

these issues which were received in connection with previously announced meetings.

Persons interested in attending this meeting should call the Representative Payment Advisory Committee at (410) 966-4688 so that arrangements for entrance into the meeting can be made. Individuals not making advance arrangements should report to the main lobby. Arrangements for entrance can be made at that time.

Records are being kept of all Committee proceedings, and are available for public inspection by appointment at the office of the Representative Payment Advisory Committee, Room 2-N-24, Operations Building, 6401 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21235 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on regular business days. Anyone requiring information regarding the Committee should contact the Representative Payment Advisory Committee at P.O. Box 17763, Baltimore, MD 21203-7763; Telephone: (410) 966-4688; FAX (410) 966-0980; Internet: adcom@ssa.gov.

Dated: July 15, 1996.

Reba Andrew,  
Staff Director, Representative Payment  
Advisory Committee.

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BILLING CODE 4190-29-P

## COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

### Establishment of a New Export Visa Arrangement and Certification Requirements for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Honduras

July 18, 1996.

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the  
Commissioner of Customs establishing  
new export visa and certification  
requirements.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 1, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**  
Jennifer Aldrich, International Trade  
Specialist, Office of Textiles and  
Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce,  
(202) 482094212.

#### 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).

On June 25, 1996 the Governments of the United States and the Republic of Honduras signed an agreement to establish a new export visa arrangement and certification requirements for certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products, produced or manufactured in Honduras and exported from Honduras on and after August 1, 1996.

In the letter published below, the Chairman of CITA directs the Commissioner of Customs to prohibit entry of certain textile products, produced or manufactured in Honduras and exported from Honduras for which the Government of the Republic of Honduras has not issued an appropriate export visa or certificate.

Facsimiles of export visa and certification stamps are on file at the U.S. Department of Commerce in Room 3100.

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).

Requirements for participation in the Special Access Program are available in Federal Register notices 51 FR 21208, published on June 11, 1986; 52 FR 26057, published on July 10, 1987; and 54 FR 50425, published on December 6, 1989. Also see 41 FR 30707, published on July 26, 1976.

Interested persons are advised to take all necessary steps to ensure that textile products that are entered into the United States for consumption, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, will meet the visa and certification requirements set forth in the letter published below to the Commissioner of Customs.

Troy H. Cribb,  
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation  
of Textile Agreements.

Committee for the Implementation of Textile  
Agreements

July 18, 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); pursuant to the Export Visa Arrangement dated June 25, 1996 between the Governments of the United States and the Republic of Honduras; and in accordance with the provisions of Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended, you are directed to prohibit, effective on August 1, 1996, entry into the Customs territory of the United States (i.e., the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the

Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) for consumption and withdrawal from warehouse for consumption of cotton, wool and man-made fiber textile products in Categories 352, 652 and 435, including merged and part categories, produced or manufactured in Honduras and exported from Honduras on and after July 15, 1996 for which the Government of the Republic of Honduras has not issued an appropriate export visa fully described below. Should additional categories, merged categories or part categories become subject to import quota the entire category(s) or part category(s) shall be included in the coverage of this arrangement. Merchandise exported on or after a mutually agreed date shall require a visa specifying the new designation.

A visa must accompany each commercial shipment of the aforementioned textile products. A circular stamped marking in blue ink will appear on the front of the original commercial invoice or successor document. The original visa shall not be stamped on duplicate copies of the invoice. The original invoice with the original visa stamp will be required to enter the shipment into the United States. Duplicates of the invoice and/or visa may not be used for this purpose.

Each visa stamp shall include the following information:

1. The visa number. The visa number shall be in the standard nine digit letter format, beginning with one numeric digit for the last digit of the year of export, followed by the two character alpha country code specified by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (the code for Honduras is "HN"). These first two codes shall be followed by the number "1" and a five-digit serial number identifying the shipment, e.g., 6HN112345.

2. The date of issuance. The date of issuance shall be the day, month and year on which the visa was issued.

3. The original signature of the issuing official of the Government of the Republic of Honduras.

4. The correct category(s), merged category(s), part category(s), quantity(s) and unit(s) of quantity in the shipment as set forth in the U.S. Department of Commerce Correlation or successor document and in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (HTSUSA or successor documents) shall be reported in the spaces provided within the visa stamp (e.g., "Cat. 35209510 DZ").

Quantities must be stated in whole numbers. Decimals or fractions will not be accepted. Merged category quota merchandise may be accompanied by either the appropriate merged category visa or the correct category visa corresponding to the actual shipment (e.g., Categories 352/652 may be visaed as 352/652 or if the shipment consists solely of 352 merchandise, the shipment may be visaed as "Cat. 352," but not as "Cat. 652").

U.S. Customs shall not permit entry if the shipment does not have a visa, or if the visa number, date of issuance, signature, category, quantity or units of quantity are missing, incorrect or illegible, or have been crossed out or altered in any way. If the quantity indicated on the visa is less than that of the

shipment, entry shall not be permitted. If the quantity indicated on the visa is more than that of the shipment, entry shall be permitted and only the amount entered shall be charged to any applicable quota.

The complete name and address of the actual manufacturer of the textile product must be included on the visa document. If a textile product has been processed by more than one manufacturer, the complete name and address of the last firm to assemble the article must be listed on the visa document.

If the visa is not acceptable then a new visa must be obtained from the Government of the Republic of Honduras, or a visa waiver may be issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce at the request of the Embassy of Honduras in Washington, DC, and presented to the U.S. Customs Service before any portion of the shipment will be released. The waiver, if used, only waives the requirement to present a visa with the shipment. It does not waive the quota requirement.

If the visaed invoice is deficient, the U.S. Customs Service will not return the original document after entry, but will provide a certified copy of that visaed invoice.

If import quotas are in force, U.S. Customs Service shall charge only the actual quantity in the shipment to the correct category limit. If a shipment from Honduras subject to this arrangement has been allowed entry into the commerce of the United States with either an incorrect category classification or misstatement of the quantity, and redelivery is requested but cannot be made, U.S. Customs shall charge the shipment to the correct category limit whether or not a replacement visa or visa waiver is provided.

Each shipment of textile products which has been assembled in Honduras wholly from components cut in the United States from U.S. formed fabric which are subject to the Caribbean Basin Textile Special Access Program as set out in the Arrangement shall be so certified by the Government of the Republic of Honduras. This certification shall be presented to the U.S. Customs Service before entry, or withdrawal from warehouse for consumption, into the customs territory of the United States (the 50 states and Puerto Rico).

Each shipment shall be certified by the stamping of the original rectangular-shaped stamped marking in blue ink on the front of the original commercial invoice. The original copy of the invoice with the original certification will be required in order to enter the shipment into the United States. Duplicate copies of the invoice and/or certification may not be used.

Each certification shall include the following information:

1. The certification number. The certification number shall be nine digits and letters. It shall begin with one digit for the last digit of the year of export followed by the two character country code for Honduras, which is "HN." These first two codes shall be followed by the number "2" and a five-digit serial number identifying the shipment, e.g., 6HN212345.

2. The date of issuance. The date of issuance shall be the day, month and year in which the visa was issued.

3. The original signature of the issuing official of the Government of the Republic of Honduras.

4. The correct category(s), merged category(s), part category(s), quantity(s), and unit(s) of quantity in the shipment in the unit(s) of quantity provided for in the U.S. Department of Commerce Correlation and in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (HTSUSA or successor documents) shall be reported in the spaces provided within the visa stamp (e.g., "Cat. 352-510 DZ").

Quantities must be stated in whole numbers. Decimals or fractions will not be accepted. Merged category quota merchandise may be accompanied by either the appropriate merged category visa or the correct category visa corresponding to the actual shipment (e.g., Categories 352/652 may be visaed as 352/652 or if the shipment consists solely of 352 merchandise, the shipment may be visaed as "Cat. 352," but not as "Cat. 652").

U.S. Customs shall not permit entry if the shipment does not have a certification number, date of issuance, signature, category, quantity or units of quantity are missing, incorrect or illegible, or have been crossed out or altered in any way. If the quantity indicated on the certification is less than that of the shipment, entry shall not be permitted. If the quantity indicated on the certification is more than that of the shipment, entry shall be permitted and only the amount entered shall be charged to any applicable quota.

Entry of textile products subject to the certification system outlined above into the customs territory of the United States will be permitted only for those shipments accompanied by:

1. A valid certification by the Government of the Republic of Honduras.

2. A completed CBI Export Declaration (U.S. Department of Commerce Form ITA09370P or successor document) with a proper declaration by the Honduras assembler that the articles were subject to assembly in Honduras from parts described on that CBI Export Declaration; and

3. A proper importer's declaration.

Any shipment which is not accompanied by a valid and correct certification in accordance with the foregoing provisions shall be denied entry by the Government of the United States. If U.S. Customs determines that the certification is invalid because of an error, and the remaining documentation fulfills requirements for entry under the Caribbean Basin Textile Special Access Program then a new certification from the Government of the Republic of Honduras must be obtained or a visa waiver issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce at the request of the Government of the Republic of Honduras must be obtained and presented to the U.S. Customs Service before any portion of the shipment will be released.

Any shipment found not to be in compliance with the provisions of the Caribbean Basin Textiles Special Access Program relating to trade in textile products wholly assembled of U.S. components cut from U.S. formed fabrics, may be permanently denied entry under this program.

Merchandise imported for the personal use of the importer and not for resale, regardless of value, and properly marked or mutilated commercial sample shipments valued at U.S.\$250 or less, do not require a visa or certification for entry and shall not be charged to existing quota levels.

Visaed merchandise and products eligible for the Caribbean Basin Special Access Textile Program may not appear on the same invoice.

The visa and certification stamps are enclosed.

The actions taken concerning the Government of the Republic of Honduras with respect to imports of textiles and textile products in the foregoing categories have been determined by the Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements to involve foreign affairs functions of the United States. Therefore, these directions to the Commissioner of Customs, which are necessary for the implementation of such actions, fall within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1). This letter will be published in the Federal Register.

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

## ANNEX A

### Part Categories

35209K Only HTS numbers 6107.11.0010, 6107.11.0020, 6108.19.9010, 6108.21.0010, 6108.21.0020, 6108.91.0005, 6108.91.0015, 6108.91.0025, 6109.10.0005, 6109.10.0007, 6109.10.0009, 6109.10.0037.

65209K Only HTS numbers 6107.12.0010, 6107.12.0020, 6108.11.0010, 6108.11.0020, 6108.22.9020, 6108.22.9030, 6108.92.0005, 6108.92.0015, 6108.92.0025, 6109.90.1047 and 6109.90.1075.

### Merged Categories

352/652

35209K/65209K

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## Establishment of Import Restraint Limits and Guaranteed Access Levels for Certain Cotton, Wool and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Honduras

July 18, 1996.

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs establishing import limits and guaranteed access levels.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** August 1, 1996.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Aldrich, International Trade