

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

CONFIDENTIAL

TEX.SB/W/1
10 May 1974

Textiles Surveillance Body

DRAFT REPORT ON THE FIRST MEETING HELD ON 23 APRIL

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body (TSB) held its first meeting on 23 April at the Villa Le Bocage under the Chairmanship of Mr. Paul Wurth. The meeting was attended by the following members: Mr. Chung, Mr. Colliander, Mr. Garrido, Mr. Meynell, Mr. Mizoguchi, Mr. Phelan, Mr. Saleem and Mr. Tomic.
2. Mr. Garrido informed the TSB that he would occupy the tripartite seat for the period 1 April to 30 July, that Mr. Dinzel would occupy the seat from 1 August to 30 September and, subsequently, Mr. Villars from 1 October to 31 December 1974.
3. The meeting was also attended by some alternates, the names of others would be communicated to the Chairman shortly.
4. The TSB addressed itself to a number of procedural and substantive points, in most cases the points were only discussed in a preliminary way and they will be reverted to at further meetings of the TSB.
5. Among the procedural points taken up was that of informal constituencies. In this connexion TSB members pointed out that they did not look upon themselves as representing purely national or sectoral interests but they had responsibilities vis-à-vis all participating countries in the Arrangement. The essential aim of the TSB was to seek conciliation and to use its good offices for this purpose. It was hoped that the participating countries had already been giving thought to the question as to which constituency their countries could most appropriately belong, and would get in touch with the members of the TSB concerned.

6. On the question of recommendations and findings by the TSB, it was agreed that these should be reached by consensus and not by vote. As regards cases before the TSB, it was agreed that it was essential that the parties to the dispute, whether TSB members or non-members, should be treated completely equally so that their interests were taken fully into account. It was also agreed that a summary of the major points discussed and the recording in full of any recommendations, findings or decisions would be circulated to all parties to the Arrangement.

7. In discussing substantive points, reference was made inter alia to the notification of existing restrictions in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 2. It was agreed that, in conformity with the Arrangement, and having due regard to possible third party interest, all existing restrictions, both against participants and non-participants, had to be notified.

8. The TSB received at this meeting all notifications which had been transmitted to the secretariat by participating countries in accordance with Article 2, paragraph 1, of the Arrangement. The examination of such notifications would be a principal task of the TSB at its next meeting. It was felt, however, that it would be important for at least the details in terms of the Textiles Committee's decision¹ to be provided therein. The TSB, therefore, asked the secretariat to request the countries concerned to supply any of such details at present lacking in their notifications. It would be, of course, for the members of the TSB themselves to judge the adequacy of such notifications before circulation to other participating countries for their information.

9. It was agreed that the next meeting of the TSB would be held on 21 and 22 May.

¹See COM.TEX/2, paragraph 11.