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TURKEY – RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF TEXTILE AND CLOTHING PRODUCTS

Status Report by Turkey

The following communication, dated 14 July 2000, from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the Chairman of the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated pursuant to Article 21.6 of the DSU.

Status Report of Turkey
on the Implementation of the Recommendations
and Rulings of the Dispute Settlement Body (DSB)
in the Dispute concerning
Turkey – Restrictions on Imports of Textile and Clothing Products

In compliance with Article 21.6 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes (DSU), the Government of Turkey submits to the DSB its first status report as follows:

1. The Turkish authorities have held preliminary discussions in New Delhi with the Indian authorities towards a mutually satisfactory solution to this highly intricate and controversial dispute.

Within the framework of these discussions, both sides put forward constructive ideas which a possible settlement of the dispute might be based on. For further discussions to this end, Turkey has already informed India of its readiness to meet the Indian counterparts to take up the substance of the ideas suggested during preliminary discussions. We are optimistic that a successful outcome will emerge from the meeting when the representatives of India and Turkey convene.

2. As we have previously stated at various DSB meetings, due to Turkey's legal obligations and commitments within the framework of the Customs Union with the European Communities (EC) the process for implementation would be a difficult one and would require decisions to be taken together with the EC as well as with India. Taking this into consideration, the Government of Turkey, additionally, has held consultations with the EC regarding some related issues including the alternative solutions to the application of quantitative limits as recommended by the Panel and the Appellate Body in their respective reports, WT/DS34/R and WT/DS34/AB/R.