

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

CONFIDENTIAL

TEX.SB/W/197
23 January 1980

Textiles Surveillance Body

DRAFT REPORT OF THE FIRST MEETING (1980)¹

1. The Textiles Surveillance Body held its first meeting of 1980 from 16 to 18 January.
2. The Chairman welcomed the following members and alternates for the year 1980:

Members

Mr. C.A. Rego Santos-Neves (Brazil)
Mr. J.R. Beck (EEC)
Mr. M. Pullinen (Finland)
Mr. Safioen (Indonesia)
Mr. K. Kujirai (Japan)
Mr. Noh Soo Park (Korea)
Mr. M. Hamid (Pakistan)
Mr. R.I. Shepherd (United States)

Alternates

Mr. Alvaro Moerzinger (Uruguay)
Mr. L. de Gouvion St. Cyr (EEC)
Mr. R.J. Martin (Canada)
Mr. Kai Hean Seow (Singapore)
Mr. Tadashi Imai (Japan)
Mr. T.H. Chau (Hong Kong)
Mr. A. Hussain (India)

3. The following members were present: Messrs Beck, Hussain², Kujirai, Park, Pullinen, Santos-Neves, Seow/Seng³ and Shepherd.

¹ Ninety-sixth meeting overall of the TSB.

² Part attendance.

³ Substitute for Mr. Safioen.

4. Following the request made to it by the Textiles Committee, the TSB had a preliminary discussion regarding the preparation of a catalogue of all cases where the provisions of agreements entered into, involve variations from the provisions of Annex B of the Arrangement. Further discussion will continue in subsequent meetings.
5. In accordance with its decision taken last year, the TSB had a further exchange of views on the requirements of Article 11, paragraphs 11 and 12, and decided to revert to this matter at a later date.

Canada/Romania

6. The TSB had received a notification from Canada regarding a new Article 4 agreement concluded with Romania. In reviewing this agreement the TSB noted the absence of provisions for carry over and carry forward in respect of certain products covered therein. It also noted that the swing provisions in the agreement varied according to the import sensitivity of the products covered, and that no swing was provided into certain categories. The TSB recalled its earlier observations (see COM.TEX/SB/69, paragraph 4, and COM.TEX/SB/365, paragraph 74) with regard to either agreed rates of swing lower than those mentioned in paragraph 5 of Annex B, or to the lack of swing provisions and concluded that they would also be applicable to the agreement in question.
7. The TSB also noted that the growth provisions in the agreement varied from one to six per cent according to the import sensitivity of the products. The TSB observed, on the other hand, that the base levels established for this agreement in many instances constituted a significant increase in comparison with Canadian imports from Romania in those categories in 1978, as well as a substantial increase in overall access.
8. In its consideration of all elements of this agreement, including those specifically cited above, the TSB concluded that the agreement, in overall terms, was in conformity with the Arrangement. The TSB agreed to circulate the text of this agreement to the Textiles Committee (see COM.TEX/SB/522).

Canada/Singapore

9. The TSB had received a notification from Canada regarding a new Article 4 agreement concluded with Singapore. In reviewing this agreement, the TSB noted that the level established for acrylic yarn was lower than the trade performance in 1978, and that no swing was provided for with respect to this category. However, there were considerable increases in the levels of all other categories, thus providing a significant increase in net access for exports from Singapore in 1979, in comparison with Canadian imports from Singapore in 1978. The TSB therefore concluded that the agreement in overall terms was in conformity with the Arrangement. The TSB agreed to circulate the text of this agreement to the Textiles Committee (see COM.TEX/SB/523).

Canada/Macao and Canada/Sri Lanka

10. The TSB had received two notifications of new bilateral agreements concluded between Canada and each of Macao and Sri Lanka. After its examination of these two agreements the TSB agreed to transmit the texts of these notifications to the Textiles Committee (see documents COM.TEX/SB/524 and 525).

United States: amendments to Article 4 agreements

11. The TSB considered five notifications from the United States concerning amendments to its agreements concluded under Article 4, with each of Korea, Macao, Singapore, Malaysia and India. After its review, the TSB agreed to transmit these notifications to the Textiles Committee (see documents COM.TEX/SB/526, 527, 528, 529 and 530).

Notifications under Articles 7 and 8

12. The TSB received notifications from Canada of bilateral agreements concluded with the People's Republic of China and with Bulgaria; from Sweden of a bilateral agreement concluded with Malta; from the United States regarding restrictions on imports of certain textile items from the People's Republic of China; and from Malaysia of a bilateral agreement concluded with Norway. These notifications had

been made bearing in mind the request made by the Textiles Committee, that agreements concluded with, or actions taken against, non-participants should be notified. The texts of these notifications have been transmitted under Articles 7 and 8 to the Textiles Committee for information of participating countries (see documents COM.TEX/SB/531, 532, 533, 534 and 535).

Canada/Philippines

13. The TSB had received a notification from Canada concerning the continuation of the restrictions on Article 3:6 on imports from the Philippines of men's structured suits and jackets. The TSB took note that consultations between the two parties will take place shortly, and agreed to defer consideration of this matter pending notification of the results.

14. The TSB reviewed and agreed to transmit to the Textiles Committee the report received from El Salvador under Article 11, paragraphs 11 and 12 (see COM.TEX/SB/536).