ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Proposal by developing exporting countries participants in the Arrangement

Attached is a proposal received from developing exporting countries, participants in the Arrangement, relating to the progressive liberalization of trade in textiles.
Following negotiations on the renewal of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles, as concluded on 20 December 1973, the participants to this Arrangement agree on the following regarding its application and in particular Article 1, paragraph 2, Article 3, Article 4 and Article 6, paragraph 1, of the Arrangement.

Having regard to Article 1 paragraph 2 and Article 6 paragraph 1 of the Arrangement, and in order, in particular, to achieve the objective of progressive liberalization of trade in textiles:

(a) Participating countries having recourse to either Article 3 or Article 4 of this Arrangement agree to undertake a phased elimination of restrictions.

(b) In pursuance of this policy participating countries agree that exports from small suppliers and new entrants shall forthwith cease to be subject to any restrictions. Exports of wool tops shall likewise forthwith cease to be subject to any restrictions. Exports from other suppliers currently under restraint shall be progressively liberalized within the lifetime of the Arrangement through bilateral consultations.

(c) Participating countries noting that any reduction in access rights is not in conformity with the MFA, affirm that in the implementation of the programme of elimination of restrictions, the access rights as defined in Annex B of other restrained suppliers cannot be reduced.

(d) Participating countries also agree that the phased elimination of restrictions should liberalize trade in whole sectors or categories of products, priority being given to cotton textiles.