

Dated: December 20, 2006.

**P. Michael Payne,**

*Chief, Permits, Conservation and Education  
Division, Office of Protected Resources,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS

### Determination under the African Growth and Opportunity Act

December 22, 2006.

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

**ACTION:** Directive to the Commissioner  
of Customs and Border Protection.

**SUMMARY:** The Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements  
(CITA) has determined that certain  
textile and apparel goods from Mali  
shall be treated as "handloomed,  
handmade, folklore articles, or ethnic  
printed fabrics" and qualify for  
preferential treatment under the African  
Growth and Opportunity Act. Imports of  
eligible products from Mali with an  
appropriate visa will qualify for duty-  
free treatment.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 16, 2007.

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

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**Authority:** Sections 112(a) and 112(b)(6) of  
the African Growth and Opportunity Act  
(Title I of the Trade and Development Act of  
2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) ("AGOA"), as  
amended by Section 7(c) of the AGOA  
Acceleration Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-274)  
("AGOA Acceleration Act") (19 U.S.C. §§  
3721(a) and (b)(6)); Sections 2 and 5 of  
Executive Order No. 13191 of January 17,  
2001; Sections 25-27 and Paras. 13-14 of  
Presidential Proclamation 7912 of June 29,  
2005.

AGOA provides preferential tariff  
treatment for imports of certain textile  
and apparel products of beneficiary sub-  
Saharan African countries, including  
hand-loomed, handmade, or folklore  
articles of a beneficiary country that are  
certified as such by the competent  
authority in the beneficiary country.  
The AGOA Acceleration Act further  
expanded AGOA by adding ethnic  
printed fabrics to the list of textile and  
apparel products made in the  
beneficiary sub-Saharan African  
countries that may be eligible for the  
preferential treatment described in

section 112(a) of the AGOA. In  
Executive Order 13191 (January 17,  
2001) and Presidential Proclamation  
7912 (June 29, 2005), the President  
authorized CITA to consult with  
beneficiary sub-Saharan African  
countries and to determine which, if  
any, particular textile and apparel goods  
shall be treated as being hand-loomed,  
handmade, folklore articles, or ethnic  
printed fabrics. (66 FR 7271-72 and 70  
FR 37959, 37961 & 63)

In a letter to the Commissioner of  
Customs dated January 18, 2001, the  
United States Trade Representative  
directed Customs to require that  
importers provide an appropriate export  
visa from a beneficiary sub-Saharan  
African country to obtain preferential  
treatment under section 112(a) of the  
AGOA (66 FR 7837). The first digit of  
the visa number corresponds to one of  
nine groupings of textile and apparel  
products that are eligible for preferential  
tariff treatment. Grouping "9" is  
reserved for handmade, hand-loomed,  
folklore articles, or ethnic printed  
fabrics.

CITA has consulted with Malian  
authorities and has determined that  
hand-loomed fabrics, hand-loomed  
articles (e.g., hand-loomed rugs, scarves,  
place mats, and tablecloths), handmade  
articles made from hand-loomed fabrics,  
the folklore articles described in Annex  
A, and ethnic printed fabrics described  
in Annex B to this notice, if produced  
in and exported from Mali, are eligible  
for preferential tariff treatment under  
section 112(a) of the AGOA, as  
amended. After further consultations  
with Malian authorities, CITA may  
determine that additional textile and  
apparel goods shall be treated as  
folklore articles or ethnic printed  
fabrics. In the letter published below,  
CITA directs the Commissioner of  
Customs and Border Protection to allow  
duty-free entry of such products under  
U.S. Harmonized Tariff Schedule  
subheading 9819.11.27 if accompanied  
by an appropriate AGOA visa in  
grouping "9".

**Philip J. Martello,**

*Acting Chairman, Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

#### Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements

December 22, 2006.

Commissioner,  
*Bureau of Customs and Border Protection,  
Washington, DC 20229.*

Dear Commissioner: The Committee for the  
Implementation of Textiles Agreements  
("CITA"), pursuant to Sections 112(a) and  
(b)(6) of the African Growth and Opportunity  
Act (Title I of the Trade and Development  
Act of 2000, Pub. L. No. 106-200) ("AGOA"),

as amended by Section 7(c) of the AGOA  
Acceleration Act of 2004 (Pub. L. 108-274)  
("AGOA Acceleration Act") (19 U.S.C. §§  
3721(a) and (b)(6)), Executive Order No.  
13191 of January 17, 2001, and Presidential  
Proclamation 7912 of June 29, 2005, has  
determined, effective on January 16, 2007,  
that the following articles shall be treated as  
"handloomed, handmade, folklore articles,  
and ethnic printed fabrics" under the AGOA:  
(a) handloomed fabrics, handloomed articles  
(e.g., handloomed rugs, scarves, placemats,  
and tablecloths), and hand-made articles  
made from handloomed fabrics, if made in  
Mali from fabric handloomed in Mali; (b) the  
folklore articles described in Annex A; and  
(c) ethnic printed fabrics described in Annex  
B, if made in Mali. Such articles are eligible  
for duty-free treatment only if entered under  
subheading 9819.11.27 and accompanied by  
a properly completed visa for product  
grouping "9", in accordance with the  
provisions of the Visa Arrangement between  
the Government of Mali and the Government  
of the United States Concerning Textile and  
Apparel Articles Claiming Preferential Tariff  
Treatment under Section 112 of the Trade  
and Development Act of 2000. After further  
consultations with Malian authorities, CITA  
may determine that additional textile and  
apparel goods shall be treated as folklore  
articles or ethnic printed fabrics.

Sincerely,  
Philip J. Martello,  
*Acting Chairman, Committee for the  
Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

#### ANNEX A: Malian Folklore Products

CITA has determined that the following  
textile and apparel goods shall be treated as  
folklore articles for purposes of the AGOA if  
made in Mali. Articles must be ornamented  
in characteristic Malian or regional folk style.  
An article may not include modern features  
such as zippers, elastic, elasticized fabrics,  
snaps, or hook-and-pile fasteners (such as  
velcro or similar holding fabric). An article  
may not incorporate patterns that are not  
traditional or historical to Mali, such as  
airplanes, buses, cowboys, or cartoon  
characters and may not incorporate designs  
referencing holidays or festivals not common  
to traditional Malian culture, such as  
Halloween and Thanksgiving.

#### Eligible folklore articles:

- (a) **Hand-woven Blanket/Tapestry:** Strips of  
handloomed cotton or wool or wool-  
cotton blend fabric, 3-10 inches wide,  
hand or machine sewn together to make  
a larger piece of fabric. Dimensions and  
designs depend on use. Uses include  
scarves, body wrap, blankets,  
bedspreads, and interior room decoration  
accessory. Designs are woven into the  
fabric using dyed yarns or painted,  
stenciled or printed after assembly.
- (b) **Women's Boubou:** A loose-fitting garment  
with large open armholes made of bright  
solid colored machine-made African  
brocade (also called basin) or hand-  
woven fabric. It is accompanied by a  
matching wrap skirt and head wrap. The  
garment is decorated with hand or  
machine-sewn embroidery around a  
round or U-shaped neckline.

(c) **Ladies' Long Traditional Boubou:** This ladies' dress is a loose-fitting garment with matching scarf and head wrap of bright colored machine-made fabric characteristic of ethnic printed fabrics, or of hand-woven fabrics. Garment is decorated with lace attached around the neckline, bottom hem, and sleeves.

(d) **Men's Boubou of Ethnic Printed Fabrics:** This loose-fitting two-piece set is an ankle-length pullover outer tunic with matching trousers. The tunic has oversized armholes and an asymmetrical neckline with a center chest pocket. The garment is embroidered around the neckline. The trousers are secured at the waist by a drawstring and may be baggy with extra-fullness at the thighs and may contain side seam pockets.

(e) **Men's Boubou of African Brocade (Basin) Fabric:** This loose fitting three-piece set contains an ankle length pullover outer tunic, and inner tunic, and matching trousers. The outer tunic has oversized armholes and an asymmetrical neckline with a center chest pocket and is embroidered around the neckline. The inner tunic is embroidered around the neckline and may have pockets. The trousers are secured at the waist by a drawstring and are baggy with extra-fullness at the thighs and may contain pockets.

(f) **Bologan Poncho:** The "poncho" is loosely constructed made of several strips of narrow hand-woven fabrics hand or machine sewn together, with a slit for a neck opening. The garment is patterned with geometric-designed mud cloth.

(g) **Dogon Hunter's Tunic:** A loose-fitting upper garment made by hand or machine sewing several strips of narrow hand-woven fabrics together, it is decorated with metal staples forming geometric designs. The garment is dyed a solid dark blue or dark brown in color.

**ANNEX B: Malian Ethnic Printed Fabrics**  
Each ethnic print must meet all of the criteria listed below:

- (A) selvedge on both edges
- (B) width of less than 50 inches
- (C) classifiable under subheading 5208.52.30<sup>1</sup> or 5208.52.40<sup>2</sup> of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States
- (D) contains designs, symbols, and other characteristics of African prints normally produced for and sold in Africa by the piece.
- (E) made from fabric woven in the U.S. using U.S. yarn or woven in one or more eligible sub-Saharan beneficiary countries using U.S. or African yarn
- (F) printed, including waxed, in one or more eligible sub-Saharan beneficiary countries

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<sup>1</sup> printed plain weave fabrics of cotton, 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing over 100g/m2 but not more than 200 g/m2, of yarn number 42 or lower

<sup>2</sup> printed plain weave fabrics of cotton, 85% or more cotton by weight, weighing over 100g/m2 but not more than 200g/m2, of yarn numbers 43-68

**COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TEXTILE AGREEMENTS**

**Adjustment of Import Limits for Certain Cotton and Man-Made Fiber Textile Products Produced or Manufactured in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam**

December 22, 2006.

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

**ACTION:** Issuing a directive to the Commissioner, U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** December 29, 2006.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ross Arnold, International Trade Specialist, Office of Textiles and Apparel, U.S. Department of Commerce, (202) 482-4212. For information on the quota status of these limits, refer to the U.S. Customs and Border Protection Web site (<http://www.cbp.gov>), or call (202) 344-2650. For information on embargoes and quota re-openings, refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel Web site at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>.

**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.

The Bilateral Textile Agreement of July 17, 2003, as amended, between the Governments of the United States and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, establishes limits, until the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO), for certain cotton, wool and man-made fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The current limits for certain categories are being increased for carryforward applied from the 2007 limits, and the limits for 2007 are being reduced to account for this carryforward being applied to the current limits.

A description of the textile and apparel categories in terms of HTS numbers is available in the **CORRELATION: Textile and Apparel Categories with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States** (refer to the Office of Textiles and Apparel Web site at <http://otexa.ita.doc.gov>). See 70 FR 75156 (December 19, 2005), and 70

FR 76998 (December 22, 2006) respectively.

**Philip J. Martello,**  
*Acting Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

**Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements**  
December 22, 2006.

Commissioner,  
U.S. Customs and Border Protection,  
Washington, DC 20229

Dear Commissioner: This directive amends, but does not cancel, the directives issued to you on December 13, 2005 and December 19, 2006, by the Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements. These directives concern imports of certain cotton, wool, and man-made fiber textiles and textile products, produced or manufactured in Vietnam and exported during the twelve-month period which began on January 1, 2006 and extends through December 31, 2006, and the twelve-month period which begins on January 1, 2007 and extends through December 31, 2007, respectively.

Effective on December 29, 2006, you are directed to increase the 2006 limits for the following categories, as provided for under the terms of the current bilateral textile agreement between the Governments of the United States and Vietnam:

Category	Restraint limit <sup>1</sup>
200 .....	151,132 kilograms.
332 .....	241,370 dozen pairs.
334/335 .....	903,044 dozen.
338/339 .....	18,464,333 dozen.
340/640 .....	2,697,101 dozen.
341/641 .....	1,044,925 dozen.
342/642 .....	774,271 dozen.
347/348 .....	9,740,910 dozen.
359-S/659-S <sup>2</sup> .....	720,326 kilograms.
440 .....	2,945 dozen.
620 .....	8,731,714 square meters.
632 .....	405,529 dozen pairs.
638/639 .....	1,637,741 dozen.
647/648 .....	2,585,569 dozen.

<sup>1</sup> The limits have not been adjusted to account for any imports exported after December 31, 2005.

<sup>2</sup> Category 359-S: only HTS numbers 6112.39.0010, 6112.49.0010, 6211.11.8010, 6211.11.8020, 6211.12.8010 and 6211.12.8020; Category 659-S: only HTS numbers 6112.31.0010, 6112.31.0020, 6112.41.0010, 6112.41.0020, 6112.41.0030, 6112.41.0040, 6211.11.1010, 6211.11.1020, 6211.12.1010 and 6211.12.1020.

Also, effective on December 29, 2006, you are directed to reduce the 2007 limits for the following categories, as provided for under the terms of the current bilateral textile agreement between the Governments of the United States and Vietnam:

Category	Restraint limit <sup>1</sup>
200 .....	371,188 kilograms.
332 .....	1,237,293 dozen pairs.
334/335 .....	798,278 dozen.
338/339 .....	16,238,783 dozen.