ATTACHED is a note received from the delegation of Singapore which incorporates revised data on production, employment, value added etc., and international trade. This replaces the summary for Singapore contained in pages 134 - 135 of document COM.TEX/21.
SINGAPORE

I  Status of the Industry

1.  Production

Production indices for textiles showed a drop in 1974 and 1975 with the base year 1973 as 100. There was a recovery in 1976 and 1977 followed by a further drop to 84 in 1979. Production of clothing also subsided in 1975 to an index of 82, but regained the level of 101 in 1979. These fluctuations of the textiles and clothing production did not follow the rising trend in the manufacturing sector in general, the production index of which reached the level of 161 in 1979.

Statistics supplied by Singapore give the value of output in 1978 and 1979 as 352.9 and 427.7 million Singapore dollars for textiles and textile manufacturers and 633.6 and 735.7 million Singapore dollars for wearing apparel.

2.  Employment

The number of employees in the textiles sector decreased by 27.3 per cent from 14,103 in 1973 to 10,246 in 1979. There was an opposite trend in the clothing sector where employment increased by 39.4 per cent from 20,909 to 29,142 over the same period.

3.  Value added, investment, number of establishments

The value added of the textiles sector which went down from 121.7 to 115.4 million Singapore dollars between 1973 and 1978 rose to 137.4 million Singapore dollars in 1979. The value added in the clothing sector increased by 179 per cent from 82.4 to 229.9 million Singapore dollars.

Despite massive investment levels of 1974 and 1975, textiles investment decreased by 54 per cent in the period 1973 to 1978. Investment in clothing also rose rapidly in 1974 but fell back in the following years. The investment level of 29.4 million Singapore dollars in 1979 was still below the 1974 level of 30.4 million Singapore dollars.

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1 COM.TEX/16/Rev. 1
The number of establishments increased from 80 in 1978 to 95 in 1979 in the textiles sector and from 345 to 364 in the clothing sector.

4 International Trade

Singapore's import of textile products, amounting to $737 million in 1979, increased by 79.5 per cent between 1973 and 1979, despite a fall in these imports in 1974 and 1975. Imports of clothing items followed a steady rise over the period and tripled to $105.6 million in 1979. Exports of textiles and clothing amounted to $349 million and $369.9 million in 1979 representing an increase of 146.8 per cent and 185.2 per cent respectively, between 1973 and 1979. In 1979, Singapore had a trade deficit of $124.7 million in the overall textiles sector, even if the trade balance of clothing was positive (trade surplus of $263.24 million).

Japanese products accounted for 25 per cent of textiles imports by Singapore. Clothing imports were mainly shipped from Malaysia (26 per cent of the total) and Hong Kong (21 per cent of the total in 1979). Singapore's textile exports went mainly to the Malaysian market (25 per cent of the total in 1979) and to Pakistan (13 per cent of the total in 1979).

An increasing share of clothing was exported to the EEC (21 per cent in 1973, 46 per cent in 1976, 38 per cent in 1979), while the share of clothing exported to the United States fell (62 per cent in 1973, 34 per cent in 1979). The share of clothing exported to the developed area fell from 89 per cent in 1973 to 82 per cent in 1979.

11 Government and other plans for the expansion and/or re-organisation of the industry and the development of particular sectors

Singapore continues to pursue a free trade policy and does not have any specific adjustment assistance programme for the textiles and clothing industry.

1/ COM.TEX/16/Rev. 1
2/ COM.TEX/W/78, Table 33
3/ COM.TEX/16/Add. 6