

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

WT/DS32/2

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UNITED STATES - MEASURES AFFECTING IMPORTS OF WOMEN'S AND GIRLS' WOOL COATS

Communication from India

The following communication from the Permanent Mission of India, dated 25 April 1996, is circulated in accordance with the DSU.

This is with regard to the communication sent by me through my letter No. GEN/PMI/WTO/204/13/96/2 dated 14 March 1996 requesting for the establishment of a panel to examine the matter arising out of the measure taken by the United States on imports of Category 435 (Women's and Girls' Wool Coats) from India. You would kindly recall that on the basis of this request, the Dispute Settlement Body, in its meeting held on 17 April 1996, decided to establish a panel. The Secretariat is in the process of arriving at the composition of the panel in consultation with India and the United States.

In the meanwhile, I have received a fax message on 23 April 1996 from the Chief Textile Negotiator of the United States, who is currently in Geneva, informing me that the United States has removed the restraint on Category 435 through a notification in the Federal Register on 23 April 1996 and that this notification comes into effect from 24 April 1996. We find that this is in keeping with the statement by the United States Ambassador in the DSB meeting held on 27 March 1996.

In the light of the above, the Government of India has decided to request termination of further action in pursuance of the decision taken by the DSB on 17 April 1996 to establish a panel to examine matters arising out of the United States' action with regard to Category 435.

I would however like to add that India is making this request without prejudice to its stand that the restraint introduced by the United States on imports of Category 435 from India effective from 18 April 1995 is inconsistent with the ATC. Further, this request is also without prejudice to India's stand on various factual and legal issues outlined by India in its request for establishment of a panel (document No. WT/DS32/1 dated 15 March 1996).