

discussions will probe critical metrication issues. The meetings will build on the key themes—trade, education, and public awareness—that emerged from the first National Metric Town Meeting held March 27–28, 1995, at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in Gaithersburg, Maryland. While written submissions of issues and views are welcome, interested organizations and individuals are encouraged to participate in person to benefit from the sharing of views.

DATES: The first two Metric Town Meetings and Workshops will be held:

- April 26–27, 1996, in Atlanta, Georgia, at Georgia State University's Urban Life Center
- May 17–18, 1996, in Boston, Massachusetts, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Stratton Student Center

The subsequent regional meetings will be held on the following schedule:

- September 1996—Seattle, WA
- October 1996—Chicago, IL
- November 1996—San Francisco, CA
- January 1997—Dallas, TX

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Organizations and individuals interested in participating should contact the Director, Metric Program, U.S. Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Building 820, Room 306, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, as early as possible. Phone (301–975–3690) and FAX (301–948–1416) inquiries will be accepted. E-mail may be sent to: metric_prg@nist.gov. Additional information and updates will be available on the Internet at: <http://www.nist.gov/metric>.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The International System of Units (SI), the modern “metric system,” is the international system of measurement. The United States is the only industrialized nation that does not use SI as the predominant measurement system in its commercial and standards activities. Adoption of the metric system in U.S. trade and commerce will increase the competitiveness of our products and services in the global marketplace.

Understanding the necessity for national metrication, Congress, in 1988 amendments to the Metric Conversion Act of 1975, declared the metric system to be the preferred system of measurement for U.S. trade and commerce. These amendments state that the Federal Government has a responsibility to assist industry, especially small business, as it voluntarily converts to the metric system of measurement.

Working with the Interagency Council on Metric Policy, the Department of Commerce Metric Program is implementing a plan that encourages a broad national dialogue on metric conversion. Under the banner “Toward a Metric America,” the plan includes six regional meetings and workshops, information and awareness campaigns, consultations with industry and the public, and other outreach programs.

As part of this plan, the Metric Town Meetings and Workshops will work to build state and regional partnerships (1) to accelerate adoption of the metric system in trade and commerce; (2) to encourage use of the metric system in all facets of education, including honing of worker skills; and (3) to develop positive and enjoyable programs of public awareness.

Each meeting will devote a half day to each of these areas—Friday morning to trade and commerce, Friday afternoon to public awareness, and Saturday morning to education—seeking to develop joint strategies to advance the Nation's metrication.

(15 U.S.C. 205(b) and (c))

Dated: April 4, 1996.

Gary R. Bachula,

Acting Under Secretary for Technology.

[FR Doc. 96–9407 Filed 4–16–96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510–18–M

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Establishment of Import Limits for Certain Wool Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in India

April 11, 1996.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 18, 1996

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) 927–6705. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, call (202) 482–3715. For information on categories on which consultations have been requested, call (202) 482–3740.

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 United States Government has decided to continue the restraint limits on Categories 435 and 440 for an additional twelve-month period, beginning on April 18, 1996 and extending through April 17, 1997.

This action is taken in accordance with the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing and the Uruguay Round Agreements Act.

The United States remains committed to finding a mutual solution concerning Categories 435 and 440. Should such a solution be reached in consultations with the Government of India, further notice will be published in the Federal Register.

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). Also see 60 FR 35899, published on July 12, 1995.

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

April 11, 1996.

Commissioner of Customs,

Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

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; and in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 11651 of March 30, 1972, as amended, you are directed to prohibit, effective on April 18, 1996, entry into the United States for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of wool textile products in the following categories, produced or manufactured in India and exported during the twelve-month period beginning on April 18, 1996 and extending through April 17, 1997, in excess of the following limits:

Category	Twelve-month limit
435	38,237 dozen.
440	78,232 dozen.

Imports charged to these category limits for the period April 18, 1995 through April 17, 1996 shall be charged against those levels of restraint to the extent of any unfilled balances. Goods in excess of those limits will be subject to the limits established in this directive.

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,

Troy H. Cribb,

Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

[FR Doc. 96-9381 Filed 4-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

Settlement on Transshipment Charges, Establishment, Amendment and Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Pakistan

April 9, 1996.

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

ACTION: Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs announcing settlement on transshipment charges, establishing, amending and adjusting limits.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 16, 1996.
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 Status Reports posted on the bulletin boards of each Customs port or call (202) 927-6714. 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.

In a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated March 22, 1996, the Governments of the United States and Pakistan agreed that transshipment charges for bed sheets in Category 361 in the amount of 346,483 numbers will be deducted from the charges already made to Pakistan's 1995 quota level.

Also, the two governments agreed to establish annual limits, prorated this year beginning March 22, 1996, for Categories 666-P (pillowcases, excluding bolster cases) and Category 666-S (sheets) and to increase the 1996 base levels for Categories 360 and 361.

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

Commissioner of Customs to establish limits for Categories 666-P and 666-S for the prorated period beginning on March 22, 1996 and extending through December 31, 1996 and to increase the current limits for Categories 360 and 361. The amended limits for Categories 360 and 361 reflect reduction of carryforward used in 1995, in the case of Category 360, and recrediting of unused carryforward, in the case of Category 361. In a separate unpublished letter, the Commissioner of Customs is directed to deduct 346,483 numbers from the 1995 quota charges for Category 361.

Textile products in Categories 666-P and 666-S shall continue to require a Category 666 visa. Changes to the current visa requirements will be published in the Federal Register at a later date.

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 609 FR 65299, published on December 19, 1995). Also see 60 FR 40824, published on August 10, 1995; and 60 FR 62393, published on December 6, 1995.

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, the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing and the MOU dated March 22, 1996, 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

April 9, 1996.

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 November 29, 1995, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive concerns imports of certain cotton and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in Pakistan and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 1996 and extends through December 31, 1996.

Effective on April 16, 1996, you are directed to increase the current limits for Categories 360 and 361 and to establish limits for Categories 666-P and 666-S for the period beginning on March 22, 1996 and extending through December 31, 1996,

pursuant to a Memorandum of Understanding dated March 22, 1996 between the Governments of the United States and Pakistan, and as provided for under the terms of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act, the Uruguay Round Agreement on Textiles and Clothing, as follows:

Category	Limit ¹
360	4,170,345 numbers.
361	5,000,000 numbers.
666-P ¹	529,508 kilograms.
666-S ²	2,803,279 kilograms.

¹The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 1995 (Categories 360 and 361); and March 21, 1996 (Categories 666-P and 666-S).

²Category 666-P: only HTS numbers 6302.22.1010, 6302.22.1020, 6302.22.2010, 6302.32.1010, 6302.32.1020, 6302.32.2010 and 6302.32.2020.

³Category 666-S: only HTS numbers 6302.22.1030, 6302.22.1040, 6302.22.2020, 6302.32.1030, 6302.32.1040, 6302.32.2030 and 6302.32.2040.

Textile products in Categories 666-P and 666-S which have been exported to the United States prior to March 22, 1996 shall not be subject to this directive.

Textile products in Categories 666-P and 666-S which have been released from the custody of the U.S. Customs Service under the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 1448(b) or 1484(a)(1) prior to the effective date of this directive shall not be denied entry under this directive.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that these actions fall 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. 96-9379 Filed 4-16-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-M

Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the United Arab Emirates

April 11, 1996.

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

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

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 18, 1996.

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