

**MULTILATERAL TRADE  
NEGOTIATIONS  
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/NG4/W/20  
28 September 1988  
Special Distribution

Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)  
Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing

Original: English

STATEMENT MADE BY THE DELEGATION OF INDONESIA, ON BEHALF OF A NUMBER  
OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL TEXTILES AND  
CLOTHING BUREAU AT THE MEETING OF THE NEGOTIATING GROUP ON  
TEXTILES AND CLOTHING ON 19 SEPTEMBER 1988

As you are aware, since the last meeting of the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing, the Group of Negotiations on Goods and the Trade Negotiations Committee have met in late July to review development of the Uruguay Round Negotiations. On behalf of the members of the ITCB I have put on record in the Group of Negotiations on Goods our extreme disappointment with the pace of work in the Negotiating Group, and pointed out the absence of political readiness on the part of the major developed participants to implement the Negotiating Objective. We also emphasized that the Negotiations on Textiles and Clothing must reflect the determination of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to reverse and terminate the erosion of the GATT by the selective and discriminatory regime of the MFA.

Last week the Eighth Session of the ITCB Council was held here in Geneva, and Senior Officials from the capitals took part in a review of the progress of the Uruguay Round Negotiations on textiles and clothing, bearing in mind particularly the decision of the last Trade Negotiations Committee meeting that the Chairpersons, after consultations with members of the Negotiating Groups, would have to make their reports, through the Group of Negotiations on Goods, to the

Trade Negotiations Committee Ministerial meeting at Montreal in December, on the work done to date and proposals for consideration by the Ministers.

Since the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing has only one more meeting on its schedule we have now to consider how this Group is to report its work to the Group of Negotiations on Goods for subsequent submission to the Trade Negotiations Committee. To facilitate this process I wish to communicate on behalf of the ITCB to the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing the following proposals for consideration by the Ministers at Montreal.

I. Ministers at Montreal should recognize that any regime for textiles that is selective and discriminatory has no future under strengthened GATT rules and disciplines. Therefore, modalities should be negotiated without further delay which will permit the integration of this sector into GATT.

II. Given the vital role of trade in textiles and clothing to developing countries, Ministers should emphasize the crucial importance of achieving results in negotiations in this sector within the Uruguay Round.

III. A firm basis for these negotiations should be adopted at Montreal. The examination of modalities should now be considered as over and the Negotiating Group should commence substantive negotiations early next year for the integration of the textile sector into GATT. The ITCB proposal contained in MTN.GNG/NG4/W/11 provides the elements to achieve the Negotiating Objective. It also provides parameters within which techniques and modalities for integration of the textile sector into GATT can be negotiated. The ITCB proposal should therefore be adopted as the framework for future negotiations.

IV. In order to realize the objective of integration of the textile sector into GATT the first priority is to freeze further restrictions forthwith. It is necessary to put a stop to the introduction of new selective and discriminatory restraints under the MFA which introduce further distortions to international trade.

V. The date for the termination of the discriminatory and exceptional treatment given to this sector will have to be agreed upon in the Uruguay Round.

Mr. Chairman,

We are convinced that the above proposals will ensure a positive consideration of the textile issue at Montreal and will be essential for the success of that meeting.

Lastly, I request this statement be circulated as an official document.