ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Article 3:6

Extension of the interim measure by Canada on imports from Jamaica

Note by the Chairman

Attached is a notification received from Canada of an extension of the interim measure on imports of underwear from Jamaica. The measure has been extended to 30 September 1993 to enable bilateral consultations on this matter.

*English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente
29 July, 1993

Ambassador Marcelo Raffaelli
Chairman
Textiles Surveillance Body
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
154 rue de Lausanne
1211 Genève
SUISSE

Dear Ambassador Raffaelli:

Further to my letter of 9 July 1993 concerning Canada’s MFA Article 3 actions vis-a-vis exports of T-shirts and underwear from Jamaica for import into Canada, I am enclosing a copy of a diplomatic note being delivered this week to the Jamaican Authorities by the Canadian High Commission in Kingston. You will note from this communication that the interim restraint arrangement relative to underwear is being continued through 30 September 1993 to allow an opportunity for the necessary consultations to take place.

As noted in the enclosure, there have been recent discussions between Canadian and Jamaican Authorities and, as of this point in time, dates in the week of September 6, 1993 are being considered for formal consultations in Kingston.

Yours sincerely,

John F. Donaghy
Counsellor
Text of Diplomatic Note from the Canadian High Commission, Kingston, Jamaica, July 1993

"The Canadian High Commission presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica and has the honour to advise that the Canadian Authorities wish to refer to its note No. 5526 of June 21, 1993, regarding consultations under Article 3 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (MFA) concerning exports from Jamaica of T-shirts and underwear.

In light of the delay in concluding these consultations, the Canadian Authorities in their note No. 5526 advised the Jamaican Authorities that they would be restraining imports of underwear from Jamaica for the period May 15 through July 31, 1993, at a level of 292,000 units. As of July 27, permits have been issued for 271,560 units, or 93 percent of the interim level.

In the course of recent discussion with the Jamaican Authorities, Canadian Authorities have proposed dates for consultations in early September in Jamaica. In light of the continued market disruption being caused by imports of underwear which originates in Jamaica and in order to provide stability to the trade until these consultations can be completed, Canadian Authorities will be extending the interim restraint to September 30, 1993, at a level of 395,458 units.

Although at this time, Canada is taking this action in the case of underwear only, Canada continues to reserve its rights with regard to T-shirts.

Canadian Authorities propose also that the consultation period provided for in Article 3:5(1) of the MFA be extended to September 30, 1993.

The Canadian High Commission avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica the assurances of its highest consideration. "