The Textiles Surveillance Body received a notification from Canada of restrictions introduced on imports of certain textile products from South Africa with effect from 1 January 1988. This notification, made in accordance with a request made by the Textiles Committee that measures taken with respect to imports from non-participants be notified, is being forwarded to participating countries for information.
Pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (hereinafter referred to as the MFA) done at Geneva on December 20, 1973 and to the Protocol extending the MFA, done at Geneva on July 31, 1986, I have the honour to notify you that, with effect from January 1, 1988 and continuing until December 31, 1991, or until further notice, the issuance of import permits to allow the entry into Canada of apparel and worsted wool fabric from the Republic of South Africa will be limited to the following annual levels:

(a) tailored collar shirts for men and boys (including childrens' sizes 4 to 6X): 371,000 units;
(b) all other shirts, blouses, T-shirts, sweatshirts: 98,000 units;
(c) pants, shorts, overalls, coveralls: 217,000 units;
(d) all other apparel: 14,000 units;
(e) worsted fabrics containing 17 per cent or more by weight of wool: 10,400 kilograms.

In recent months, there has been a sharp and substantial increase in imports into Canada of apparel and worsted wool fabrics from South Africa. These imports have reached such levels that they are causing, or threatening to cause, disruption in the Canadian market for these products. These imports have also placed, or are threatening to place, in an inequitable position a number of suppliers with which Canada has concluded bilateral agreements under the Multi-Fibre Arrangement to limit their exports to Canada of the above noted products.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

John Gero
Counsellor