form of extension of coverage to the new fibres.

During the negotiations leading to the Punta del Este Declaration we agreed that textiles should be part of the Uruguay Round, in order to formulate modalities that would permit the eventual integration of this sector into GATT on the basis of strengthened GATT rules and disciplines, thereby also contributing to the objective of further liberalization of trade.

We have now moved to the stage of the Negotiating Plan, accepted by all of us in the fifth GNG meeting, which calls for "examination of techniques and modalities for achievement of the objectives set out in this area in the light of proposals made by participants".

We take this opportunity to state that we support the proposal forwarded by the developing countries, members of the ITCB, at the previous meeting of this Negotiating Group.

This proposal does move the negotiations towards the aim to formulate modalities, that would permit the eventual integration of the textile sector into GATT on the basis of strengthened GATT rules and disciplines, thereby also contributing to the objective of further liberalization of trade.

The proposal stated that eventual integration into GATT, being an integral part of the Ministerial Declaration, requires a multiple process.

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We are in full agreement with that. In particular, we support the following elements to constitute the basis for the formulation of modalities for the elimination of exceptional treatment given to the textile and clothing sector:

- (a) standstill from an agreed date on further restrictions under MFA; this would include a standstill on coverage under Article 12:1 (other textile manufactured products) of MFA;
- (b) abolition of the price criteria from Annex A of MFA;
- (c) elimination of the use of exceptional circumstances, including MVP;
- (d) exclusion of basket extractor and consultation levels;
- (e) elimination of aggregate limits.

Since we are still in the state of examining proposals, we will, at this stage, limit our intervention to these points.

We are pleased to see a communication tabled by the European Community and we will comment on it in due course during this examination stage.