

6186. The USTR Reading Room is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

A. Jane Bradley,

*Assistant United States Trade Representative for Monitoring and Enforcement.*

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## OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE

[Docket No. WTO/DS-192]

### WTO Dispute Settlement Proceeding Regarding United States—Transitional Safeguard Measure on Combed Cotton Yarn from Pakistan

**AGENCY:** Office of the United States Trade Representative.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the United States Trade Representative ("USTR") is providing notice of Pakistan's request for the establishment of a dispute settlement panel under the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization ("WTO"). Pakistan challenges the United States' action of imposing a transitional safeguard on imports of combed cotton yarn from Pakistan. In this dispute, Pakistan alleges that this safeguard measure is inconsistent with certain obligations under the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing. USTR invites written comments from the public concerning the issues raised in this dispute.

**DATES:** Although USTR will accept any comments received during the course of the dispute settlement proceedings, comments should be submitted by July 7, 2000, to be assured of timely consideration by USTR in preparing its first written submission to the panel.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments may be submitted to Sandy McKinzy, Litigation Assistant, Office of Monitoring and Enforcement, Room 122, Attn: Combed Cotton Yarn, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20508.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Demetrios Marantis, Associate General Counsel at (202) 395-3581 or Caroyl Miller, Deputy Chief Textile Negotiator at 395-3026.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to section 127(b) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (URAA) (19 U.S.C. 3537(b)(1)), USTR is providing notice that Pakistan has submitted a request for the establishment of a WTO dispute settlement panel to examine the U.S.

transitional safeguard measure on imports of combed cotton yarn from Pakistan. The WTO Dispute Settlement Body ("DSB") is expected to establish a panel for this purpose in June 2000.

### Major Issues Raised and Legal Basis of the Complaint

Pakistan challenges the transitional safeguard measure the United States imposed on March 17, 1999, on imports of combed cotton yarn from Pakistan. In its request for a panel to examine the measure, Pakistan alleges that the U.S. transitional safeguard measure is inconsistent with Article 2.4 of the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing ("ATC") and is not justified by Article 6 of the ATC. Pakistan further maintains that the U.S. measure does not meet the requirements for transitional safeguards set out in paragraphs 2, 3, 4, and 7 of Article 6 of the ATC because the United States allegedly:

- Made its determination of serious damage, or actual threat thereof, to its domestic industry producing like and/or directly competitive products, by (a) excluding from its determination a significant proportion of the production of like products by its domestic industry and (b) without taking into account all factors relevant to the state of its domestic industry;
- Failed to demonstrate that the alleged serious damage, or actual threat thereof to the domestic industry was being caused by increased imports;
- Attributed the alleged damage, or actual threat thereof, to its domestic industry solely to imports from Pakistan to the exclusion of imports from other sources, including unrestrained sources;
- Based its determination of serious damage, or actual threat thereof, on a comparison of data for an eight-month period in 1997 and 1998, which is in the view of Pakistan a period too short to determine whether the alleged damage, or actual threat thereof, was serious; and
- Relied on partial and unverified information.

The United States and Pakistan consulted on this issue on February 10 and 11, 1999, but were unable to reach a mutually satisfactory solution to the matter. The WTO Textile Monitoring Body ("TMB") reviewed the U.S. measure on April 29, 1999, but determined in its report that "it was not in a position to assess without doubt whether or not serious damage had been caused to the US' industry producing products like and/or directly competitive with combed cotton yarn \* \* \*" (G/TMB/18). The TMB therefore recommended that the United States rescind the measure. On May 27, 1999,

the United States informed the TMB that it was unable to conform to this recommendation. The TMB subsequently reviewed and reaffirmed its recommendation, and in an August 6, 1999, letter to the TMB the United States renewed its determination to retain the temporary safeguard measure. Pakistan considers this matter to be unresolved and that the parties have—through the TMB—satisfied the consultation requirement of Article 4 of the Understanding on Rules and Procedures Governing the Settlement of Disputes ("DSU"). Accordingly, on April 3, 2000, Pakistan requested the establishment of a dispute settlement panel pursuant to Article 8:10 of the ATC, Article XXIII:2 of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994 ("GATT 1994"), and Article 6 of the DSU.

### Public Comment: Requirements for Submissions

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments concerning the issues raised in this dispute. Comments must be in English and provided in fifteen copies to Sandy McKinzy at the address provided above. A person requesting that information contained in a comment submitted by that person be treated as confidential business information must certify that such information is business confidential and would not customarily be released to the public by the submitting person. Confidential business information must be clearly marked "BUSINESS CONFIDENTIAL" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy. Information or advice contained in a comment submitted, other than business confidential information, may be determined by USTR to be confidential in accordance with section 135(g)(2) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2155(g)(2)). If the submitting person believes that information or advice may qualify as such, the submitting person—

(1) Must so designate the information or advice;

(2) Must clearly mark the material as "SUBMITTED IN CONFIDENCE" in a contrasting color ink at the top of each page of each copy; and

(3) Is encouraged to provide a non-confidential summary of the information or advice.

Pursuant to section 127(e) of the URAA (19 U.S.C. 3537(e)), USTR will maintain a file on this dispute settlement proceeding, accessible to the public, in the USTR Reading Room: Room 101, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20508. The public

file will include a listing of any comments received by USTR from the public with respect to the proceeding; the U.S. submissions to the panel in the proceeding, the submissions, or non-confidential summaries of submissions, to the panel received from other parties in the dispute, as well as the report of the dispute settlement panel, and, if applicable, the report of the Appellate Body. An appointment to review the public file (Docket WTO/DS-192, "Combed Cotton Yarn—Pakistan") may be made by calling Brenda Webb, (202) 395-6186. The Reading Room is open to the public from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

**A. Jane Bradley,**

*Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Monitoring and Enforcement.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

#### Aviation Proceedings, Agreements filed during the week ending May 19, 2000

The following Agreements were filed with the Department of Transportation under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. Sections 412 and 414. Answers may be filed within 21 days after the filing of the application

*Docket Number:* OST-2000-7385.

*Date Filed:* May 17, 2000.

*Parties:* Members of the International Air Transport Association.

*Subject:*

PTC2 EUR 0309 dated 2 May 2000 r1-r17;

PTC2 EUR 0310 dated 2 May 2000 r18;

PTC2 EUR 0311 dated 2 May 2000 r19-r20;

PTC2 EUR 0312 dated 2 May 2000 r21-r22;

Within Europe Resolutions r1-r22;

Minutes—PTC2 EUR 0308 dated 28 April 2000;

Tables—None;

Intended effective date: 15 June, 1 August, 1 September, 1 October 2000.

**Dorothy Y. Beard,**

*Federal Register Liaison.*

[FR Doc. 00-13360 Filed 5-26-00; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Office of the Secretary

#### Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOT

**ACTION:** Notice of meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The US Department of Transportation (DOT) announces a meeting of the DOT Partnership Council (the Council). Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

**TIME AND PLACE:** The Council will meet on Friday, June 16, 2000, at 10 a.m., at the US Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, room 10214, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590. The room is located on the 10th floor.

**TYPE OF MEETING:** These meetings will be open to the public. Seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Handicapped individuals wishing to attend should contact DOT to obtain appropriate accommodations.

**POINT OF CONTACT:** Jean B. Lenderking, Corporate Human Resource Leadership Division, M-13, US Department of Transportation, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh Street, SW., room 7411, Washington, DC 20590, (202) 366-8085.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of this meeting is to present the draft DOT Labor-Relations Strategic Plan; brief the members on DOT Labor-Management report to OMB/OPM; and welcome the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees to membership on the Council.

**Public Participation:** We invite interested persons and organizations to submit comments. Mail or deliver your comments or recommendations to Ms. Jean Lenderking at the address shown above. Comments should be received by June 5, 2000 in order to be considered at the June 16th meeting.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on May 22, 2000.

For the U.S. Department of Transportation.

**John E. Budnik,**

*Acting Director, Office of Human Resource Management.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Aviation Administration

[Summary Notice No. PE-2000-19]

#### Petitions for Exemption: Summary of Petitions Received; Dispositions of Petitions Issued

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of petitions for exemption received and of dispositions of prior petitions.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to FAA's rulemaking provisions governing the application, processing, and disposition of petitions for exemption (14 CFR part 11), this notice contains a summary of certain petitions seeking relief from specified requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR Chapter I), dispositions of certain petitions previously received, and corrections. The purpose of this notice is to improve the public's awareness of, and participation in, this aspect of FAA's regulatory activities. Neither publication of this notice nor the inclusion or omission of information in the summary is intended to affect the legal status of any petition or its final disposition.

**DATES:** Comments on petitions received must identify the petition docket number involved and must be received on or before June 19, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments on any petition in triplicate to: Federal Aviation Administration, Office of the Chief Counsel, Attn: Rule Docket (AGC-200), Petition Docket No. \_\_\_\_\_ 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

The petition, any comments received, and a copy of any final disposition are filed in the assigned regulatory docket and are available for examination in the Rules Docket (AGC-200), Room 915G, FAA Headquarters Building (FOB 10A), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 267-3132.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Cherie Jack (202) 267-7271 or Vanessa Wilkins (202) 267-8029 Office of Rulemaking (ARM-1), Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591.

This notice is published pursuant to paragraphs (c), (e), and (g) of § 11.27 of Part 11 of the Federal Aviation Regulations (14 CFR part 11).