



97 Trade Groups from 55 Countries Supporting Fair Trade for Textiles and Clothing

Global Alliance Calls for Special Textile Sectoral in WTO Doha Development Round Negotiations

- Textile Specific Negotiation Deemed Essential to Successful
Outcome in Hong Kong -

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For Immediate Release

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND – The Global Alliance for Fair Textile Trade (GAFTT) called on governments around the world to insist that textile issues be addressed in a Special Textile Sectoral (STS) in the Doha Development Round trade talks. Such a textile specific negotiation is necessary for the World Trade Organization (WTO) to address the critical issues confronting the global textile and apparel industry. GAFTT represents 97 textile and apparel groups from 55 countries that exported over \$170 billion in textile and apparel products in 2003.

Since textiles and clothing represent a disproportionate share of exports from developing countries and LDC's and since that trade is threatened by the unfair trading practices of a small number of non-market economies, GAFTT believes that textiles and clothing must receive specialized treatment from the WTO if the WTO is to fulfill its Doha Development Round commitments. The textile and apparel sector employs more than 30 million people around the world, with most employment occurring in developing and LDC's.

An STS will allow all WTO member countries to deal with tariffs, non-tariff barriers and other concerns in a comprehensive manner in order to achieve an orderly and fair long-term development of trade in this critical sector. The elimination of quotas earlier this year caused a shock to the world trading system that must not be ignored at a time when new textile trade rules are being negotiated as part of the Doha Development Round.

GAFTT and its 97 member trade groups are urging their respective governments to make an STS a **must-have requirement** for a successful Hong Kong Ministerial scheduled for December 13-18 of this year.

The \$400 billion in global trade of textile and clothing products are of vital interest to both developing countries and LDC's. In 2003, data from the United Nations COMTRADE database shows textile and clothing products accounted for 10 percent or more of imports by the World from each of 82 individual exporting countries, overseas territories, and dependencies from around the globe. Nearly 80 of those exporters were either developing countries or LDC's.

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Global Alliance for Fair Textile Trade (GAFTT)/Istanbul Declaration Supporters September 8, 2005

Argentina – Federacion Argentina de Industrias Textiles (FADIT-FITA)
Austria – Association of the Austrian Clothing Industry
Austria – Fachverband der Textilindustrie Osterreichs (Die Textilindustrie)
Austria – Eurocoton
Austria – Vereinigung Textilindustrie
Austria – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Bangladesh – Bangladesh Textile Mills Association (BTMA)
Bangladesh – Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers & Exporters Association (BKMEA)
Bangladesh – The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry
Bangladesh – Bangladesh Terry Towel & Linen Manufacturers and Exporters Assoc.
Belgium – Federation Belge de L'Industrie Textile (FEBELTEX)
Belgium – Eurocoton
Belgium – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Belgium – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns
and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)
Bolivia – Asociacion Nacional de Textileros de Bolivia
Bolivia – Federacion Textil Andina
Botswana – Botswana Export Development and Investment Authority (BEDIA)
Bulgaria – Association of Apparel and Textile Exporters in Bulgaria
Bulgaria – Bulgarian Association of Textile and Clothing
Bulgaria – Bulgarian Industrial Chamber
Bulgaria – Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry
Chile – Instituto Textil de Chile – Asociacion Gremial
Colombia – Asociacion Colombiana de Productores Textiles (ASCOLTEX)
Colombia – Federacion Textil Andina
Costa Rica – Costa Rica Textile Chamber
Costa Rica – Textile Quota Council
Czech Republic – Association of Textile-Clothing-Leather Industries
Dominican Republic – Dominican Free Zones Association (ADZONA)
Denmark – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Ecuador – Asociacion Textil del Ecuador (AITE)
Ecuador – Federacion Textil Andina
El Salvador – Union de Industrias Textiles
France – Eurocoton
France – Federation Francaise des Industries Lainiere et Cotonniere (FFILC)
France – Union Francaise des Industries de l'Habillement (UFIH)
France – Union des Industries Textiles (UIT)
France – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
France – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns
and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)
Germany – Eurocoton
Germany – Industrievereinigung Garne – Gewebe Technische Textilien
Germany – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Ghana – Gold Coast of Ghana
Greece – Association des Industries Cotonnieres de Grece
Greece – Hellenic Fashion Industry Association
Greece – Eurocoton
Greece – Panhellenic Union of Cotton Ginners and Exporters
Honduras – Honduran Apparel Manufacturers Association
Indonesia – Himpunan Pengusaha Kecil & Koperasi - Tekstil and Produk Tekstil
(HPKK-TPT)
Indonesia – Asosiasi Industri Rakyat (AIR)
Indonesia – API DKI JAYA – Indonesian Textile Association of Greater Jakarta
Israel – The Manufacturers' Association of Israel, Fashion & Textile Industries Assoc.
Italy – Associazione Italiana Industrie della Filliera Tessile Abbigliamento (AIIFTA)
Italy – Associazione Tessile Italiana (ATI)
Italy – Eurocoton
Italy – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Italy – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns
and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)
Ivory Coast – Agency for the Promotion of Exports (APEX-CI)
Jordan – Jordan Garments, Accessories & Textile Exporters Association (JGATE)
Kenya – Kenya Apparel Manufacturers Exporters Association
Kenya – Kenya Association of Manufacturers – Textile Sector (KAM)
Latvia – Association of Textile and Clothing Industry
Lesotho – Lesotho Textile Exporters Association
Lithuania – Lithuanian Apparel and Textile Industry Association
Madagascar – Madagascar Export Promotion Association (GEFP)
Mauritius – Mauritius Export Processing Zone Association (MEPZA)
Mauritius – Mauritius-US Business Association (MUSBA)
Mexico – Camera Nacional de la Industria Textil (CANAINTEX)
Mexico – Cámara Nacional de la Industria del Vestido (CNIV)
Mexico – Cámara Mexicana de la Industria Textil Central
Mexico – Cámara Textil de Occidente
Namibia – Namibian Investment Authority
Nepal – Garment Association of Nepal (GAN)
Netherlands – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Norway – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)
Paraguay – Cámara Textil Paraguaya
Peru – Comité de Confecciones de la Sociedad Nacional de Industrias del Perú
Peru – Comite Textil de la Sociedad Nacional de Industrias del Peru
Peru – Federacion Textil Andina
Philippines – Confederation of Garments Exporters of the Philippines
Poland – The Gdynia Cotton Association
Poland – Polish Textile and Clothing Chamber
Poland – Polish Chamber of Textile Industry
Poland – Union of Employers of Textile Industry
Portugal – Federation of Portuguese Textile and Clothing Industry (FITVEP)
Portugal – Textile and Apparel Association of Portugal (ATP)
Senegal – Agency for the Promotion of Investments and Exports (APIX)
Slovenia – Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia, Textiles, Clothing and
Leather Processing Association
South Africa – Clothing Trade Council of South Africa (CloTrade)
South Africa – Export Council for the Clothing Industry in South Africa
South Africa – South African Textile Industry Export Council (SATIEC)
South Africa – Textile Federation of South Africa (TEXFED)
Spain – Agrupacion Espanola de Desmotadores de Algodon (AEDA)
Spain – Asociacion Industrial de Proceso Algodonero (AITPA)
Spain – Consejo Intertextil Espanol
Spain – Eurocoton

Spain – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)

Sri Lanka – Joint Apparel Association Forum

Sri Lanka – National Apparel Exporters Association

Swaziland – Swaziland Investment Promotion Authority (SIPA)

Swaziland – Swaziland Textile Exporters Association (STEA)

Switzerland – Eurocoton

Switzerland – Swiss Spinning Committee

Switzerland – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)

Switzerland – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)

Tanzania – Tanzania Investment Center (TIC)

Tunisia – Federation Nationale de Textile (FENATEX)

Turkey – Turkish Textile and Raw Materials Exporters Association (ITKIB Textiles)

Turkey – Turkish Ready Wear and Garments Exporters Association (ITKIB Apparel)

Turkey – Turkish Clothing Manufacturers Association (TGSD)

Turkey – Turkish Textile Employers Association (TUTSIS)

Turkey – Eurocoton

Turkey – Joint Committee of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)

Turkey – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)

United Kingdom – Joint Comte. of the Textile Finishing Industry in the E.U. (CRIET)

United Kingdom – International Association of Users of Artificial and Synthetic Filament Yarns and of Natural Silk (AIUFFAS)

United States – American Manufacturing Trade Action Coalition (AMTAC)

United States – American Yarn Spinners Association (AYSA)

United States – National Cotton Council (NCC)

United States – National Council of Textile Organizations (NCTO)

United States – National Textile Association (NTA)

Uruguay – Asociacion de Industrias Textiles del Uruguay

Venezuela – Asociacion Textil Venezolana (ATV)

Venezuela – Federacion Textil Andina

Zambia – Export Board of Zambia

Zambia – Textile Producers Association of Zambia