

**MULTILATERAL TRADE
NEGOTIATIONS
THE URUGUAY ROUND**

RESTRICTED

MTN.GNG/W/17

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Special Distribution

Group of Negotiations on Goods (GATT)

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COMMUNICATION FROM INDONESIA

The Chairman of the Group of Negotiations on Goods has received the following communication, dated 11 November 1988, from the delegation of Indonesia, on behalf of the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau (ITCB) with the request that it be circulated to members of the Group of Negotiations on Goods.

This letter is with reference to the Report of the Chairman of the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing dated 10 November 1988 to the Group of Negotiations on Goods.

I wish to draw to your attention that at the meeting of the Negotiating Group on 2 November 1988 the members of the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau had proposed the inclusion of the following elements for decision by the Trade Negotiations Committee meeting at Ministerial level at Montreal:

- (i) recognition of the crucial importance of achieving results in negotiations;
- (ii) commitment by the participants to engage in substantive negotiations early in 1989;
- (iii) agreement being reached within the Uruguay Round on the modalities for the integration of the textile sector into GATT;
- (iv) agreement that the phase out of MFA restrictions will begin upon the expiry of the present MFA protocol;
- (v) agreement that the process of integration will be gradual and progressive;
- (vi) agreement that the process of integration will be completed within a specified time-frame to be agreed upon during the Uruguay Round;
- (vii) freeze on further restrictions under the MFA.

Despite the best efforts of the Chairman it was not possible to achieve a satisfactory reflection of the elements on which there was a large convergence of views in the Group.

At that meeting therefore, several participants expressed their disappointment at the outcome and stated that they would pursue the matter at the level of the Group of Negotiations on Goods.

I have been authorized by the members of the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau to inform you that this matter should be taken up at the meeting of the Group of Negotiations on Goods next week, in order to arrive at a satisfactory outcome for the Ministerial meeting of the Trade Negotiations Committee at Montreal.

A copy of this letter is being endorsed to the Chairman of the Negotiating Group on Textiles and Clothing for his information