

States and Greece, be responsive to scientific and technological needs in the Balkan member states, and should be structured to provide an appropriate collaborative role for three way partnerships.

Information on the Joint Council

For the purposes of implementing this MOU, the Participants have established a Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Advisory Council consisting of six members—three designated by, and serving at the pleasure of the Government of Greece, and three designated by and serving at the pleasure of the U.S. Department of Commerce. Each participant may designate alternate members. The Greek Secretariat for the ITCB is located at the Technology Park in Thessaloniki, Greece. The U.S. Secretariat for the ITCB is administered by Ashford Associates of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Responsibilities of Joint Council Members and Alternates

The members of the Joint Council carry out the following functions:

1. Recommend to the Participants overall policies under the MOU.
2. Identify fields and forms of cooperation in accordance with the goals and objectives of the MOU.
3. Review, assess and make specific recommendations concerning cooperative activities.
4. Prepare periodic reports concerning the Joint Council and cooperative activities undertaken under the MOU for submission to the Participants.
5. Undertake such further functions as may appropriately be approved by the Participants.
6. The Participants may designate alternates to substitute for permanent council members at particular meetings or events, or to work on specific projects and initiatives.
7. When appropriate, alternates shall cast votes in lieu of permanent members. Respondents to this notice should indicate whether they are willing to serve as alternates, as permanent members, or as either to the ITCB Joint Council.

Meetings of the Joint Council

The Council meets every three to four months, usually in Thessaloniki or Athens, Greece, or as determined by the Participants. U.S. Council member's travel and living expenses associated with attending these meetings may be provided by a fund administered by the U.S. Secretariat for the ITCB.

Length of Service

A U.S. member's length of service on the Joint Council is not stipulated in the

MOU and is discretionary with the U.S. Department of Commerce. Individuals chosen for membership will serve a term that best fits the needs and objectives of the Joint Council although the term's duration is normally two-three years. Upon the completion of a U.S. member's term, the U.S. Department of Commerce will either repeat this recruitment and selection process or extend the member's term as long as the member proves to work effectively on the Joint Council and his/her expertise is still needed.

Membership Criteria and Requirements

The U.S. members of the Joint Council are eminent leaders, broadly representative of industry, academia or government, who have experience in science and technology development, technology diffusion, or international technology collaboration. They shall be U.S. citizens. They shall be familiar with the business climate and the status of technology and economic development in Greece and the Balkans, with Greek and Balkan industry, and/or with Greek and Balkan academic institutions. Members of the Joint Council shall serve without compensation.

The U.S. Department of Commerce is committed to equal opportunity in the workplace, and seeks a broad-based and diverse Joint Council membership.

Conflict of Interest

Nominees will be evaluated for their ability to contribute to the goals and objectives of the MOU. Nominees will be vetted in accordance with processes established by the U.S. Department of Commerce in February 1997, as soon as possible following tentative selection. The vetting system has three components: (1) An internal review for possible appearance of conflict problems; (2) an external review for possible appearance of problems; and (3) a recusal/ethics agreement review.

Dated: May 19, 2003.

Christian Israel,

Deputy Assistant Secretary for Technology Policy.

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COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

Denial of Commercial Availability Request under the United States - Andean Trade Promotion and Drug Eradication Act (ATPDEA)

May 16, 2003.

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

ACTION: Denial of the request alleging that certain cotton corduroy fabrics, for use in apparel articles, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner under the ATPDEA.

SUMMARY: On March 17, 2003 the Chairman of CITA received a petition from Breaker Jeanswear/ARC International alleging that certain dyed cotton corduroy fabrics (see Annex I for product specifications), classified in subheading 5801.22.90 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS), for use in apparel articles including men's and boys' jackets and pants, women's and girls' jackets, dresses, skirts, shorts, and pants, cannot be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner. It requested that apparel of such fabrics be eligible for preferential treatment under the ATPDEA. Based on currently available information, CITA has determined that these subject fabrics can be supplied by the domestic industry in commercial quantities in a timely manner and therefore denies the request.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 22, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Stetson, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-3400.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority: Section 204 (b)(3)(B)(ii) of the ATPDEA, Presidential Proclamation 7616 of October 31, 2002, Executive Order 13277 of November 19, 2002, and the United States Trade Representative's Notice of Further Assignment of Functions of November 25, 2002 (67 FR 71606).

BACKGROUND:

The ATPDEA provides for quota- and duty-free treatment for qualifying textile and apparel products. Such treatment is generally limited to products manufactured from yarns and fabrics formed in the United States or a beneficiary country. The ATPDEA also provides for quota- and duty-free