

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

CONFIDENTIAL

TEX.SB/1569*

1 June 1989

TARIFFS AND TRADE

Textiles Surveillance Body

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Notification under Article 4

Bilateral Agreement between Sweden and Singapore

Note by the Chairman

Attached is a notification received from Sweden of a bilateral agreement concluded with Singapore for the period 1 December 1988 to 31 December 1993.¹

¹The previous bilateral agreement is contained in COM.TEX/SB/1070.

* English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

SWEDISH DELEGATION

Geneva, 22 May 1989

Ambassador M. Raffaelli
Chairman of the Textiles
Surveillance Body
GATT
Geneva

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For			
Director General:			
TSB			
OPER. DEPT. A			
OPER. DEPT. B			

Dear Mr Ambassador,

Pursuant to Article 4:4 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles, as extended through the 1986 Protocol, I am notifying the Textiles Surveillance Body of the conclusion of a new bilateral agreement between Singapore and Sweden.

The new agreement with Singapore has been entered into for the period December 1, 1988 to December 31, 1993. In accordance with the Nordic Statement in the GATT Textiles Committee on July 31, 1986, a reduction has been made in the product coverage. Previous restraints on ex group 2, woven shirts, ex group 6, overcoats, group 11c, shorts and the Rest Group have been eliminated. Babies garments, i.e. sizes not exceeding 86 centimetres, not knitted or crocheted, are no longer under restraint.

Growth rates have been improved for all categories under restraint and now vary from 1,5% up to 4%, with the higher figures applicable during the later part of the agreement period.

All three elements of flexibility, i.e. carryover, carry forward and swing, are each available at 3%, or for one item 5%. The use of the flexibility provisions taken together shall not exceed 6%, or 10% for one item, of the restraint limits. The levels of flexibility have been agreed taking into account the sensitivity of the products under restraint in the Swedish market.

With respect to growth rates and flexibility provisions, reference is made to Annex B paragraph 2 of the Arrangement and paragraph 12 of the 1986 Protocol.

Due to the introduction of the Harmonized System, the composition of some groups have been modified. For group 5, sweaters etc, the scope has been extended to cover knitted shirts, T-shirts and knitted waistcoats. To compensate for the increased coverage in group 5, 119 160 pieces have been added to the notional twelve months restraint level for the first period of the new agreement. This quantity consists of 73 500 pieces, which were transferred from group 4, and 45 660 pieces of knitted shirts, which were added both to the combined level and to group 5.

A provision concerning the debiting of garments delivered in combination, sets or ensembles has been introduced. The following yearly compensation has been agreed upon due to this:

9 355 pieces to the combines level for groups 4 and 5. The same amount to group 5, 5 436 pieces to group 6cd, 28 754 pieces to group 8 and 2 800 pieces to group 9.

The situation of the Swedish textile and clothing industry remains exposed, although a certain improvement has occurred in some sectors recently. It remains, however, to be seen if it is merely of a

temporary nature. The number of persons employed in this sector has been further reduced during the period 1980-1987, from 34 000 to 25 000 in 1987. Average profitability in the textile and clothing industry is lower than in the industry in general.

Imports of clothing and other made-up textile products increased by 16% in volume between 1986 and 1987. Imports from developing countries during the same period increased by 23%. The market share for domestically produced items is thus decreasing. Import penetration in this sector as an average is well over 80%.

A copy of the new Agreement is attached.

Nils-Erik Schyberg

Minister

Deputy Permanent Representative to GATT

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF SINGAPORE
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN
REGARDING THE EXPORTS OF CERTAIN TEXTILE PRODUCTS
FROM SINGAPORE TO SWEDEN

ARTICLE 1

The following Agreement has been reached having regard to the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles bearing in mind particularly the provisions of article 4 thereof and the provisions of GATT document L/6030.

ARTICLE 2

This Agreement shall apply for the periods specified in Annex 1.

ARTICLE 3

The Government of Singapore will limit exports from Singapore to Sweden of the textile products, listed in Annex I to this Agreement, to the levels set out in that Annex. The date of shipment indicated on the shipping documents shall be considered to be the date of exportation.

ARTICLE 4

(a) This Agreement shall apply to exports from Singapore to Sweden of the textile products described in Annex I hereof, of cotton, wool or man-made fibres, or blend thereof, in which any or all of these fibres in combination represent either the chief value of the fibres or 50 per cent or more by weight (or 17 per cent or more by weight of wool).

(b) This Agreement shall also apply to the products described in Annex I hereof, which are manufactured from impregnated fabrics as defined in Annex III of this Agreement.

(c) The classification of the products covered by this Agreement is based on the International Convention on the Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System (HS) and the Swedish customs tariff derived from this system (Annex II).

(d) The origin of the products covered by this Agreement shall be determined in accordance with the rules in force in Sweden.

ARTICLE 5

The Government of Sweden will admit imports of the textile products of Singapore origin, listed in Annex I, provided that such imports are covered by an Certificate of Origin, as per specimen in Annex IV. Such a document shall be issued by the Controller of Imports and Exports, Singapore, be consecutively numbered, state the group number and bear an endorsement by the Trade Development Board, Singapore, that the consignments concerned have been approved and debited to the agreed group limit for exports to Sweden for the relevant period.

ARTICLE 6

(a) If in the period December 1, 1987 to November 30, 1988 the group limits specified in column (i) of Annex I to the Agreement of September 29, 1984, are not fully utilized, the Government of Singapore may after informing the Government of Sweden, during the period December 1, 1988 to December 31, 1989, approve the export of additional amounts (carryover), wherever appropriate, equivalent to such shortfalls provided that such exports

- i) are in the same groups where the shortfalls occurred;
- ii) do not exceed 5 per cent of the limit for group 1 as specified in column (i) of Annex I to the Agreement of September 29, 1984;
- iii) do not exceed 3 per cent of the limits for groups 4, 5, 6c, d, 8, 9 and 10 as specified in column (i) of Annex I to the Agreement of September 29, 1984.

(b) If in any twelve months period of this Agreement, the group limits specified in Annex I to this Agreement are not fully utilized, the Government of Singapore may, after informing the Government of Sweden, during the subsequent twelve months period approve the export of additional amounts (carryover) equivalent to such shortfalls provided that such exports

- i) are in the same group where the shortfalls occurred;

- ii) do not exceed 5 per cent of the limit for group 1 for the period during which the shortfalls occurred;
- iii) do not exceed 3 per cent of the limits for groups 4, 5, 6c, d, 8, 9 and 10 for the period during which the shortfalls occurred.

(c) During each twelve months period of this Agreement, the Government of Singapore may, after informing the Government of Sweden, approve the export of amounts in excess (carry forward) of the group limits specified in Annex I to this Agreement up to 5 per cent of these limits for group 1 and 3 per cent for groups 4, 5, 6c, d, 8, 9 and 10 for the relevant period. Where specific group limits have been increased by carry forward the Government of Singapore shall inform the Government of Sweden of the carry forward quantities and debit these to the corresponding group limits which are agreed or may be agreed upon for the subsequent period.

(d) During each twelve months period of this Agreement, the Government of Singapore may, after informing the Government of Sweden, approve the export of amounts in

excess of the group limits specified in Annex I to this Agreement up to 5 per cent of these limits for group 1 and 3 per cent for groups 4, 5, 6c, d, 8, 9 and 10 (swing). Where specific group limits have been increased by swing a corresponding reduction shall be made in one or more of other group limits. For the purpose of calculating swing, the conversion factors in Annex I shall apply.

(e) During each twelve months period of this Agreement, the additional export quantities resulting from carryover, carry forward and swing taken together shall, for specific group 1 not exceed 10 per cent of the respective agreed limit; For groups 4, 5, 6c, d, 8, 9 and 10 they shall not exceed 6 per cent.

ARTICLE 7

The Government of Singapore will forward to the Government of Sweden, via the Embassy of Sweden in Singapore, monthly statistics on a cumulative basis of the quantities of the items as listed in Annex I for which duly endorsed Certificates of Origin for export to Sweden have been issued. The statistics shall reach the Government of Sweden within a period of two months from the month under reference.

The Government of Sweden will forward to the Government of Singapore, via the Embassy of Sweden in Singapore, monthly statistics on a cumulative basis of licences issued for imports from Singapore. The statistics shall reach the Government of Singapore within a period of two months from the month under reference.

ARTICLE 8

If the information available to the Swedish authorities shows that the quantitative limit for the category of products specified in an Certificate of Origin has already been reached, or the unused portion of that limit is insufficient to cover the goods specified in the Certificate of Origin, the said authorities may refuse to admit any quantity in excess of the quantitative limit. In this event the Government of Sweden shall inform the Government of Singapore as soon as possible. Should any excess quantity be permitted to enter Sweden, the authorities of Singapore shall, upon information by the Swedish authorities, deduct the overshipped quantity from the relevant level which is agreed or may be agreed upon for the following restraint period.

ARTICLE 9

Both parties regard it as essential that exports from Singapore Sweden of goods listed in Annex I are evenly spaced throughout the period of agreement, taking into account normal seasonal factors, and that due consideration is given to traditional patterns of trade. Accordingly, the Government of Singapore undertakes to provide a procedure to achieve this.

ARTICLE 10

The Government of Singapore and the Government of Sweden agree to consult each other, at the request of either party, when any problem arises from the implementation of this Agreement. The Government of Singapore and the Government of Sweden agree furthermore to enter into consultations on a prolongation, modification or removal of the limitations before the end of the period of the Agreement.

Should a textile product, not included in this Agreement, be imported into Sweden from Singapore in such quantities as to cause a real risk of market disruption in the opinion of the Government of Sweden, the said Government may request consultations concerning that product. Both parties agree to consult as soon as possible with a view to finding a mutually acceptable solution.

In case there are divergent opinions on classifications of products at the point of entry into Sweden, between the two parties to this Agreement, the classification shall be based on information provided by the competent Swedish authorities. Should the Singapore authorities request consultations concerning the classification of the product concerned, such consultations shall take place with a view to reaching agreement as soon as possible.

ARTICLE 11

The Government of Singapore and the Government of Sweden agree to collaborate with a view to taking appropriate action to avoid circumvention of limitations set out in this Agreement.

The Government of Singapore and the Government of Sweden reaffirm their willingness to strengthen this collaboration, having regard to the administrative and technical procedures in force in Singapore for the implementation of this Agreement.

Where information available to the Government of Sweden constitutes clear evidence that products of Singapore origin subject to specific limits established under this Agreement have been transhipped, re-routed or otherwise imported into Sweden in circumvention of this Agreement, the Government of Sweden may request the opening of consultations in accordance with Article 10 herein. Where the evidence provided establishes that the provisions of this Agreement have been circumvented, the Government of Singapore undertakes to debit the appropriate specific limits for the year in which the circumvention took place or for subsequent years, the timing and scale of such debiting being decided in consultations with the Government of Sweden.

ARTICLE 12

Either Government may terminate this agreement before the end of the period of validity, provided that at least one hundred and twenty days' notice is given. In such event the Agreement shall come to an end on the expiry of the period of notice.

ARTICLE 13

The Annexes to this Agreement shall be considered as an integral part of it.

ARTICLE 14

This Agreement has been drawn up in two copies in the English language, each of these being equally authentic.

Done in Singapore on *14th May 1988*

For the Government of
Singapore

For the Government of
~~Sweden~~

ANNEX I

EXPORTS OF CERTAIN TEXTILES FROM SINGAPORE TO SWEDEN

(a) Group No	(b) Description	(c) Unit	(d) Level for period 88.12.01 - 89.12.31	(e) Level for period 90.01.01 - 90.12.31	(f) Level for period 91.01.01 - 91.12.31	(g) Level for period 92.01.01 - 92.12.31	(h) Level for period 93.01.01 - 93.12.31	(i) Conver- sion factor (pcs/kg)
1	Stockings, understockings, socks, ankle socks, sockettes and the like, knitted or crocheted, other than ladies' stockings of continuous synthetic fibres	pairs	435,122	411,692	424,043	438,885	456,440	25,0
4/5		pcs	1,390,714	1,306,201	1,332,325	1,362,303	1,396,360	5,5
	Sub-limit							
4	Underwear, including singlets and vests, knitted or crocheted, other than shirts, T-shirts, night garments and tights	pcs	451,269	423,846	432,323	442,050	453,101	
5	Sweaters, pullovers, slipovers, waistcoats and cardigans etc, T-shirts and shirts, knitted or crocheted	pcs	1,205,490	1,132,233	1,154,878	1,180,863	1,210,385	
6 c, d	Jackets	pcs	152,143	143,600	147,190	151,237	155,774	1,5
8	Trousers other than shorts (including work trousers e g trousers with bib and braces)	pcs	626,305	588,245	600,010	613,510	628,848	2,0
9	Costumes, dresses and skirts	pcs	204,962	192,507	196,357	200,775	205,794	4,0
10	Blouses	pcs	532,897	500,513	510,523	522,010	535,060	6,0

- A) Two or more pieces of garments delivered in combination, set or ensemble, even if packed, consigned and sold together, should be charged against the group to which every single piece of the combination, set or ensemble belongs.
- B) The denomination babies' garments applies to sizes not exceeding 86 centimetres.
- C) Babies' garments, not knitted or crocheted, are not restrained.
- D) Group 6 c/d, jackets, includes ladies suit jackets the outer shell of which (exclusive of sleeves and facings or collar if there is any) consists of at least four panels (two in front and two at the back) sewn together lengthwise, with full front opening without a closure or with a closure other than a slide fastener (zipper).

ANNEX II

EXPORTS OF CERTAIN TEXTILES FROM SINGAPORE TO SWEDEN

Group No	Ex Swedish Statistical Classification No (HS)
1	61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90- 61.15.91-, 92-, 93-, 99-
4	61.07.11-, 12-, 19-, 61.08.21-, 22-, 29-, 61.09.10-, 90- 61.08.11-, 19-, 61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90-
5	61.05.10-, 20-, 90- 61.09.10-, 90- 61.10.10-, 20-, 30-, 90-, 61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90-
6 c, d	61.01.10-, 20-, 30-, 90-, 61.02.10-, 20-, 30-, 90- 61.03.31-, 32-, 33-, 39- 61.04.31-, 32-, 33-, 39-, 61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90- 62.01.91-, 92-, 93-, 99-, 62.02.91-, 92-, 93-, 99- 62.03.31-, 32-, 33-, 39-, 62.04.31-, 32-, 33-, 39-
8	61.03.41-, 42-, 43-, 49-, 61.04.61-, 62-, 63-, 69- 61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90- 62.03.41-, 42-, 43-, 49-, 62.04.61-, 62-, 63-, 69-
9	61.04.11-, 12-, 13-, 19-, 41-, 42-, 43-, 44-, 49-, 51-, 52-, 53-, 59- 61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90- 62.04.11-, 12-, 13-, 19-, 41-, 42-, 43-, 44-, 49-, 51-, 52-, 53-, 59-
10	61.06.10-, 20-, 90- 61.11.10-, 20-, 30-, 90- 62.06.10-, 20-, 30-, 40-, 90-

DEFINITION OF "IMPREGNATED FABRICS" FOR THE PURPOSES OF
ARTICLE 4

- 1 Fabrics of cotton, wool or man-made fibres or any blend containing one or more of those fibres in which either wool represents 17 per cent or more by weight or any or all of those fibres in combination represent 50 per cent or more by weight of the unfinished fabric shall be defined as "impregnated fabrics" where those fabrics have been impregnated, coated, covered or laminated with preparations of cellulose derivatives or of other artificial plastic materials whatever the nature of the plastic material (compact, foam, sponge or expanded).
- 2 The definition does not cover:
 - a) fabrics which, after impregnation, coating, covering or lamination, cannot, without fracturing, be bent manually around a cylinder of a diameter of 7 mm at a temperature between 15 and 30 degrees C,
 - b) fabrics either completely embedded in artificial plastic material or coated or covered on both sides with such material.

1 Exporter (name, full address, country) 		<div style="float: right;">Annex IV</div> REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN/PROCESSING No.	
2 Consignee (name, full address, country) 		6 Country of Origin of Goods	7 Country of Final Destination
3 Departure Date	8 FOR OFFICIAL USE NO UNAUTHORISED ADDITION/ALTERATION MAY BE MADE TO THIS CERTIFICATE ONCE IT IS ISSUED		
4 Vessel's Name/Aircraft, etc.			
5 Port of Discharge			
9 Marks & Numbers	10 No. & Kind of Packages Description of Goods (Include brand names if necessary)	11 Quantity & Unit	
SPECIMEN			
12 CERTIFICATION BY THE COMPETENT AUTHORITY We hereby certify that evidence has been produced to satisfy us that the goods specified above are the manufacture or produce of the country as shown above. This Certificate is therefore issued and certified to the best of our knowledge and belief to be correct and without any liability on our part.			
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px;"> ORDINARY CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div> Controller Of Import and Exports Trade Development Board Republic of Singapore </div> <div> Officer in Charge </div> </div> </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; margin-top: 20px;"> The consignment above has been debited to the agreed limit for export to SWEDEN for Group No.....for pieces only. For Quota Year..... Date </div>	