

**GENERAL AGREEMENT
ON TARIFFS AND TRADE**

CONFIDENTIAL
TEX.SB/2058*
12 April 1994

Textiles Surveillance Body

ARRANGEMENT REGARDING INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN TEXTILES

Matter referred under Article 11

Jamaica/Canada

Note by the Chairman

Attached is a communication received from Jamaica concerning actions taken by Canada with respect to imports of underwear of Jamaican origin.¹

¹Canada's notifications under Article 3, are contained in TEX.SB/2019 and Add.1, 2035, 2048, 2050 and 2057.

*English only/Anglais seulement/Inglés solamente

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PERMANENT MISSION OF JAMAICA
TO THE OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS AT GENEVA

YOUR REF.:
OUR REF: 540/23

36, RUE DE LAUSANNE
CH-1201 GENEVA

28 March, 1994

Dear Ambassador Raffaeli,

As the Textiles Surveillance Body is aware, Canada, claiming that exports of underwear and T-shirts from Jamaica were causing disruption in the Canadian market, requested on 15 March, 1993 consultations with Jamaica, under Article 3.3 of the Arrangement Regarding International Trade in Textiles (MFA).

Three rounds of consultations were held, with the most recent taking place in February this year. During that period, unilateral restraints were imposed on the exports of underwear from Jamaica from 15 May, 1993 to 14 March, 1994.

Despite these consultations, both countries have been unable to arrive at a mutually acceptable agreement, as Jamaica did not accept that evidence sufficient to support the claims of market disruption had been provided. A further interim restraint has been introduced to 14 May, 1994.

In light of the above, Jamaica is requesting that this matter be examined by the Textiles Surveillance Body in accordance with the provisions of Article XI of the MFA. Jamaica, in the meantime, will continue to explore with Canada the possibility of arriving at a mutually acceptable agreement.

Ambassador Marcelo Raffaeli
Chairman
Textiles Surveillance Body
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
Centre William Rappard
154 rue de Lausanne
1211 Geneva 21

TJB

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Ambassador Marcelo Raffaeli
Chairman
Textiles Surveillance Body

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28 March, 1994

... Attached are copies of replies dated 11 and 25 March, 1994 respectively sent by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica to the Canadian High Commission in reference to the latter's Notes dated 7 and 15 March, 1994 respectively.

Yours sincerely,

V E Betton

Vivia E Betton (Miss)
Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

Attch.

137/602/110

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade presents its compliments to the Canadian High Commission and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the latter's Note No. 0169 of 15th March, 1994.

The Ministry notes that in the penultimate paragraph of Note No. 0169, the Canadian High Commission advises that the Government of Canada will be "...imposing as per Article 3:6 of the MFA an interim restraint on the importation of underwear that originates in Jamaica. This interim restraint will be in place for two months effective March 16, 1994." The Ministry observes that this additional period will in effect make the period for which Canada has imposed restraints on imports of underwear originating in Jamaica, one year. The Ministry therefore wishes to indicate its understanding that a renewal of the restraint for a period beyond one year, would be subject to the provisions of Article 3:8 of the MFA.

The Ministry also observes that Canada wishes to engage in consultations with Jamaica because of the "... very real potential for disruptive impact on the market..." of exports of underwear originating in Jamaica. Jamaica is mindful of its obligations under Article 4 of the MFA to conclude bilateral agreements on mutually acceptable terms in order, on the one hand, to eliminate real risks of market disruption in importing countries and disruption to the textile trade of exporting countries, and on the other hand, to ensure the expansion ...

trade in textiles.

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137/602/110

The Ministry therefore wishes to inform the High Commission that Jamaica is willing to enter into Consultations with Canada to conclude a mutually satisfactory agreement.

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



Kingston, 25 March, 1994

Canadian High Commission
J A M A I C A

137/602/110

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade presents its compliments to the Canadian High Commission and has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the latter's Note No. 0143 of 7th March, 1994 concerning textile exports from Jamaica to Canada, and wishes to advise that the contents have been duly noted.

The Ministry also wishes to express its regret that a mutually satisfactory agreement was not arrived at during the recent Consultations. The Ministry, however, wishes to indicate that it is available to continue discussions at any time.

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

Kingston, 11th March, 1994



Canadian High Commission