GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

TEXT OF LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT DRAWN UP BY THE
COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE AT ITS MEETING
FROM 29 JANUARY-9 FEBRUARY 1962

RECOGNIZING the need to take co-operative and constructive action with a view to the development of world trade;

RECOGNIZING further that such action should be designed to facilitate economic expansion and promote the development of less-developed countries possessing the necessary resources, such as raw materials and technical skills, by providing larger opportunities for increasing their exchange earnings from the sale in world markets of products which they can efficiently manufacture;

NOTING, however, that in some countries situations have arisen which in the view of these countries, cause or threaten to cause "disruption" of the market for cotton textiles;

DESIRING to deal with these problems in such a way as to provide growing opportunities for exports of these products, provided that the development of this trade proceeds in a reasonable and orderly manner so as to avoid disruptive effects in individual markets and on individual lines of production in both importing and exporting countries;

DETERMINED, in carrying out these objectives, to have regard to the Declaration on Promotion of the Trade of Less-developed Countries adopted by Ministers at their meeting during the nineteenth session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in November 1961;

The PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES have agreed as follows:
Article 1

In order to assist in the solution of the problems referred to in the Preamble to this Arrangement, the participating countries are of the opinion that it may be desirable to apply, during the next few years, special practical measures of international co-operation which will assist in any adjustment that may be required by changes in the pattern of world trade in cotton textiles. They recognize, however, that the measures referred to above do not affect their rights and obligations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (hereinafter referred to as the GATT). They also recognize that, since these measures are intended to deal with the special problems of cotton textiles, they are not to be considered as lending themselves to application in other fields.

Article 2

1. Those participating countries still maintaining restrictions inconsistent with the provisions of the GATT on imports of cotton textiles from other participating countries agree to relax those restrictions progressively each year with a view to their elimination as soon as possible.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 3, no participating country shall introduce new import restrictions, or intensify existing import restrictions, on cotton textiles, in so far as this would be inconsistent with its obligations under the GATT.

3. The participating countries at present applying import restrictions to cotton textiles imported from other participating countries undertake to expand access to their markets for such cotton textiles so as to reach, by the end of the period of validity of the present Arrangement, for the products remaining subject to restrictions at that date, taken as a whole, a level corresponding to the quotas opened in 1962, for such products, as increased by the percentage mentioned in Annex A.

   Where bilateral arrangements exist, annual increases shall be determined within the framework of bilateral negotiations. It would, however, be desirable that each annual increase should correspond as closely as possible to one fifth of the overall increase.

4. The participating countries concerned shall administer their remaining restrictions on imports of cotton textiles from participating countries in an equitable manner and with due regard to the special needs and situation of the less-developed countries.

5. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 3 above, if, during the licensing period preceding the entry into force of this Arrangement, a specific basic quota is nil or negligible, the quota for the succeeding
licensing period will be established at a reasonable level by the participating importing country concerned in consultation with the participating exporting country or countries concerned. Such consultation would normally take place within the framework of the bilateral negotiations referred to in paragraph 3 above.

6. Participating countries shall, as far as possible, eliminate import restrictions on the importation, under a system of temporary importation for re-export after processing, of cotton textiles originating in other participating countries.

7. The participating countries shall notify the Cotton Textiles Committee as early as possible, and in any case not less than one month before the beginning of the licensing period, of the details of any quota or import restriction referred to in this Article.

**Article 3**

1. If imports from a participating country or countries into another participating country of certain cotton textile products not subject to import restrictions should cause or threaten to cause disruption in the market of the importing country, that country may request the participating country or countries whose exports of such products are, in the judgment of the importing country, causing or threatening to cause market disruption to consult with a view to removing or avoiding such disruption. In its request the importing country will, at its discretion, indicate the specific level at which it considers that exports of such products should be restrained, a level which shall not be lower than the one indicated in Annex B. The request shall be accompanied by a detailed, factual statement of the reasons and justification for the request; the requesting country shall communicate the same information to the Cotton Textiles Committee at the same time.

2. In critical circumstances, where an undue concentration of imports during the period specified in paragraph 3 below would cause damage difficult to repair, the requesting participating country may, until the end of the period, take the necessary temporary measures to limit the imports referred to in paragraph 1 above from the country or countries concerned.

3. If, within a period of sixty days after the request has been received by the participating exporting country or countries, there has been no agreement either on the request for export restraint or on any alternative solution, the requesting participating country may decline to accept imports for retention from the participating country or countries referred to in paragraph 1 above of the cotton textile products causing or threatening to cause market disruption, at a level higher than that specified in Annex B, in respect of the period starting on the day when the request was received by the participating exporting country.
4. In order to avoid administrative difficulties in enforcing a given level of restraint on cotton textiles subject to measures taken under this Article, the participating countries agree that there should be a reasonable degree of flexibility in the administration of these measures. Where restraint is exercised for more than one product the participating countries agree that the agreed level for any one product may be exceeded by 5 per cent provided that the total exports subject to restraint do not exceed the aggregate level for all products so restrained on the basis of a common unit of measurement to be determined by the participating countries concerned.

5. If participating countries have recourse to the measures envisaged in this Article, they shall, in introducing such measures, seek to avoid damage to the production and marketing of the exporting country and shall co-operate with a view to agreeing on suitable procedures, particularly as regards goods which have been, or which are about to be, shipped.

6. A participating country having recourse to the provisions of this Article shall keep under review the measures taken under this Article with a view to their relaxation and elimination as soon as possible. It will report from time to time, and in any case once a year, to the Cotton Textiles Committee on the progress made in the relaxation or elimination of such measures. Any participating country maintaining measures under this Article shall afford adequate opportunity for consultation to any participating country or countries affected by such measures.

7. Participating importing countries may report the groups or categories to be used for statistical purposes to the Cotton Textiles Committee. The participating countries agree that measures envisaged in this Article should only be resorted to sparingly, and should be limited to the precise products or precise groups or categories of products causing or threatening to cause market disruption, taking full account of the agreed objectives set out in the Preamble to this Arrangement. Participating countries shall seek to preserve a proper measure of equity where market disruption is caused or threatened by imports from more than one participating country and when resort to the measures envisaged in this Article is unavoidable.

Article 4

Nothing in this Arrangement shall prevent the application of mutually acceptable arrangements on other terms not inconsistent with the basic objectives of this Arrangement. The participating countries shall keep the Cotton Textiles Committee fully informed of such arrangements, or the parts thereof, which have a bearing on the operation of this Arrangement.

Article 5

The participating countries shall take steps to ensure, by the exchange of information, including statistics on imports and exports when requested, and by other practical means, the effective operation of this Arrangement.
Article 6

The participating countries agree to avoid circumvention of this Arrangement by trans-shipment or re-routing, substitution of directly competitive textiles and action by non-participants. In particular, they agree on the following measures:

(a) **Trans-shipment**

The participating importing and exporting countries agree to collaborate with a view to preventing circumvention of this Arrangement by trans-shipment or re-routing and to take appropriate administrative action to avoid such circumvention. In cases where a participating country has reason to believe that imports shipped to it from another participating country and purporting to have originated in that country did not originate there, it may request that country to consult with it with a view to assisting in the determination of the real origin of the goods.

(b) **Substitution of directly competitive textiles**

It is not the intention of the participating countries to broaden the scope of this Arrangement beyond cotton textiles but, when there exists a situation or threat of market disruption in an importing country in terms of Article 3, to prevent the circumvention of this Arrangement by deliberate substitution for cotton of directly competitive fibres. Accordingly, if the importing participating country concerned has reason to believe that imports of products in which this substitution has taken place have increased abnormally, that is that this substitution has taken place solely in order to circumvent the provisions of this Arrangement, that country may request the exporting country concerned to investigate the matter and to consult with it with a view to reaching agreement upon measures designed to prevent such circumvention. Such request shall be accompanied by a detailed, factual statement of the reasons and justification for the request. Failing agreement in the consultation within sixty days of such request, the importing participating country may decline to accept imports of the products concerned as provided for in Article 3 and, at the same time, any of the participating countries concerned may refer the matter to the Cotton Textiles Committee which shall make such recommendations to the parties concerned as may be appropriate.

(c) **Non-participants**

The participating countries agree that, if it proves necessary to resort to the measures envisaged in Article 3 above, the participating importing country or countries concerned shall take steps to ensure that the participating country's exports against which such measures are taken shall not be restrained more severely than the exports of any country not participating in this Arrangement which are causing, or threatening to cause, market disruption. The participating importing country or countries concerned will give sympathetic consideration to any representations from participating exporting...
countries to the effect that this principle is not being adhered to or that the operation of this Arrangement is frustrated by trade with countries not party to this Arrangement. If such trade is frustrating the operation of this Arrangement, the participating countries shall consider taking such action as may be consistent with their law to prevent such frustration.

Article 7

1. In view of the safeguards provided for in this Arrangement the participating countries shall, as far as possible, refrain from taking measures which may have the effect of nullifying the objectives of this Arrangement.

2. If a participating country finds that its interests are being seriously affected by any such measure taken by another participating country, that country may request the country applying such measure to consult with a view to remedying the situation.

3. If the participating country so requested fails to take appropriate remedial action within a reasonable length of time, the requesting participating country may refer the matter to the Cotton Textiles Committee which shall promptly discuss such matter and make such comments to the participating countries as it considers appropriate. Such comments would be taken into account should the matter subsequently be brought before the CONTRACTING PARTIES under the procedures of Article XXIII of the GATT.
Article 8

The Cotton Textiles Committee, as established by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their nineteenth session, shall be composed of representatives of the countries party to this Arrangement and shall fulfil the responsibilities provided for it in this Arrangement.

(a) The Committee shall meet from time to time to discharge its functions. It will undertake studies on trade in cotton textiles as the participating countries may decide. It will collect the statistical and other information necessary for the discharge of its functions and will be empowered to request the participating countries to furnish such information.

(b) Any case of divergence of view between the participating countries as to the interpretation or application of this Arrangement may be referred to the Committee for discussion.

(c) The Committee shall review the operation of this Arrangement once a year and report to the CONTRACTING PARTIES. The review during the third year shall be a major review of this Arrangement in the light of its operation in the preceding years.

(d) The Committee shall meet not later than one year before the expiry of this Arrangement, in order to consider whether the Arrangement should be extended, modified or discontinued.

Article 9

For purposes of this Arrangement the expression "cotton textiles" includes yarns, piece-goods, made-up articles, garments, and other textile manufactured products, in which cotton represents more than 50 per cent (by weight) of the fibre content, with the exception of hand-loom fabrics of the cottage industry.

Article 10

For the purposes of this Arrangement, the term "disruption" refers to situations of the kind described in the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES of 19 November 1960, the relevant extract from which is reproduced in Annex C.
Article 11

1. This Arrangement is open for acceptance, by signature or otherwise, to governments parties to the GATT or having provisionally acceded to that Agreement, provided that if any such government maintains restrictions on the import of cotton textiles from other participating countries, that government shall, prior to its accepting this Arrangement, agree with the Cotton Textiles Committee on the percentage by which it will undertake to increase the quotas other than those maintained under Article XII or Article XVIII of the GATT.

2. Any government which is not party to the GATT or has not acceded provisionally to the GATT may accede to this Arrangement on terms to be agreed between that government and the participating countries. These terms would include a provision that any government which is not a party to the GATT must undertake, on acceding to this Arrangement, not to introduce new import restrictions or intensify existing import restrictions, on cotton textiles, insofar as such action would, if that government had been a party to the GATT, be inconsistent with its obligations thereunder.

Article 12

1. This Arrangement shall enter into force on 1 October 1962 subject to the provisions of paragraph 2 below.

2. The countries which have accepted this Arrangement shall, upon request of one or more of them, meet within one week prior to 1 October 1962 and, at that meeting, if a majority of these countries so decide, the provisions of paragraph 1 above may be modified.

Article 13

Any participating country may withdraw from this Arrangement upon the expiration of sixty days from the day on which written notice of such withdrawal is received by the Executive Secretary of GATT.

Article 14

This Arrangement shall remain in force for five years.

Article 15

The Annexes to this Arrangement constitute an integral part of this Arrangement.
ANNEX A

(The percentages in this Annex will be communicated in due course).
ANNEX B

1. (a) The level below which imports or exports of cotton textile products causing or threatening to cause market disruption may not be restrained under the provisions of Article 3 shall be the level of actual imports or exports of such products during the twelve-month period terminating three months preceding the month in which the request for consultation is made.

(b) Where a bilateral agreement on the yearly level of restraint exists between participating countries concerned covering the twelve-month period referred to in paragraph (a), the level below which imports of cotton textile products causing or threatening to cause market disruption may not be restrained under the provisions of Article 3 shall be the level provided for in the bilateral agreement in lieu of the level of actual imports or exports during the twelve-month period referred to in paragraph (a).

Where the twelve-month period referred to in paragraph (a) overlaps in part with the period covered by the bilateral agreement, the level shall be:

(i) the level provided for in the bilateral agreement, or the level of actual imports or exports, whichever is higher, for the months where the period covered by the bilateral agreement and the twelve-month period referred to in paragraph (a) overlap; and

(ii) the level of actual imports or exports for the months where no overlap occurs.

2. Should the restraint measures remain in force for another twelve-month period, the level for that period shall not be lower than the level specified for the preceding twelve-month period, increased by 5 per cent. In exceptional cases, where it is extremely difficult to apply the level referred to above, a percentage between 5 and 0 may be applied in the light of market conditions in the importing country and other relevant factors after consultation with the exporting country concerned.

3. Should the restraining measures remain in force for further periods, the level for each subsequent twelve-month period shall not be lower than the level specified for the preceding twelve-month period, increased by 5 per cent.
ANNEX C

Extract from the CONTRACTING PARTIES' Decision of 19 November 1960

"These situations generally contain the following elements in combination:

(i) a sharp and substantial increase or potential increase of imports of particular products from particular sources;

(ii) these products are offered at prices which are substantially below those prevailing for similar goods of comparable quality in the market of the importing country;

(iii) there is serious damage to domestic producers or threat thereof;

(iv) the price differentials referred to in paragraph (ii) above do not arise from governmental intervention in the fixing or formation of prices or from dumping practices.

In some situations other elements are also present and the enumeration above is not, therefore, intended as an exhaustive definition of market disruption."
ANNEX D

For the purposes of applying Article 9, the following list of the groups or sub-groups of the SITC is suggested. This list is illustrative and should not be considered as being exhaustive.

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ANNEX E

Interpretative Notes

1. **Ad. Article 3, paragraph 3**

   In Canada, there is no legislation whereby imports may be limited in a precise quantitative manner as envisaged in this paragraph. The provision available for limiting imports in order to avoid injury or a threat of injury to a domestic industry is contained in Section 40 A(7)(c) of the Customs Act which authorizes the application of special values for duty purposes. These special values cannot be used to achieve a precise level of imports. Accordingly, the participating countries recognize that, should Canada find it necessary to take action to limit imports pursuant to this Arrangement, it would not be in a position to ensure that imports would not fall below the minimum level as defined in this paragraph.

2. **Ad. Article 9**

   Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 9 any country which is applying a criterion based on value will be free to continue to use that criterion for the purposes of Article 9.