

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard H. Schaefer, Chief, Staff Office for Intergovernmental and Recreational Fisheries, NMFS, 301-427-2014.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On September 12, 1997, NMFS published a document in the **Federal Register** (FR) (62 FR 48060) announcing the Secretary's determination that the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts were not in compliance with the Commission's FMPs for scup and black sea bass. In the document a moratorium was declared on fishing for these two species in Maryland and Massachusetts state waters, effective November 15, 1997, if Maryland and Massachusetts were not in compliance by November 1, 1997. Details were provided in the September 12, 1997, FR document and are not repeated here.

The Act specifies that, if, after a moratorium is declared with respect to a State, the Secretary is notified by the Commission that it is withdrawing the determination of noncompliance, the Secretary shall immediately determine whether the State is in compliance with the applicable plan(s). If the State is determined to be in compliance, the moratorium shall be terminated.

Activities Pursuant to the Act

On October 31, 1997, the Secretary received letters from the Commission prepared pursuant to the Act. The Commission's letters stated that the State of Maryland and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts had now in effect regulations on scup and black sea bass implementing the provisions of the Commission's FMPs, and, therefore, the Commission was withdrawing its determinations of noncompliance. In addition, upon further evaluation of the noncompliance status of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Secretary has determined that Massachusetts had in place the proper permit and reporting requirements for scup, and, therefore, was not out of compliance on these measures.

Cancellation of the moratorium

Based on the Commission's October 31, 1997, letter, and information received from the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Department of Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Secretary has determined that Maryland and Massachusetts are now in compliance with the Commission's FMPs for scup and black sea bass. Therefore, the moratorium on fishing for these species

in Maryland and Massachusetts state waters is canceled.

Dated: November 6, 1997.

David L. Evans,

Deputy Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-29877 Filed 11-7-97; 4:04 pm]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Adjustment of an Import Limit for Certain Cotton Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Bahrain

November 6, 1997.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs increasing a limit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 13, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Heinzen, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of this limit, 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); Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

The current limit for Categories 338/339 is being increased for carryforward.

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 61 FR 66263, published on December 17, 1996). Also see 61 FR 68241, published on December 27, 1996.

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 Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, but are designed to assist only in the

implementation of certain of their provisions.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

November 6, 1997.

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

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on December 20, 1996, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in Bahrain and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1997 and extends through December 31, 1997.

Effective on November 13, 1997, you are directed to increase the limit for Categories 338/339 to 581,866 dozen¹, as provided for under the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to 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. 97-29879 Filed 11-12-97; 8:45 am]

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton, Wool, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Burma (Myanmar)

November 6, 1997.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 1998.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ross Arnold, 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

¹ The limit has not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1996.