Dated: November 26, 1996.

Jeffrey P. Bialos,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for

Import Administration.

[FR Doc. 96-31456 Filed 12-10-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton, Man-Made Fiber, Silk Blend and Other Vegetable Fiber Textiles and Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Hong Kong

December 5, 1996.

AGENCY: Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

(CÎTA).

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 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 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); Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

The import restraint limits for textile products, produced or manufactured in Hong Kong and exported during the period January 1, 1997 through December 31, 1997 are based on limits notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body pursuant to the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC).

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to establish the 1997 limits. These limits have been increased, variously, for adjustments permitted under the flexibility provisions of 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 65299, published on December 19, 1995). Information regarding the 1997 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 Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the ATC, but are designed to assist only in the implementation of certain of their provisions.

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

December 5, 1997.

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

Dear Commissioner: Under the terms of section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854), the Uruguay Round Agreements Act and the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing (ATC); and in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended, you are directed to prohibit, effective on January 1, 1997, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in Hong Kong and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on January 1, 1997 and extending through December 31, 1997, in excess of the following levels of restraint:

Category	Twelve-month restraint limit
Group I	
200–229, 300–326, 360–369, 400– 414, 464–469, 600–629 and 665– 670, as a group.	236,571,223 square meters equivalent.
Sublevels in Group I	
219	40,765,382 square meters.
218/225/317/326	72,329,264 square meters of which not more than 3,983,614 square meters shall be in Category 218(1)¹ (yarn dyed fabric other than denim and jacquard).
611	6,427,213 square me- ters.
617	4,055,120 square meters.

Category	Twelve-month restraint limit		
Group I subgroup 200, 226/313, 314, 315, 369(1) and 604, as a group Within Group I sub-	108,370,178 square meters equivalent.		
group 200 226/313	351,463 kilograms. 73,124,341 square meters.		
314	19,720,758 square meters		
315	9,750,009 square me- ters.		
369(1) ² (shoptowels) 604 Group II	801,254 kilograms. 241,257 kilograms.		
237, 239, 330–359, 431–459, 630–659 and 443/444/643/ 644/843/844(1), as a group.	861,136,621 square meters equivalent.		
Sublevels in Group II 237 239 331 331 338/334 335 338/339 (shirts and blouses other than tank tops and	1,178,824 dozen. 5,403,886 kilograms. 4,213,404 dozen pairs. 299,232 dozen. 342,293 dozen. 2,909,387 dozen.		
tops, knit). 338/339(1) ⁴ (tank	2,185,837 dozen.		
tops and knit tops). 340	2,786,045 dozen. 455,179 dozen. 6,749,465 dozen of which not more than 6,659,465 dozen shall be in Cat- egories 347–W/348– W ⁵ ; not more than 5,046,796 dozen shall be in Category		
352 359(1) ⁶ (coveralls, overalls and	348–W ⁶ . 6,933,688 dozen. 613,340 kilograms.		
jumpsuits). 359(2) 7 (vests)	1,278,325 kilograms. 10,359 dozen. 11,121 dozen. 76,592 dozen. 99,757 dozen. 819,284 dozen. 91,889 dozen. 62,939 numbers. 41,607 numbers. 1,354,168 dozen. 68,101 dozen. 654,264 dozen pairs. 1,342,208 dozen of which not more than 502,016 dozen shall be in Categories 633/634 and not more than 1,030,664 dozen shall be in		
638/639 641 644	Category 635. 4,884,258 dozen. 843,978 dozen. 44,376 numbers.		

645/646

647 544,261 dozen.

1,338,683 dozen.

Category	Twelve-month restrair limit
648	1,159,658 dozen of which not more than 1,144,868 dozen shall be in Category 648–W ⁸ .
649	837,944 dozen. 173,283 dozen. 4,935,766 dozen. 677,901 kilograms.
659(2) ¹⁰ (swimsuits) 443/444/643/644/ 843/844(1) (made- to-measure suits).	276,711 kilograms. 57,573 numbers.
Group II subgroup 336,341, 342, 350, 351, 636, 640, 642 and 651, as a group.	156,179,899 square meters equivalent.
Within Group II sub- group 336	227,679 dozen. 2,820,117 dozen. 556,399 dozen. 138,726 dozen. 1,191,090 dozen. 306,415 dozen. 955,148 dozen. 243,673 dozen. 331,841 dozen.
Group III 831–844 and 847– 859, as a group. Sublevels in Group	47,734,699 square meters equivalent.
834	12,470 dozen. 113,138 dozen. 164,764 dozen. 672,047 dozen. 261,475 dozen. 360,912 dozen. 1,127,831 dozen.
made in Hong Kong). 845(2) 12 (sweaters assembled in Hong Kong from	2,699,599 dozen.
knit-to-shape components, knit elsewhere). 846(1) 13 (sweaters made in Hong Kong).	182,381 dozen.
846(2) ¹⁴ (sweaters assembled in Hong Kong from knit-to-shape components, knit elsewhere).	439,469 dozen.

¹ Category 218(1): all HTS numbers except 5209.42.0060, 5209.42.0080, 5211.42.0060, 5211.42.0015 and 5516.43.0015.

⁴Category 338/339(1): only HTS numbers 6109.10.0018, 6109.10.0023, 6109.10.0060, 6109.10.0065, 6114.20.0005 and 6114.20.0010.

⁵ Category 347-W: only HTS numbers 6203.19.1020. 6203.19.9020. 6203.22.3020, 6203.22.3030, 6203.42.4005, 6203.42.4010, 6203.42.4015. 6203.42.4025. 6203.42.4035. 6203.42.4045, 6203.42.4050, 6203.42.4060 6203.49.8020, 6210.40.9033, 6211.20.1520, 6211.20.3810 and 6211.32.0040; Category 6204.12.0030, 348–W: only HTS numbers 6204.19.8030. 6204.22.3040, 6204.62.3000, 6204.22.3050 6204.29.4034. 6204.62.4005 6204.62.4010 6204.62.4020, 6204.62.4030 6204.62.4040, 6204.62.4055 6204.62.4050. 6204.62.4065 6204.69.6010, 6204.69.9010. 6210.50.9060, 6211.20.1550 6211.20.6810, 6211.42.0030 and 6217.90.9050

⁶ Category 359(1): only HTS numbers 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, 6211.32.0010.

⁷ Category 359(2): 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 6203.19.9030, 6203.19.1030, 6204.12.0040, 6204.19.8040. 6211.32.0070 and 6211.42.0070.

648-W: only 6204.23.0045, 6204.29.4038, ⁸ Category HTS numbers 6204.23.0040, 6204.29.2020, 6204.29.2025 6204.63.2000 6204.63.3510, 6204.63.3000. 6204.63.3530 6204.63.3532 6204.63.3540, 6204.69.2510 6204.69.2530. 6204.69.2540, 6204.69.2560, 6204.69.9030. 6204.69.6030, 6210.50.5035 6211.20.1555 6211.20.6820, 6211.43.0040 and 6217.90.9060.

⁹ Category 659(1): HTS only 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 6211.43.0010.

¹⁰Category 659(2): only HTS numbers 6112.31.0010, 6112.31.0020, 6112.41.0010, 6112.41.0030, 6112.41.0040, 6211.11.1010, 61211.11.1020, 6211.12.1010 and 6211.12.1020.

¹¹Category 845(1): only HTS numbers 6103.29.2074, 6104.29.2079, 6110.90.9024, 6110.90.9042 and 6117.90.9015.

¹² Category 845(2): only HTS numbers 6103.29.2070, 6104.29.2077, 6110.90.9022 and 6110.90.9040.

¹³ Category 846(1): only HTS numbers 6103.29.2068, 6104.29.2075, 6110.90.9020 and 6110.90.9038.

¹⁴ Category 846(2): only HTS numbers 6103.29.2066, 6104.29.2073, 6110.90.9018 and 6110.90.9036.

Imports charged to these category limits for the period January 1, 1996 through December 31, 1996 shall be charged against those levels of restraint to the extent of any unfilled balances. In the event the limits established for that period have been exhausted by previous entries, such goods shall be subject to the levels set forth in this directive.

The limits set forth above are subject to adjustment in the future pursuant to the provisions of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the ATC and any administrative arrangements notified to the Textiles Monitoring Body.

The conversion factors for merged Categories 333/334, 633/634/635 and 638/639 are 33, 33.90 and 13, respectively.

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,

D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 96–31460 Filed 12–10–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

Announcement of Import Restraint Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Nepal

December 5, 1996.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 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 these limits, refer to the Quota Status Reports posted 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).

The Bilateral Textile Agreement, effected by exchange of notes dated May 30 and June 1, 1986, as amended and extended, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated November 6, 1996, between the Governments of the United States and Nepal establish limits for the period January 1, 1997 through December 31, 1997.

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

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the

²Category 369(1): only HTS numbers 6307.10.2005.

³ Categories 338/339: all HTS numbers except 6109.10.0018, 6109.10.0023, 6109.10.0060, 6109.10.0065, 6114.20.0005 and 6114.20.0010.