

GATT/AIR/349

3 OCTOBER 1963

SUBJECT: THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE

1. THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE ON 2-6 DECEMBER 1963. AT THIS MEETING THE COMMITTEE WILL, INTER ALIA, REVIEW THE OPERATION OF THE LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 8(c) OF THE ARRANGEMENT AND DRAW UP A REPORT TO THE CONTRACTING PARTIES.

2. IN ORDER TO ENABLE THE NECESSARY PREPARATIONS FOR THE REVIEW TO BE MADE, THE PARTIES TO THE ARRANGEMENT ARE REQUESTED TO FURNISH THE SECRETARIAT, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND IN ANY CASE NOT LATER THAN 28 OCTOBER, WITH THE INFORMATION INDICATED BELOW, TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH INFORMATION HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED.

A. QUOTA OR IMPORT RESTRICTIONS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 2

3. PARAGRAPH 7 OF ARTICLE 2 OF THE LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT PROVIDES THAT THE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SHALL NOTIFY THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE, AND IN ANY CASE NOT LESS THAN ONE MONTH BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE LICENSING PERIOD, OF THE DETAILS OF ANY QUOTA OR IMPORT RESTRICTIONS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 2.

4. IT APPEARS TO THE SECRETARIAT THAT THE FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT IN PARAGRAPH 7 OF ARTICLE 2 WOULD BE MET BY THE PROVISION OF INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING LINES BY EACH PARTICIPATING COUNTRY MAINTAINING SUCH QUOTAS OR IMPORT RESTRICTIONS, THE INFORMATION BEING GIVEN SEPARATELY FOR EACH EXPORTING COUNTRY CONCERNED AND BY CATEGORY:

- (i) THE RESTRICTIONS AND QUOTAS EFFECTIVE IN 1962 (THE BASE PERIOD);
- (ii) CHANGES IN RESTRICTIONS AND QUOTAS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE FIRST YEAR OF THE ARRANGEMENT (i.e. 1 OCTOBER 1962-30 SEPTEMBER 1963);
- (iii) CHANGES IN RESTRICTIONS AND QUOTAS ENVISAGED FOR THE SECOND YEAR OF THE ARRANGEMENT.

B. INVOCATIONS OF PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 3

5. IN PARAGRAPH 1 OF ARTICLE 3, IT IS PROVIDED THAT A PARTICIPATING COUNTRY MAY REQUEST ANOTHER PARTICIPATING COUNTRY TO CONSULT WITH A VIEW TO REMOVING OR AVOIDING MARKET DISRUPTION. SUCH A REQUEST SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A DETAILED FACTUAL STATEMENT OF THE REASONS AND JUSTIFICATION FOR THE REQUEST; THE REQUESTING COUNTRY SHALL COMMUNICATE THE SAME INFORMATION TO THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE AT THE SAME TIME;

SENT BY : Executive Secretary, GATT, Tel. address : GATT GENEVA

ENVOYÉ PAR : Secrétaire exécutif, GATT, Adresse télégraphique : GATT GENÈVE

6. SOME PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES HAVE COMMUNICATED TO ME INFORMATION IN CONNEXION WITH THEIR INVOCATION OF PARAGRAPH 1 OF ARTICLE 3. IT IS APPARENT, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF PROCEDURE AND APPROACH AS REGARDS THE QUESTION OF NOTIFICATIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH 1 AND I FEEL THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL WISH TO CONSIDER AND CLARIFY THE SITUATION. THE INFORMATION WHICH I HAVE RECEIVED WILL NOW BE CIRCULATED TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHORTLY AND THIS MATERIAL MAY ALSO PROVIDE A USEFUL BASIS FOR THE COMMITTEE'S CONSIDERATION OF THIS QUESTION.

7. PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES ARE ALSO REMINDED ABOUT PARAGRAPH 6 OF ARTICLE 3, WHICH STATES THAT A PARTICIPATING COUNTRY HAVING RECOURSE TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 3 WILL REPORT FROM TIME TO TIME, AND IN ANY CASE ONCE A YEAR, TO THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE ON THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE RELAXATION OR ELIMINATION OF SUCH MEASURES.

C. ARRANGEMENTS ON OTHER TERMS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 4

8. ARTICLE 4 PROVIDES THAT PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES SHALL KEEP THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE FULLY INFORMED OF MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE ARRANGEMENTS ON OTHER TERMS, OR THE PARTS THEREOF, WHICH HAVE A BEARING ON THE OPERATION OF THE LONG-TERM ARRANGEMENT. I AM CIRCULATING SHORTLY TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE THE NOTIFICATIONS I HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE.

D. STATISTICS

9. AT ITS MEETING ON 13 NOVEMBER 1962, THE COTTON TEXTILES COMMITTEE AGREED THAT THREE QUESTIONNAIRES ASKING FOR STATISTICAL INFORMATION SHOULD BE SENT TO GOVERNMENTS IN ORDER TO ENABLE A STATISTICAL PROGRAMME TO BE INITIATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 8(4) OF THE ARRANGEMENT AND THE QUESTIONNAIRES WERE SUBSEQUENTLY DISTRIBUTED AS DOCUMENT COT/W/8. ONLY A FEW COUNTRIES¹ HAVE SO FAR SUBMITTED REGULARLY ALL THE INFORMATION ASKED FOR IN THE THREE QUESTIONNAIRES WITH THE RESULT THAT THE SECRETARIAT HAS BEEN UNABLE TO GET THE STATISTICAL PROGRAMME UNDER WAY. THOSE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE NOT SO FAR REPLIED TO THE QUESTIONNAIRES ARE THEREFORE REQUESTED TO DO SO AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. AT THE SAME TIME IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES IN COMPILING THE DATA REQUESTED WOULD INFORM ME ABOUT THE NATURE OF THESE DIFFICULTIES.

10. PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WILL AT A LATER DATE RECEIVE MORE DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT THE AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE.

E. WYNDHAM WHITE

¹FULL OR PARTIAL ANSWERS TO THE THREE QUESTIONNAIRES HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM INDIA, JAPAN, SWEDEN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM. SOME DATA IN CONNEXION WITH QUESTIONNAIRES I AND II HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM HONG KONG, WHILE CANADA AND PORTUGAL HAVE SUBMITTED ANSWERS TO QUESTIONNAIRE I. DENMARK HAS INFORMED THE SECRETARIAT OF ITS DIFFICULTIES IN COMPILING THE REQUESTED DATA.