

Request for Public Comments on Bilateral Textile Consultations with the Government of Bulgaria on Certain Wool Textile Products

December 13, 1995.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on categories for which consultations have been requested, call (202) 482-3740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854).

On November 29, 1995, in accordance with Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended, the Government of the United States requested consultations with the Government of Bulgaria with respect to women's and girls' wool suits in Category 444, produced or manufactured in Bulgaria.

The purpose of this notice is to advise the public that, if no solution is agreed upon in consultations with the Government of Bulgaria, the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements may later establish a limit for the entry and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of wool textile products in Category 444, produced or manufactured in Bulgaria and exported during the twelve-month period which began on November 29, 1995 and extends through November 28, 1996, at a level of not less than 59,569 numbers.

A statement of serious damage concerning Category 444 follows this notice.

Anyone wishing to comment or provide data or information regarding the treatment of Category 444, or to comment on domestic production or availability of products included in Category 444, is invited to submit 10 copies of such comments or information to Troy H. Cribb, Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20230; ATTN: Helen L. LeGrande. The comments received will be considered in the context of the consultations with the Government of Bulgaria.

Because the exact timing of the consultations is not yet certain, comments should be submitted promptly. Comments or information

submitted in response to this notice will be available for public inspection in the Office of Textiles and Apparel, room H3100, U.S. Department of Commerce, 14th and Constitution Avenue, NW., Washington, DC.

Further comments may be invited regarding particular comments or information received from the public which the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements considers appropriate for further consideration.

The solicitation of comments regarding any aspect of the implementation of an agreement is not a waiver in any respect of the exemption contained in 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1) relating to matters which constitute "a foreign affairs function of the United States."

The United States remains committed to finding a solution concerning Category 444. Should such a solution be reached in consultations with the Government of Bulgaria, further notice will be published in the Federal Register.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see Federal Register notice 59 FR 65531, published on December 20, 1994).
Troy H. Cribb,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Statement of Serious Damage

Bulgaria

Women's and Girls' Wool Suits—Category 444

November 1995

Import Situation and Conclusion

U.S. imports of women's and girls' wool suits, Category 444, from Bulgaria reached 59,569 units for the year-ending August 1995, almost 14 times the 4,305 units imported during the same period a year earlier. Bulgaria shipped 41,624 units during 1994 and 1,161 units in 1992. There were no imports from Bulgaria in 1993. Imports from Bulgaria were 4.6 percent of total U.S. imports of Category 444 in the year-ending August 1995, and were equivalent to 1.5 percent of U.S. production of Category 444 for the year-ending June 1995.

U.S. imports of women's and girls' wool suits from Bulgaria in Category 444 during the first eight months of 1995 was \$50.27 per unit, 65 percent below the average U.S. producers' price for women's and girls' wool suits.

The sharp and substantial increase of low-valued Category 444 imports from Bulgaria is causing serious damage to

the U.S. domestic industry producing women's and girls' wool suits.

U.S. Production, Import Penetration, and Market Share

U.S. production of women's and girls' wool suits, Category 444, fell from 6,286,000 units in 1992 to 4,309,000 units in 1994, a decline of 31 percent. Domestic production of women's and girls' wool suits continued to decline in 1995, falling to 3,961,000 units in the year-ending June 1995, 22 percent below the year-ending June 1994 level. In contrast, imports of Category 444 increased from 943,000 units in 1992 to 1,093,000 units in 1994, a 16 percent increase. Category 444 imports surged to 1,307,000 units in the year-ending August 1995, 24 percent above the year-ending August 1994 level.

The ratio of imports to domestic production increased from 15 percent in 1992 to 25 percent in 1994 to 31 percent in the year-ending June 1995. The share of the U.S. market for women's and girls' wool suits held by domestic manufacturers fell from 92 percent in 1992 to 88 percent in 1994, and to 82 percent in the year-ending June 1995.

[FR Doc. 95-30812 Filed 12-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the People's Republic of China

December 13, 1995.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Aldrich, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927-6703. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854).

The Bilateral Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textile Agreement,

effected by exchange of notes dated March 29, 1995 and June 8, 1995, between the Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China establishes limits for the period beginning on January 1, 1996 and extending through December 31, 1996.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish the 1996 limits. The limits for Categories 336, 362 and 642 in Group I have been reduced for carryforward applied in 1995.

These limits may be subject to revision pursuant to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC). On the date that China becomes a member of the World Trade Organization and the United States applies the Uruguay Round Agreements to China, the restraint limits will be modified in accordance with the ATC.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (see Federal Register notice 60 FR 65531, published on December 20, 1994). Information regarding the 1996 CORRELATION will be published in the Federal Register at a later date.

The letter to the Commissioner of Customs and the actions taken pursuant to it are not designed to implement all of the provisions of the bilateral agreement, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of its provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

December 13, 1995.

Commissioner of Customs,
Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: Under the terms of section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); pursuant to the Bilateral Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textile Agreement, effected by exchange of notes dated March 29, 1995 and June 8, 1995, between the Governments of the United States and the People's Republic of China, you are directed to prohibit, effective on January 1, 1996, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in China and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1996 and extending through

December 31, 1996, in excess of the following levels of restraint:

Category	Twelve-month limit	Category	Twelve-month limit	
Group I	1,431,618,042 square meters equivalent.	347/348	2,404,650 dozen.	
200, 218, 219, 226, 237, 239, 300/301, 313-315, 317/326, 331, 333-336, 338/339, 340-342, 345, 347/348, 350-352, 359-C ¹ , 359-V ² , 360-363, 369-D ³ , 369-H ⁴ , 369-L ⁵ , 410, 433-436, 438, 440, 442-444, 445/446, 447, 448, 607, 611, 613-615, 617, 631, 633-636, 638/639, 640-643, 644/844, 645/646, 647-652, 659-C ⁶ , 659-H ⁷ , 659-S ⁶ , 666, 669-P ⁹ , 670-L ¹⁰ , 831, 833, 835, 836, 840, 842 and 845-847, as a group.		350	154,357 dozen.	
Sublevels in Group I		351	500,983 dozen.	
200		655,730 kilograms.	352	1,801,164 dozen.
218		10,878,344 square meters.	359-C	559,672 kilograms.
219		2,255,185 square meters.	359-V	815,151 kilograms.
226		10,240,181 square meters.	360	7,176,252 numbers of which not more than 4,894,897 numbers shall be in Category 360-P ¹⁴ .
237		1,761,510 dozen.	361	4,012,966 numbers.
239		2,762,764 kilograms.	362	6,978,163 numbers.
300/301		3,700,967 kilograms.	363	29,977,812 numbers.
313		41,216,950 square meters.	369-D	4,480,901 kilograms.
314		47,544,226 square meters.	369-H	4,645,985 kilograms.
315		159,895,467 square meters.	369-L	3,070,837 kilograms.
317/326		19,743,397 square meters of which not more than 3,777,300 square meters shall be in Category 326.	410	1,958,724 square meters of which not more than 1,570,129 square meters shall be in Category 410-B ¹⁶ .
331		4,861,921 dozen pairs.	433	22,823 dozen.
333		90,718 dozen.	434	13,004 dozen.
334		305,459 dozen.	435	23,885 dozen.
335		375,032 dozen.	436	14,862 dozen.
336		153,702 dozen.	438	26,007 dozen.
338/339		2,370,396 dozen of which not more than 1,799,390 dozen shall be in Categories 338-S/339-S ¹¹ .	440	37,155 dozen of which not more than 21,231 dozen shall be in Category 440-M ¹⁷ .
340		816,568 dozen of which not more than 408,284 dozen shall be in Category 340-Z ¹² .	442	41,401 dozen.
341		652,595 dozen of which not more than 391,557 dozen shall be in Category 341-Y ¹³ .	443	133,754 numbers.
342		256,222 dozen.	444	200,831 numbers.
345		128,260 dozen.	445/446	284,340 dozen.
			447	77,298 dozen.
			448	21,729 dozen.
			607	3,038,521 kilograms.
			611	5,193,696 square meters.
			613	7,128,602 square meters.
			614	11,202,088 square meters.
			615	23,320,711 square meters.
			617	16,293,945 square meters.
			631	1,184,416 dozen pairs.
			633	53,496 dozen.
			634	582,000 dozen.
		635	607,949 dozen.	
		636	525,752 dozen.	
		638/639	2,365,174 dozen.	
		640	1,437,870 dozen.	
		641	1,293,980 dozen.	
		642	300,013 dozen.	
		643	485,182 numbers.	
		644/844	3,474,297 numbers.	
		645/646	820,148 dozen.	
		647	1,509,521 dozen.	
		648	1,078,543 dozen.	
		649	876,418 dozen.	
		650	109,116 dozen.	

Category	Twelve-month limit
651	736,428 dozen of which not more than 129,653 dozen shall be in Category 651-B ¹⁸ .
652	2,513,085 dozen.
659-C	389,873 kilograms.
659-H	2,683,454 kilograms.
659-S	580,290 kilograms.
666	3,376,561 kilograms.
669-P	1,894,083 kilograms.
670-L	15,074,868 kilograms.
831	503,383 dozen.
833	26,336 dozen.
835	119,061 dozen pairs.
836	264,027 dozen.
840	463,151 dozen.
842	255,783 dozen.
845	2,420,585 dozen.
846	165,561 dozen.
847	1,222,614 dozen.
Group II	
330, 332, 349, 353, 354, 359-O ¹⁹ , 431, 432, 439, 459, 630, 632, 653, 654 and 659-O ²⁰ , as a group.	121,132,059 square meters equivalent.
Group III	
201, 220, 222, 223, 224-V ²¹ , 224-O ²² , 225, 227, 229, 369-O ²³ , 400, 414, 464, 465, 469, 600, 603, 604-O ²⁴ , 606, 618-622, 624-629, 665, 669-O ²⁵ and 670-O ²⁶ , as a group.	255,798,114 square meters equivalent.
Sublevel in Group III	
224-V	3,393,051 square meters.
Group IV	
832, 834, 838, 839, 843, 850-852, 858 and 859, as a group.	11,030,580 square meters equivalent.
Levels not in a Group	
369-S ²⁷	610,158 kilograms.
863-S ²⁸	8,532,986 numbers.
870	32,771,172 kilograms.

¹ Category 359-C: only HTS numbers 6103.42.2025, 6103.49.8034, 6104.62.1020, 6104.69.8010, 6114.20.0052, 6203.42.2090, 6211.32.0010, 6211.42.0010.

² Category 359-V: only HTS numbers 6103.19.2030, 6103.19.9030, 6104.12.0040, 6104.19.8040, 6110.20.1022, 6110.20.1024, 6110.20.2030, 6110.20.2035, 6110.90.9044, 6110.90.9046, 6201.92.2010, 6202.92.2020, 6203.19.1030, 6203.19.9030, 6204.12.0040, 6204.19.8040, 6211.32.0070 and 6211.42.0070.

³ Category 369-D: only HTS numbers 6302.60.0010, 6302.91.0005 and 6302.91.0045.

⁴ Category 369-H: only HTS numbers 4202.22.4020, 4202.22.4500 and 4202.22.8030.

⁵ Category 369-L: only HTS numbers 4202.12.4000, 4202.12.8020, 4202.12.8060, 4202.92.1500, 4202.92.3015 and 4202.92.6090.

⁶ Category 659-C: only HTS numbers 6103.23.0055, 6103.43.2020, 6103.43.2025, 6103.49.2000, 6103.49.8038, 6104.63.1020, 6104.63.1030, 6104.69.1000, 6104.69.8014, 6114.30.3044, 6114.30.3054, 6203.43.2010, 6203.43.2090, 6203.49.1010, 6203.49.1090, 6204.63.1510, 6204.69.1010, 6210.10.9010, 6211.33.0010, 6211.33.0017 and 6211.43.0010.

⁷ Category 659-H: only HTS numbers 6502.00.9030, 6504.00.9015, 6504.00.9060, 6505.90.5090, 6505.90.6090, 6505.90.7090 and 6505.90.8090.

⁸ Category 659-S: only HTS numbers 6112.31.0010, 6112.31.0020, 6112.41.0010, 6112.41.0030, 6112.41.0040, 6211.11.1010, 6211.11.1020, 6211.12.1010 and 6211.12.1020.

⁹ Category 669-P: only HTS numbers 6305.31.0010, 6305.31.0020 and 6305.39.0000.

¹⁰ Category 670-L: only HTS numbers 4202.12.8030, 4202.12.8070, 4202.92.3020, 4202.92.3030 and 4202.92.9025.

¹¹ Category 338-S: all HTS numbers except 6109.10.0012, 6109.10.0014, 6109.10.0018 and 6109.10.0023; Category 339-S: all HTS numbers except 6109.10.0040, 6109.10.0045, 6109.10.0060 and 6109.10.0065.

¹² Category 340-Z: only HTS numbers 6205.20.2015, 6205.20.2020, 6205.20.2050 and 6205.20.2060.

¹³ Category 341-Y: only HTS numbers 6204.22.3060, 6206.30.3010, 6206.30.3030 and 6211.42.0054.

¹⁴ Category 360-P: only HTS numbers 6302.21.3010, 6302.21.5010, 6302.21.9010, 6302.31.5010, 6302.31.7010 and 6302.31.9010.

¹⁵ Category 410-A: only HTS numbers 5111.11.3000, 5111.11.7030, 5111.11.7060, 5111.19.2000, 5111.19.6020, 5111.19.6040, 5111.19.6060, 5111.19.6080, 5111.20.9000, 5111.30.9000, 5111.90.3000, 5111.90.9000, 5111.90.9000, 5212.12.1010, 5212.13.1010, 5212.14.1010, 5212.15.1010, 5212.21.1010, 5212.22.1010, 5212.23.1010, 5212.24.1010, 5212.25.1010, 5311.00.2000, 5407.91.0510, 5407.92.0510, 5407.93.0510, 5407.94.0510, 5408.31.0510, 5408.32.0510, 5408.33.0510, 5408.34.0510, 5515.13.0510, 5515.22.0510, 5515.92.0510, 5516.31.0510, 5516.32.0510, 5516.33.0510, 5516.34.0510 and 6301.20.0020.

¹⁶ Category 410-B: only HTS numbers 5007.10.6030, 5007.90.6030, 5112.11.2030, 5112.11.2060, 5112.19.9010, 5112.19.9020, 5112.19.9030, 5112.19.9040, 5112.19.9050, 5112.19.9060, 5112.20.3000, 5112.30.3000, 5112.90.3000, 5112.90.9010, 5112.90.9090, 5212.11.1020, 5212.12.1020, 5212.13.1020, 5212.14.1020, 5212.15.1020, 5212.21.1020, 5212.22.1020, 5212.23.1020, 5212.24.1020, 5212.25.1020, 5309.21.2000, 5309.29.2000, 5407.91.0520, 5407.92.0520, 5407.93.0520, 5407.94.0520, 5408.31.0520, 5408.32.0520, 5408.33.0520, 5408.34.0520, 5515.13.0520, 5515.22.0520, 5515.92.0520, 5516.31.0520, 5516.32.0520, 5516.33.0520 and 5516.34.0520.

¹⁷ Category 440-M: HTS numbers 6203.21.0030, 6203.23.0030, 6205.10.1000, 6205.10.2010, 6205.10.2020, 6205.30.1510, 6205.30.1520, 6205.90.3020, 6205.90.4020 and 6211.31.0030.

¹⁸ Category 651-B: only HTS numbers 6107.22.0015 and 6108.32.0015.

¹⁹ Category 359-O: all HTS numbers except 6103.42.2025, 6103.49.8034, 6104.62.1020, 6104.69.8010, 6114.20.0048, 6114.20.0052, 6203.42.2010, 6203.42.2090, 6204.62.2010, 6211.32.0010, 6211.32.0025, 6211.42.0010 (Category 359-C); 6103.19.2030, 6103.19.9030, 6104.12.0040, 6104.19.8040, 6110.20.1022, 6110.20.1024, 6110.20.2030, 6110.20.2035, 6110.90.9044, 6110.90.9046, 6201.92.2010, 6202.92.2020, 6203.19.1030, 6203.19.9030, 6204.12.0040, 6204.19.8040, 6211.32.0070 and 6211.42.0070 (Category 359-V).

²⁰ Category 659-O: all HTS numbers except 6103.23.0055, 6103.43.2020, 6103.43.2025, 6103.49.2000, 6103.49.8038, 6104.63.1020, 6104.63.1030, 6104.69.1000, 6104.69.8014, 6114.30.3044, 6114.30.3054, 6203.43.2010, 6203.43.2090, 6203.49.1010, 6203.49.1090, 6204.63.1510, 6204.69.1010, 6210.10.9010, 6211.33.0010, 6211.33.0017, 6211.43.0010 (Category 659-C); 6502.00.9030, 6504.00.9015, 6504.00.9060, 6505.90.5090, 6505.90.6090, 6505.90.7090, 6505.90.8090 (Category 659-H); 6112.31.0010, 6112.31.0020, 6112.41.0010, 6112.41.0020, 6112.41.0030, 6112.41.0040, 6211.11.1010, 6211.11.1020, 6211.12.1010 and 6211.12.1020 (Category 659-S).

²¹ Category 224-V: only HTS numbers 5801.21.0000, 5801.23.0000, 5801.24.0000, 5801.25.0010, 5801.25.0020, 5801.26.0010, 5801.26.0020, 5801.31.0000, 5801.33.0000, 5801.34.0000, 5801.35.0010, 5801.35.0020, 5801.36.0010 and 5801.36.0020.

²² Category 224-O: all HTS numbers except 5801.21.0000, 5801.23.0000, 5801.24.0000, 5801.25.0010, 5801.25.0020, 5801.26.0010, 5801.26.0020, 5801.31.0000, 5801.33.0000, 5801.34.0000, 5801.35.0010, 5801.35.0020, 5801.36.0010 and 5801.36.0020 (Category 224-V).

²³ Category 369-O: all HTS numbers except 6302.60.0010, 6302.91.0005 and 6302.91.0045 (Category 369-D); 4202.22.4020, 4202.22.4500, 4202.22.8030 (Category 369-H); 4202.12.4000, 4202.12.8020, 4202.12.8060, 4202.92.1500, 4202.92.3015, 4202.92.6090 (Category 369-L); and 6307.10.2005 (Category 369-).

²⁴ Category 604-O: all HTS numbers except 5509.32.0000 (Category 604-A).

²⁵ Category 669-O: all HTS numbers except 6305.31.0010, 6305.31.0020 and 6305.39.0000 (Category 669-P).

²⁶ Category 670-O: only HTS numbers 4202.22.4030, 4202.22.8050 and 4202.32.9550.

²⁷ Category 369-S: only HTS number 6307.10.2005.

²⁸ Category 863-S: only HTS number 6307.10.2015.

Imports charged to these category limits for the period January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995 shall be charged against those levels of restraint to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event the limits established for that period has been exhausted by previous entries, such goods shall be subject to the levels set forth in this directive.

The conversion factor for merged Categories 638/639 is 12.96 (square meters equivalent/category unit).

Should China become a member of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United States applies the Uruguay Round Agreements to China, the limits set forth above may be subject to adjustment in the future pursuant to the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and any administrative arrangements notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body.

In carrying out the above directions, the Commissioner of Customs should construe entry into the United States for consumption to include entry for consumption into the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 95-30807 Filed 12-18-95; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

Amendment of Import Limits and Establishment of Special Access Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Colombia

December 13, 1995.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA).

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs amending import limits and establishing special access levels.

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 20, 1995.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Aldrich, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927-5850. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482-3715.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended; section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854).

Pursuant to Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) dated June 27, 1995 and August 9, 1995, Special Access Levels are being established for textile products in Categories 352/652 and 444 under the Andean Special Access Textile Program for textile products which are assembled in Colombia from fabric wholly formed and cut in the United States that are intended for re-export to the United States during the periods April 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995 (Categories 352/652) and January 1, 1995 through December 31, 1995 (Category 444). There is a sublimit for products that are not assembled from U.S. formed and cut fabrics.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish a Special Access Level at 22,500,000 dozen for Categories 352/652 and 201,000 numbers for Category 444. The current limits for Categories 352/652 and 444 shall be amended to become sublimits to the Special Access Levels at