See 64 FR 69744, published on December 14, 1999, as amended.

#### D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

# **Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements**

March 14, 2001.

Commissioner of Customs, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229.

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on December 9, 1999, as amended, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive directed you to prohibit entry of certain cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in Romania for which the Government of Romania has not issued appropriate export visa and certification stamps.

Beginning on April 1, 2001, you are directed to amend further the directive dated December 9, 1999 to provide for the use of new export visa stamp and a new certification stamp for products exported under the Outward Processing Program (see directive dated December 8, 1999) issued by the Government of Romania to accompany shipments of cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in Romania and exported from Romania on or after April 1, 2001 and. The new stamps reflect a name change from "Ministry of Commerce-Department of Foreign Trade" to "MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS-DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND ECONOMIC PROMOTION" for the visa stamp and "MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS" for the certification stamp but are otherwise unchanged.

Textile products exported from Romania during the period April 1, 2001 through April 30, 2001 may be accompanied by either the old or new stamps. Products exported from Romania on or after May 1, 2001 must be accompanied by the new export visa or certification stamp.

Facsimiles of the new visa and certification stamps are enclosed with this letter.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not accompanied by the appropriate export visa or certification stamp shall be denied entry and a new visa or certification stamp must be obtained.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

### D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F



| MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS |
|-----------------------------|
| No.                         |
| TEXTILE EXPORT VISA         |
| CATEGORY                    |
| QUANTITY                    |
| DATE OF EXPORT              |
| SIGNATURÉ                   |
| - ROMANIA -                 |

[FR Doc. 01–6834 Filed 3–19–01; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510-DR-C

# COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

### New Export Visa Stamp for Certain Wool Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in Russia

March 14, 2001.

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the Commissioner of Customs providing for the use of a new export visa stamp.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE: April 1, 2001.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Naomi Freeman, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482–4212.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Authority:** Section 204 of the Agricultural Act of 1956, as amended (7 U.S.C. 1854); Executive Order 11651 of March 3, 1972, as amended.

Beginning on April 1, 2001, the Government of the Russian Federation

will start issuing a new export visa stamp for shipments of wool textile products in Category 435, produced or manufactured in Russia, and exported from Russia on or after April 1, 2001. The new visa stamp reflects a name change from "MINISTRY OF TRADE" to "MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE" but is otherwise unchanged. There will be a one-month grace period from April 1, 2001 through April 30, 2001, during which products exported from Russia may be accompanied by either the old or new export visa stamp. Products exported from Russia on or after May 1, 2001 must be accompanied by the new export visa stamp.

See 62 FR 4729, published on January 31, 1997.

#### D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

# Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

March 14, 2001.

Commissioner of Customs, Department of the Treasury, Washington, DC 20229

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directive issued to you on January 28, 1997, as amended, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. That directive directed you to prohibit entry of certain wool textile products in Category 435, produced or manufactured in Russia for which the Government of the Russian Federation has not issued an appropriate export visa.

Beginning on April 1, 2001, you are directed to amend further the directive dated January 28, 1997 to provide for the use of a new export visa stamp issued by the Government of the Russian Federation to accompany shipments of wool textile products in Category 435, produced or manufactured in Russia, and exported from Russia on or after April 1, 2001. The new visa stamp reflects a name change from "MINISTRY OF TRADE" to "MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE" but is otherwise unchanged.

Textile products exported from Russia during the period April 1, 2001 through April 30, 2001 may be accompanied by either the old or new export visa stamp. Products exported from Russia on or after May 1, 2001 must be accompanied by the new export visa stamp.

A facsimile of the new visa stamp is enclosed with this letter.

Shipments entered or withdrawn from warehouse according to this directive which are not accompanied by an appropriate export visa shall be denied entry and a new visa must be obtained.

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements has determined that this action falls within the foreign affairs exception to the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

#### D. Michael Hutchinson,

Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.

BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F

SAMPLES OF REPRODUCIBLE IMPRESSIONS OF STAMPS AND ORIGINAL SIGNATURES OF OFFICIALS OF THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRADE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, WHO ARE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE TEXTILE EXPORT VISA FOR EXPORT OF THE TEXTILE PRODUCTS (Category 435) TO THE USA

| INITIALS AND<br>FAMILY NAME<br>OF OFFICIALS | SAMPLES OF REPRODUCIBLE<br>IMPRESSIONS OF STAMP AND<br>ORIGINAL SIGNATURES  |
|---|---|
| Anatoly KORNEEV                             | Muy =   |
| Oleg GORSKY                                 | Hornew  |
|   | TEXTILE EXPORT  WISA  Pate  * Page 1/25   155 |
|   | FAMILY NAME<br>OF OFFICIALS  Anatoly KORNEEV  |

Date:

TEXTILE EXPORT VISA

[FR Doc. 01–6835 Filed 3–19–01; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 3510–DR–C

# COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION

New York Cotton Exchange (NYCE): Proposed Amendments to the NYCE Cotton No. 2 Futures Contract

**AGENCY:** Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of proposed amendments to contract terms and conditions.

SUMMARY: The New York Cotton Exchange (NYCE or Exchange) has submitted the proposed amendments to the cotton No. 2 futures contract for approval under Section 5c(c)(2) of the Commodity Exchange Act. The proposed amendments will: (1) Provide for price differentials for cotton having micronaire levels of 4.8 and 4.9; (2) increase to 25 grams per tex the minimum strength requirement for deliverable cotton; (3) establish price differentials for "old crop" cotton, and

(4) clarify the definition of a warehouse bale tag coupon. The Acting Director of the Division of Economic Analysis (Division) of the Commission, acting pursuant to the authority delegated by Commission Regulation 140.96, has determined that publication of the proposed amendments is in the public interest and will assist the Commission in considering the views of interested persons.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before April 19, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons should submit their views and comments to Jean A. Webb, Secretary, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street, NW., Washington, DC 20581. In addition, comments may be sent by facsimile transmission to facsimile number (202) 418–5521, or by electronic mail to secretary@cftc.gov. Reference should be made to the proposed amendments to the NYCE's cotton No. 2 futures contract concerning micronaire, strength, and "old crop" cotton.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Martin Murray of the Division of

Economic Analysis, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Three Lafayette Centre, 21st Street NW., Washington, DC 20581, telephone (202) 418-5276. Facsimile number: (202) 418-5527. Electronic mail: mmurray@cftc.gov. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NYCE cotton No. 2 futures contract calls for the delivery of 40,000 pounds of upland cotton that meets certain quality specifications, including standards relating to micronaire and strength. The contract also specifies a schedule of discounts for cotton that is delivered more than three months after the cotton was certificated as eligible for delivery. These discounts increase at specified rates with each additional month in excess of three months that the cotton

Currently, deliverable cotton must have a micronaire reading between 3.5 and 4.9, and all micronaire levels are deliverable at par. Under the proposed amendments, the micronaire range of cotton deliverable at par will be changed to between 3.5 and 4.7. Cotton that has a micronaire reading in the

remains certificated. Deliverable cotton

must also be stored in an Exchange-

licensed warehouse.