

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

RESTRICTED

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TURKEY - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS OF TEXTILE AND CLOTHING PRODUCTS

Request for Consultations by Hong Kong

The following communication, dated 12 February 1996, from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office to the Permanent Mission of Turkey and to the Dispute Settlement Body, is circulated in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU.

My authorities have instructed me to request consultations with the Government of Turkey under Article XXII:1 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 ("GATT 1994") and pursuant to Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU"), regarding the unilateral imposition of quantitative restrictions by Turkey on imports of a broad range of textile and clothing products from Hong Kong as from 1 January 1996.

Hong Kong considers that these restrictions are inconsistent with Turkey's obligations under Articles XI and XIII of GATT 1994 and are not justified under Article XXIV of GATT 1994, which does not provide for the imposition of discriminatory quantitative restrictions. Hong Kong also considers that the restrictions are inconsistent with Turkey's obligations under Article 2 of the World Trade Organization Agreement on Textiles and Clothing.

I am addressing a copy of this request to the Chairpersons of the Dispute Settlement Body, the Council for Trade in Goods and the Textiles Monitoring Body for notification in accordance with Article 4.4 of the DSU.

I look forward to receiving the reaction of your authorities to this request so that we can arrange a mutually convenient date and place for the consultations, which Hong Kong suggests be held in Geneva in the week beginning 11 March 1996.