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NEWS FLASH

CHINA INTRODUCES AUTOMATIC EXPORT LICENSING ON TEXTILES

The Chinese Ministry of Commerce has recently published the Temporary Measures of Automatic Permission for Textile Export. This means that export licences will be required for exports of certain textiles from China to Europe. The measures will be implemented as from 1 March, 2005.

The Chinese government has published a list of more than 100 products for which an export licence is necessary. The FTA is in contact with Chinese officials in order to obtain this list in English, as well as to gain more detailed information on how the export licence functions in practice.

According to our latest information, a licence would be required for each product before export, and each license would be valid for three months. The applications will be per shipment, style and customs declaration. The licence must be issued by the issuing authority within 10 working days after having received the application. The application may in general be done on line by the manufacturers, but in principle it should be picked up in person from the issuing office.

We believe that these measures have been introduced by the Chinese government in order to obtain control of the export flow in certain sensitive products, and that it is an attempt to diffuse external political pressure following the removal of quotas. We also expect that the new measures may cause some delays. Please contact us if you have any problems as a result of the licensing, as we will present your views to the Chinese government.

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