ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Articles 7 and 8

Extension of the bilateral agreement between
Canada and Mauritius

The Textiles Surveillance Body received a notification from Canada of an extension of its agreement with Mauritius for the period 1 January to 31 December 1991. This notification was made pursuant to the request by the Textiles Committee that agreements with non-participants be notified.

The TSB is forwarding the text of the notification to participating countries for their information.

\[1\] The bilateral agreement is contained in COM.TEX/SB/1188.

*English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

91-0933
Letter from the Canadian Embassy

No. 138

The Canadian Embassy to the United States of America presents its compliments to the Embassy of Mauritius and has the honour of referring to the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of Canada and the Government of Mauritius Relating to the Export from Mauritius of Certain Textile and Textile Products for Import into Canada (MOU) which expires on 31 December 1990.

Canadian authorities note that the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (or MFA), which forms the basis of Canada's policy for textile and clothing imports, is due to expire on 31 July 1991. Discussions are currently under way in the Uruguay Round of the Multilateral Trade Negotiations to develop modalities that would permit the integration of trade in textiles and clothing into a strengthened GATT. The outcome of these negotiations may not be known until December, 1990. It is likely that for logistical reasons the transition mechanism may not enter into force until January 1992.

Mauritius is a major supplier of certain textiles and textile products to Canada; the conditions that give rise to the MOU remain. The MOU has operated smoothly since its signature, providing certainty and predictability to Mauritian exporters and to Canadian importers.

Mauritian authorities will appreciate that Canada cannot afford to allow a gap in restraints prior to the entry into force of the transitional mechanism following the expiry of the MFA. In these circumstances, Canadian authorities propose, pursuant to Article 22 of the MOU, that the expiry date of the MOU be extended to 31 December 1991. The restraint levels for the calendar year 1991 would be the levels for 1990, increased by six (6) per cent. All other terms and conditions would remain unchanged.

Given the sensitivity of these industries, Canadian authorities would appreciate an early response from Mauritian authorities.

The Canadian Embassy avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Mauritius the assurances of its highest consideration.

The High Commission of Mauritius presents its compliments to the Department of External Affairs of Canada and with reference to Note No. 138 from the Canadian Embassy to the United States of America concerning the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Canada and the Government of Mauritius relating to the Exports from Mauritius of certain Textile Products for Imports into Canada (MOU), has the honour to inform the Department of External Affairs that the Government of Mauritius is agreeable to the proposal of the Canadian Government to extend the Memorandum of Understanding which expires on 31st December, 1990, for a period of one year with a 6 per cent increase in 1990 restraint levels.

The High Commission of Mauritius avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Department of External Affairs of Canada the assurances of its highest consideration.

Washington, D.C.
7 September 1990