

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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SWEDISH ANTI-DUMPING DUTIES

Statement by the Government of Italy

Since 29 May 1954 the Swedish Government has applied anti-dumping duties on the importation of nylon stockings. This measure, which was originally applied to stockings of United Kingdom origin, has from that date been applied to imports from other countries including Italy.

The Swedish Government fixes the minimum prices for the importation of nylon stockings, obliging the importer to pay the difference between the minimum price and that shown on the invoice whenever the latter is lower than the minimum price.

This measure does not correspond to Article VI of GATT for the following reasons:

- (a) minimum prices are fixed at the same level for goods from all countries (although production costs are different) and no account is taken of the real margin of dumping which should be ascertained for each country;
- (b) the Swedish Government has not proved that the export of Italian-nylon stockings to Sweden has been carried out at dumping prices or that the conditions referred to in Article VI (for example, material injury to national products) have been fulfilled, and
- (c) it appears that the Swedish authorities authorize repayment of the anti-dumping duty if the importer can show that the price invoiced by the exporter is not lower than the price on the internal market of the country of origin. This procedure appears to be contrary to Article VI because it places the onus of proving the existence or non-existence of dumping on the exporting country instead of on the importing country.

Consequently the Italian Government is convinced that this is a case of a real increase of bound duties, and requests that the question be included in the agenda of the next session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.