ELIMINATION OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON
LEATHER AND LEATHER FOOTWEAR

Communication from Japan

The following communication, dated 4 April 1986, has been received from the delegation of Japan.

1. As from 1 April 1986, the Government of Japan eliminated quantitative restrictions on leather imports in accordance with the panel report (L/5623) adopted at the GATT Council of May 1984, and at the same time eliminated those on leather footwear imports, for unbound as well as bound items respectively, while introducing a tariff quota system for these products.

2. The tariff quota system for leather and leather footwear will be enforced in the following principles and the Government of Japan is of the view that it will ensure a substantial improvement of market access and transparency in import procedures.

    (1) The primary-rate tariff quota will be a global quota on a m.f.n. basis.

    (2) The size of the total primary-rate quota will be set up in terms of volume and thus will not be dependent on fluctuations in price.

    (3) Both traditional and new importers will be eligible for primary-rate tariff quota.

    (4) The volume of quota under the primary rate will be prescribed in a government ordinance.

Such elements as qualifications for the tariff quota and allocation rules will be published in the Official Bulletin of MITI.

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