Attached is a note received from the delegation of Poland on the subject of the development of the textile industry. This is submitted in reply to airgrams GATT/AIR/1611 and 1612. It should be considered as forming part of Section III of the Report.
Development of the Textile Industry in Poland in the Period 1976-1980

The textile industry in Poland comprises two main production branches: spinning and weaving (including knitting) and clothing. Products of the textile industry are intended first of all for the internal market and partly for exports.

As a result of investments made, the production potential of the textile industry has been increased. Significant changes have also taken place as concerns the structure and modernization of products.

In the current five-year plan an increase in output obtained mainly due to modernization of the existing production potential. Preference is being given there to developing production of apparel articles as well as knitted and stocking goods in accordance with the structure of demand on the internal market. At the same time sustained efforts are being made for amelioration of quality and fashion of these goods.

There is an increase in production of manufactures refined by application of appropriate mixtures of raw materials and multifunctional finish.

Especially high dynamics have been attained in production of articles destined for furnishing of interiors such as carpets and similar floor coverings, curtains and woven or knitted fabrics for furniture manufacture. Knitted fabrics are being developed, production of which is much more effective than that of woven ones. Knitted fabrics are designed for clothing such as overcoats, frocks, skirts and others.

The development of modern production in particular branches is as follows:

- The use of synthetic and man-made fibres in the production of fabrics is being increased in the cotton sector. Mixed or blended fibres are used in the manufacture of apparel fabrics and new kinds of apparel fabrics with modern finish are being introduced.

- In the wool sector - the use of artificial fibres is being expanded in production of wool-like manufactures. New apparel fabrics with mixture of synthetic fibres are introduced.

- Technology of production of knitted, woven-like fabrics of a silk type has been acquired and developed in the sector of tapestry and silk fabrics. Production of knitted fabrics of a silk type complements well normal silk fabrics and is destined for outergarments, underwear, lining and other purposes. Production of silk knitted fabrics will more than double.
As concerns furnishing articles production of woven or knitted fabrics for covering of furniture will increase over 1.6 times and that of moquette will attain an increase of 4 times. Production of carpets and carpeting will expand by more than 34 per cent and that of floor finish by over 25 per cent. The increase in the production of curtains will reach 32 per cent.

- In the knitting and stocking sector the development of production is based on synthetic raw materials. There is being developed production of new kinds of articles which are manufactured from mixtures of synthetic yarn with natural yarn or fibre such as cotton, wool or flax. Equipped with modern multi-system automatic machines the stocking industry is capable of producing goods according to the requirements of customers.

- In the clothing industry modern designs have been introduced. In 1980 production is expected to increase by 48 per cent over the level of 1975. Modern methods of finishing are applied in manufacture of clothing. The use of modern clothing accessories has brought about an improvement in the fashion and functional characteristics of goods. The high level of quality and fashion attained in production of clothing, should be stressed here. It refers especially to production of men's overcoats and suits, men's and boys' shirts as well as of bed linen, table-cloths of flax, carpets, curtains and other furnishing articles.

As the share of synthetic fibre in the total consumption of raw materials continues to grow there is implemented a programme of shifts in the use of natural raw materials from manufactures for industrial purposes and furnishing articles to clothing produced both from natural raw materials and from mixtures of natural and synthetic fibres. It is of significant importance since about 50 per cent of the raw materials used in the textile industry comes from imports, including such natural raw materials as cotton, wool, sisal and jute.

In total consumption of textile fibres the share of natural fibres declined from 53.1 per cent in 1970 to 38.0 per cent in the current year while that of synthetic fibres rose from 46.9 per cent to 62.0 per cent in the same years.

At present the textile industry in Poland makes full use of domestic raw materials and research institutes systematically explore possibilities of utilization of regenerated raw materials.