

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON
TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

C/W/220
6 April 1973

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COUNCIL

WORKING PARTY ON TRADE IN TEXTILES

Note by the Secretariat

At its meeting of 5 February 1973 the Council took note of the report of the Working Party on Trade in Textiles and agreed to defer consideration of the matter of trade in textiles to a later meeting. In order to facilitate further consideration by the Council and following consultation with various delegations the secretariat has prepared the following text of a draft decision amending the terms of reference of the Working Party.

This matter will be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council to be convened on 30 April.

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WORKING PARTY ON TRADE IN TEXTILES

Draft Decision by the Council Amending the
Terms of Reference of the Working Party

The Council:

Recognizing the objectives of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations, particularly the objectives of the greater liberalization and expansion of trade,

Recognizing the great importance to many of the contracting parties of trade in textiles and textile goods of cotton, wool, and man-made fibres, and the unsatisfactory situation that exists in international trade in these products,

Recognizing the particular importance of the trade in these products, particularly cotton products, for the economic and social development of developing countries, and for their export earnings,

Recognizing that solutions to problems in textile trade should be sought against the background of the principles and objectives of the General Agreement and the expiration of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Cotton Textiles on 30 September 1973,

Having received and examined the study of fact prepared by the Working Party pursuant to the Council's decision of 27 June 1972,

Decides that:

- I. The Working Party should, on the basis of its factual study (document L/3797), together with such other information as may be relevant for its work, and having the fullest regard to the considerations set out in the preamble above:
 - (1) identify and examine the problems that exist in international trade in textiles and textile goods, and
 - (2) with regard to such examination seek possible alternative multilateral solutions to these problems. The search for multilateral solutions to textile trade problems will be without prior commitment as to the position of any participant.
- II. The Working Party shall make a progress report on these matters to the Council not later than 30 June 1973.

Membership

The membership is open to all interested countries.