

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

COM.TEX/SB/241
11 May 1977

Special Distribution

Textiles Surveillance Body

REPORT OF THE FIFTH MEETING¹ (1977)

1. The TSB held its fifth meeting on 31 March and 1 April 1977. The report of its fourth meeting was approved and has been circulated in document COM.TEX/SB/225.
2. The TSB had received from the EEC bilateral agreements under Article 4 of the Arrangement which had been formally concluded between the EEC and Macao, Brazil, Korea and Colombia. In this connexion, it is to be recalled that these agreements were notified to the TSB in 1976 under Article 2:4 of the Arrangement pending their formal conclusion. The TSB had then decided to defer their definitive examination until they had been formally concluded and confirmed under Article 4:4. After its review of these four agreements, the TSB agreed to circulate them to the Textiles Committee. This has been done in documents COM.TEX/SB/226, 227, 228 and 229 respectively.
3. The TSB reviewed two agreements concluded under Article 4 between Norway and India and between Norway and Thailand. It was agreed that they should be transmitted to the Textiles Committee (see documents COM.TEX/SB/230 and 231 respectively). Also received from Norway was a notification of an agreement concluded with Hong Kong. The TSB noted that the agreement was divided into two parts; Part 1 was concluded under Article 3, while Part 2 was concluded under Article 4. The TSB, pursuant to its procedures regarding bilateral agreements notified under Articles 3 and 4², reviewed this agreement and agreed to circulate it to the Textiles Committee. This has been done in document COM.TEX/SB/232.
4. In addition, the TSB reviewed amendments notified by the United States with respect to its bilateral agreements previously concluded under Article 4 of the Arrangement with Japan, Thailand, Haiti and Hong Kong. It was agreed to circulate these notifications to the Textiles Committee and this has been done in documents COM.TEX/SB/233, 234, 235 and 236 respectively. Also received from the United States was a notification of an interim arrangement concluded with Romania pursuant

¹Fifty-third meeting

²See COM.TEX/SB/35, Annexes A and B.

to the procedures set forth in Article 3, paragraphs 6 and 7. The TSB noted that this interim arrangement was concluded pending the negotiation of a more comprehensive and longer-term agreement consistent with the basic objectives and principles of the Arrangement. It was agreed to circulate this notification to the Textiles Committee for information (see COM.TEX/SB/237).

5. The TSB also took cognizance of notifications of two agreements concluded with non-participating countries. The first concerned a bilateral agreement between Sweden and Portugal, the second between the EEC and Portugal. Both these notifications were made in accordance with the decision of the Textiles Committee that actions taken vis-à-vis non-participants in the Arrangement should be notified to the TSB. The TSB reviewed these agreements and agreed to circulate them to participating countries for their information under Articles 7 and 8. This has been done in documents COM.TEX/SB/238 and 239 respectively.

6. In accordance with its request set out in document COM.TEX/SB/197, the TSB received a notification from the EEC whereby the rules governing imports from Mexico into the Benelux countries had been repealed. The TSB agreed to circulate this notification under Article 3:5(iii) to the Textiles Committee (see document COM.TEX/SB/240).

7. The TSB noted that the term of Mr. Yee as a member came to an end on 31 March and that Mr. Bojtor would occupy the quadripartite seat for the period running from 1 April to 30 June. For the sake of the continuity of its work, the TSB agreed that Mr. Yee should continue throughout the present session.