

COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Designations under the Textile and Apparel Commercial Availability Provisions of the United States- Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA)

January 28, 2005.

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

ACTION: Designation.

SUMMARY: The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that certain woven, 100 percent cotton, double-napped, flannel fabric, of the specification detailed below, classified in subheading 5209.31.6050 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), for use in products covered by textile categories 340, 341, 347, 348, 350, 351, and woven underwear in category 352, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in a timely manner. The CITA hereby designates such apparel articles, that are both cut and sewn or otherwise assembled in an eligible CBTPA beneficiary country, from this fabric as eligible for quota-free and duty-free treatment under the textile and apparel commercial availability provisions of the CBTPA and eligible under HTSUS subheadings 9820.11.27, to enter free of quota and duties, provided that all other fabrics are wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 3, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet Heinzen, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 211 of the CBTPA, amending Section 213(b)(2)(A)(v)(II) of the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act (CBERA); Presidential Proclamation 7351 of October 2, 2000; Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17, 2001.

Background

The commercial availability provision of the CBTPA provides for duty-free and quota-free treatment for apparel articles that are both cut (or knit-to-shape) and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more beneficiary CBTPA country from fabric or yarn that is not formed in the United States if it has been determined that such yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely

manner and certain procedural requirements have been met. In Presidential Proclamation 7351, the President proclaimed that this treatment would apply to apparel articles from fabrics or yarn designated by the appropriate U.S. government authority in the Federal Register. In Executive Order 13191, the President authorized CITA to determine whether yarns or fabrics cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner.

On September 23, 2004, the Chairman of CITA received a petition from Sandler, Travis, and Rosenberg, P.A., on behalf of Picacho, S.A., alleging that certain woven, 100 percent cotton, double-napped flannel fabric, of detailed specifications, classified in HTSUS subheading 5209.31.6050, for use in shirts, trousers, nightwear, robes, dressing gowns, and woven underwear, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner and requesting quota- and duty-free treatment under the CBTPA for such apparel articles that are both cut and sewn in one or more CBTPA beneficiary countries from such fabrics. On September 28, 2004, CITA requested public comment on the petition. See Request for Public Comment on Commercial Availability Petition under the United States - Caribbean Basin Trade Partnership Act (CBTPA) (69 FR 57905). On October 19, 2004, CITA and the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) sought the advice of the Industry Trade Advisory Committee for Textiles and Clothing and the Industry Trade Advisory Committee for Distribution Services. On October 17, 2004, CITA and USTR offered to hold consultations with the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate (collectively, the Congressional Committees). On November 4, 2004, the U.S. International Trade Commission provided advice on the petitions.

Based on the information and advice received and its understanding of the industry, CITA determined that the fabric set forth in the petition cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. On November 19, 2004, CITA and USTR submitted a report to the Congressional Committees that set forth the action proposed, the reasons for such action, and advice obtained. A period of 60 calendar days since this report was submitted has expired.

CITA hereby designates as eligible for preferential treatment under HTSUS subheading 9820.11.27, products covered by textile categories 340, 341,

347, 348, 350, 351, and woven underwear in category 352, that are both cut and sewn or otherwise assembled in one or more eligible CBTPA beneficiary countries, from certain woven, 100 percent cotton, double-napped, flannel fabric, of the specifications detailed below, classified in the indicated HSTUS subheadings, not formed in the United States, provided that all other fabrics are wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States, subject to the special rules for findings and trimmings, certain interlinings and de minimis fibers and yarns under section 112(d) of the CBTPA, and that such articles are imported directly into the customs territory of the United States from an eligible CBTPA beneficiary country.

Specifications:

Petitioner Style No:	2897A
HTS Subheading:	5209.31.6050
Fiber Content:	100% Cotton
Weight:	203 g/m2
Width:	150 centimeters cuttable
Thread Count:	21 warp ends per centimeter; 18 filling picks per centimeter; total: 39 threads per square centimeter
Yarn Number:	Warp: 40.6 metric, ring spun; filling: 13.54 metric, open end spun; overall average yarn number: 19.2 metric
Finish:	(Piece) dyed; napped on both sides, sanforized

An "eligible CBTPA beneficiary country" means a country which the President has designated as a CBTPA beneficiary country under section 213(b)(5)(B) of the CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)(5)(B)) and which has been the subject of a finding, published in the Federal Register, that the country has satisfied the requirements of section 213(b)(4)(A)(ii) of the CBERA (19 U.S.C. 2703(b)(4)(A)(ii)) and resulting in the enumeration of such country in U.S. note 1 to subchapter XX of Chapter 98 of the HTSUS.

James C. Leonard III,
Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

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