Arrangement regarding international trade in textiles

Notification under Article 4:4

Extension and amendment of the bilateral agreement between the EEC and Romania

Note by the Chairman

Attached is a notification received from the EEC of an extension with amendments of its agreement, initialled with Romania for the period 1 January 1993 to 31 December 1993.

1 The bilateral agreement, modifications and a previous extension are contained in COM.TEX/SB/1302, 1628, 1658, 1664, 1696 and 1700.

*English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente
Dear Ambassador,

In accordance with Article 4.4 of the Arrangement, I am pleased to enclose a copy of the Agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending the agreement between the European Economic Community and Romania on trade in textiles products. This Agreement extends the duration of the Agreement applied since 1 January 1987 for a further period of 12 months until 31 December 1993.

This is only an interim arrangement pending the negotiation of a Textiles Protocol to the Association Agreement between the Community and Romania, which will lay down measures for a reciprocal phasing out of all quantitative restrictions affecting trade in textiles and clothing. It is expected that this extension of the bilateral textiles agreement will be replaced by the Textiles Protocols later this year.

The terms of the bilateral Agreement are unchanged except for the following:

- as a result of the completion of the internal market of the EEC on 1 January 1993, there are no longer any quantitative limits at a regional level and there will be no breakdown of community limits into regional shares; in order to ensure a smooth implementation of these changes in management, certain provisions have been introduced to deal with problems which may arise in certain regions of the Community.

- the list of product categories covered by the Agreement (Annex 1) has been updated to take into account changes in nomenclature;

- pending the negotiation and implementation of the textiles protocols to the Association Agreement, market access for 1993 has been improved via uplifts to quota base levels for certain categories of products, before application of normal annual growth rates.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Dorian F. Prince

Ambassador M. Raffaelli
Chairman
Textiles Surveillance Body
GATT
Centre William Rappard
rue de Lausanne, 154
CH – 1211 GENEVA 21

1) This Annex which is standard for all countries, was forwarded with the EEC-Argentina Agreement.
AGREEMENT

IN THE FORM OF EXCHANGE OF LETTERS AMENDING THE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AND ROMANIA

ON TRADE IN TEXTILE PRODUCTS

Initialled in Brussels on 15 December 1992

[Signatures]
AGREEMENT

in the form of Exchange of Letters amending the Agreement between the
European Economic Community and Romania on trade in textile products

Letter Number One

Sir,

1. I have the honour to refer to the consultations held on 15 December
1992 between our respective delegations for the purpose of amending
the Agreement on trade in textile products between the European
Economic Community and Romania applied since 1 January 1987, as
extended by the Exchange of Letters applied since 1 January 1992
(hereinafter "the Agreement").

2. As a result of these consultations, both Parties agreed to amend
the following provisions of the Agreement:

2.1. Annex I, Annex II and the Annex to Protocol "E" which set out
the products concerned by the Agreement, the quantitative
restrictions for exports and the OPT operations respectively,
from Romania to the European Economic Community, are replaced
for the period 1 January 1993 to 31 December 1993 by Appendix
1, Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 to this letter, respectively.

2.2. Article 7, paragraph 6, of the Agreement is deleted.
2.3. Paragraph 2 of Article 9 is replaced by the following text:

"The information referred to in paragraph 1 shall, for all categories of products, be forwarded before the end of the month following the month to which the statistics relate."

2.4. Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 11 are replaced by the following text:

1. The quantitative limits established under this Agreement on imports into the Community of textile products of Romanian origin will not be broken down by the Community into regional shares.

2. The Parties shall cooperate in order to prevent sudden and prejudicial changes in traditional trade flows resulting in regional concentration of direct imports into the Community.

3. Romania shall monitor its exports of products under restraint into the Community. Should a sudden and prejudicial change in traditional trade flows arise, the Community will be entitled to request consultations in order to find a satisfactory solution to those problems. Such consultations must be held within fifteen working days of their being requested by the Community.

4. Romania shall endeavour to ensure that exports of textile products subject to quantitative limits into the Community are spaced out as evenly as possible over the year due account being taken in particular of seasonal factors."

2.5. Article 13 and all references to this Article in the Agreement are deleted.
2.6. The following phrase is added at the beginning of paragraph 1 of Article 14.

"1. Save where it is otherwise provided for in this Agreement, ..."

2.7. The second sentence of Article 18, paragraph 1, is replaced by the following text:

"It shall be applicable until 31 December 1993 or until the entry into force of the Protocol on quantitative arrangements referred to in Article 3, paragraph 2, of the Protocol N° 1 on Textile and Clothing products to the Europe Agreement between the Community and Romania, whichever date is earlier."

2.8. The first sentence of paragraph 1 of Article 7 of Protocol A is replaced by the following text:

"1. The export licence shall conform to the model annexed to this Protocol and it shall be valid for exports throughout the customs territory to which the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community is applied. However, where the Community has made recourse to the provisions of Article 7 in accordance with the provisions of the Agreed Minute N° 1, or to the Agreed Minute N° 2, the textile products covered by the export licences can only be put into free circulation in the region(s) of the Community indicated in those licences."
2.9. The second indent of Article 12, paragraph 1, of Protocol A to the Agreement is replaced by the following text:

"The import authorisations shall be valid for six months from the date of their issue for imports throughout the customs territory to which the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community is applied. However, where the Community has recourse to the provisions of Article 7 in accordance with the provisions of the Agreed Minute N° 1, or to the Agreed Minute N° 2, the products covered by the import licences can only be put into free circulation in the region(s) of the Community indicated in those licences."

2.10. The second and fifth indents of Article 14, paragraph 2, of Protocol A are replaced by the following text:

"- two letters identifying the intended Member State of customs clearance as follows:

BL = Benelux
DE = Germany
DK = Denmark
EL = Greece
ES = Spain
FR = France
GB = United Kingdom
IE = Ireland
IT = Italy
PT = Portugal"

"- a five-digit number running consecutively from 00001 to 99999 allocated to the intended Member State of customs clearance."
2.11. Paragraph 3 (b) of Protocol E to the Agreement is deleted.

2.12. Agreed Minute N° 1 set out in Appendix 4 to this letter shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

2.13. Agreed Minute N° 2 set out in Appendix 5 to this letter shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

2.14. Agreed Minute N° 3 set out in Appendix 6 to this letter shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

2.15. Agreed Minute N° 4 set out in Appendix 7 to this letter shall form an integral part of the Agreement.

3. The Parties agreed that this Agreement in the form of Exchange of Letters shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the day on which the Parties have notified each other that the legal procedures necessary to this end have been completed.

The Parties also agreed that this Agreement in the form of Exchange of Letters and the amendments hereby to the Agreement of 1987, as extended, shall be applied provisionally from 1 January 1993.

4. I should be obliged if you kindly confirm the acceptance of your Government of the foregoing.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

For the Council of the European Communities
ANNEX II

(The full product descriptions of the categories listed in this Annex are to be found in Annex I of the Agreement)

COMMUNITY QUANTITATIVE LIMITS

*(in tonnes or '000 pieces)*

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(*) For the purpose of setting off exports against the agreed quantitative limits a conversion rate of 5 garments (other than babies' garment) of a maximum commercial size of 130 cm, for 3 garments whose commercial size exceeds 130 cm may be applied for up to 5% of the quantitative limits. The export licence concerning these products must bear, in box 9, the words "The conversion rate for garments of a commercial size of not more than 130 cm must be applied".
ANNEX TO PROTOCOL E

(The full product descriptions of the categories listed in this annex are to be found in Annex I of the Agreement)

OPT QUOTAS

COMMUNITY QUANTITATIVE LIMITS

(in '000 pieces)

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AGREED MINUTE N° 1

In the context of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Romania on trade in textile products, initialed on 15 December 1992, the Parties agreed that Article 7 of the Agreement does not preclude the Community, if the conditions are fulfilled, from applying the safeguard measures for one or more of its regions in conformity with the principles of the internal market.

In such an event, Romania shall be informed in advance of the relevant provisions of Protocol A of the Agreement to be applied, as appropriate.

For the Government of
Romania

For the Council of the
European Economic Community
AGREED MINUTE N° 2

Notwithstanding Article 11, paragraph 1, of this Agreement, for imperative technical or administrative reasons or to find a solution to economic problems resulting from regional concentration of imports, or in order to combat circumvention and fraud of the provisions of this Agreement, the Community will establish for a limited period of time a specific management system in conformity with the principles of the Internal Market.

However, if the parties are unable to reach a satisfactory solution during the consultations provided for in Article 11 paragraph 3, Romania undertakes, if so requested by the Community, to respect temporary export limits for one or more regions of the Community. In such a case, these limits shall not preclude the importation into the region(s) concerned of products which were shipped from Romania on the basis of export licences obtained before the date of formal notification to Romania by the Community about the introduction of the above limits.

The Community shall inform Romania of the technical and administrative measures, such as defined in the attached Note Verbale, that need to be introduced by both Parties in order to implement the above paragraphs in conformity with the principles of the Internal Market.

For the Government of Romania

For the Council of the European Economic Community
In the context of the agreement between the European Economic Community and Romania on trade in textile and clothing products, initialled in Brussels on 15 December 1992, the Parties agreed that Romania shall endeavour not to deprive certain regions of the Community which have traditionally had relatively small shares of Community quotas of imports of products serving as inputs for their processing industry.

The Community and Romania further agreed to hold consultations, should the need arise, in order to avert any problems which might occur in this respect.

The Parties agreed that this Agreed Minute replaces the corresponding Joint Memorandum of the Agreement on this subject.

For the Government of Romania

For the Council of the European Economic Community
AGREED MINUTE N° 4

In the context of the Agreement between the European Economic Community and Romania on trade in textile and clothing products, applied since 1 January 1987, as extended by the Exchange of Letters initialled on 20 September 1991 and further extended by the Exchange of Letters initialled on 15 December 1992, Romania agreed that, from the date of request for and pending the consultations referred to in Article 11 paragraph 3, it shall cooperate by not issuing export licences that would further aggravate the problems resulting from the regional concentration of direct imports into the Community.

For the Government of Romania

For the Council of the European Economic Community