

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

SR.22/5/Corr.2

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CONTRACTING PARTIES
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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FIFTH MEETING

Corrigendum

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The statement of Mr. SWARUP should be replaced by the following:

"Mr. SWARUP (India) wished to put the statistical position, in so far as India was concerned, into its right perspective. India's cotton textile exports fell from 814.60 million yards in 1959 to 531.15 million yards in 1963, after touching a low of 508.36 million yards in 1962. This was obviously the result of the various restrictions still applying on India's exports. To carry out its development plan India needed to expand its export earnings: but had received requests to restrain exports even to those markets where India was only a marginal supplier. He had understood that one of the considerations behind the Arrangement was to achieve an equalization of the so-called "pressures" on different import markets. In practice, however, while the restricted markets had not been opened up sufficiently, the un-restricted markets had begun to apply restrictions on imports of cotton textiles. The original understanding was that the equalization of the so-called "pressures" on different import markets would be achieved not by creating new restrictions, but by the removal of restrictions where they existed. For the major review, it was therefore most essential that the secretariat should carry out a comparative study of the performance of the main industrialized countries in this regard. In order that a study of a comprehensive objective and technical nature might be carried out, one or two experts should be appointed and assigned this task for a period of time. If the Executive Secretary desired, his Government would consider supplying such an expert from India. He also thought the overall impact of cotton textile imports from developing countries should be studied, including the beneficial effects to both less-developed and developed economies. Possibly, too, what constituted market disruption needed to be redefined. A thorough examination should be made of this question. With respect to structural adjustment, his delegation felt it was more important to study what could be done to promote changes in the pattern of production, rather than just study changes per se. For this purpose the information furnished by some contracting parties was not complete. His delegation had suggested that textile products manufactured from hand-made fabrics should receive special treatment because of their widespread social implications. Finally, he looked forward to the Kennedy Round solving the problems faced by the developing countries in connexion with their cotton textile export trade."

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