

**AGREEMENT IN THE FORM OF AN EXCHANGE OF LETTERS****between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus amending the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus on trade in textile products***A. Letter from the Council of the European Union*

Sir,

1. I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus on trade in textile products initialled on 1 April 1993, as last amended and extended by the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters initialled on 23 December 2003 (hereafter referred to as the Agreement).

2. In view of the expiry of the Agreement on 31 December 2004 and in accordance with Article 19(1) of the Agreement, the European Community and the Republic of Belarus agree to extend the duration of the Agreement, for a further period of one year, subject to the following amendments and conditions:

2.1. The text of Article 19(1), second and third sentences, of the Agreement shall be replaced by the following:

'It shall be applicable until 31 December 2005.'

2.2. Annex II which sets out the quantitative restrictions for exports from the Republic of Belarus to the European Community is replaced by Appendix 1 to this letter.

2.3. The Annex to Protocol C which sets out the quantitative restrictions for exports from the Republic of Belarus to the European Community after OPT operations in the Republic of Belarus is replaced for the period of 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 by Appendix 2 to this letter.

2.4. Imports into Belarus of textile and clothing products of European Community origin shall be subject in 2005 to custom duties not exceeding those provided for 2004 in Appendix 4 of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus initialled on 11 November 1999.

In the case of non-application of these rates the Community will have the right to reintroduce for the period of the agreement remaining unexpired on a pro rata basis the levels for quantitative restrictions applicable for 2004 as specified in the Exchange of Letters initialled on 23 December 2003.

3. Should the Republic of Belarus become a Member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) before the date of the expiry of the Agreement, the Agreements and rules of the WTO shall be applied from the date of the Republic of Belarus' accession to the WTO.

4. I should be obliged if you could kindly confirm the acceptance of your Government of the foregoing. Should this be the case, this Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the day on which the Parties have notified each other that the legal procedures necessary to this end have been completed. In the meantime, it shall be applied provisionally from 1 January 2005 on the condition of reciprocity.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

*For the Council of the European Union*

## Appendix 1

## 'ANNEX II

Belarus	Category	Unit	Quota as from 1 January 2005
Group IA	1	tonnes	1 585
	2	tonnes	5 100
	3	tonnes	233
Group IB	4	1 000 pieces	1 600
	5	1 000 pieces	1 058
	6	1 000 pieces	1 400
	7	1 000 pieces	1 200
	8	1 000 pieces	1 110
Group IIA	9	tonnes	363
	20	tonnes	318
	22	tonnes	498
	23	tonnes	255
	39	tonnes	230
Group IIB	12	1 000 pairs	5 958
	13	1 000 pieces	2 651
	15	1 000 pieces	1 500
	16	1 000 pieces	186
	21	1 000 pieces	889
	24	1 000 pieces	803
	26/27	1 000 pieces	1 069
	29	1 000 pieces	450
	73	1 000 pieces	315
	83	tonnes	178
Group IIIA	33	tonnes	387
	36	tonnes	1 242
	37	tonnes	463
	50	tonnes	196
Group IIIB	67	tonnes	339
	74	1 000 pieces	361
	90	tonnes	199
Group IV	115	tonnes	87
	117	tonnes	1 800
	118	tonnes	448'

## Appendix 2

## 'ANNEX TO PROTOCOL C

Category	Unit	As from 1 January 2005
4	1 000 pieces	4 733
5	1 000 pieces	6 599
6	1 000 pieces	8 800
7	1 000 pieces	6 605
8	1 000 pieces	2 249
12	1 000 pieces	4 446
13	1 000 pieces	697
15	1 000 pieces	3 858
16	1 000 pieces	786
21	1 000 pieces	2 567
24	1 000 pieces	661
26/27	1 000 pieces	3 215
29	1 000 pieces	1 304
73	1 000 pieces	4 998
83	tonnes	664
74	1 000 pieces	872

B. *Letter from the Government of the Republic of Belarus*

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of ... which reads as follows:

'1. I have the honour to refer to the Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus on trade in textile products initialled on 1 April 1993, as last amended and extended by the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters initialled on 23 December 2003 (hereafter referred to as the Agreement).

2. In view of the expiry of the Agreement on 31 December 2004 and in accordance with Article 19(1) of the Agreement, the European Community and the Republic of Belarus agree to extend the duration of the Agreement, for a further period of one year, subject to the following amendments and conditions:

2.1. The text of Article 19(1), second and third sentences, of the Agreement shall be replaced by the following:

'It shall be applicable until 31 December 2005.'

2.2. Annex II which sets out the quantitative restrictions for exports from the Republic of Belarus to the European Community is replaced by Appendix 1 to this letter.

2.3. The Annex to Protocol C which sets out the quantitative restrictions for exports from the Republic of Belarus to the European Community after OPT operations in the Republic of Belarus is replaced for the period of 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005 by Appendix 2 to this letter.

2.4. Imports into Belarus of textile and clothing products of European Community origin shall be subject in 2005 to custom duties not exceeding those provided for 2004 in Appendix 4 of the Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters between the European Community and the Republic of Belarus initialled on 11 November 1999.

In the case of non-application of these rates the Community will have the right to reintroduce for the period of the agreement remaining unexpired on a pro rata basis the levels for quantitative restrictions applicable for 2004 as specified in the Exchange of Letters initialled on 23 December 2003.

3. Should the Republic of Belarus become a Member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) before the date of the expiry of the Agreement, the Agreements and rules of the WTO shall be applied from the date of the Republic of Belarus' accession to the WTO.

4. I should be obliged if you could kindly confirm the acceptance of your Government of the foregoing. Should this be the case, this Agreement in the form of an Exchange of Letters shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the day on which the Parties have notified each other that the legal procedures necessary to this end have been completed. In the meantime, it shall be applied provisionally from 1 January 2005 on the condition of reciprocity.'

I have the honour to confirm that my Government is in agreement with the content of your letter.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

*For the Government of the Republic of Belarus*

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