



AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN TAIWAN

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April 18, 1991

Mr. Ding Mou-Shih  
Representative  
Coordination Council for North American Affairs  
4201 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20016

Dear Mr. Ding:

I refer to the administrative arrangement between our authorities regarding the textile visa system effected by exchange of letters in Washington dated August 16 and September 20, 1972, as amended.

Since that time, as our textile trade has developed and expanded, there have been a number of amendments to this administrative arrangement. In the interest of clarity and to consolidate the various changes into a single document, we have developed a comprehensive new text.

I propose that the administrative arrangement be amended to read in its entirety as follows:

VISA ARRANGEMENT  
Between the  
Coordination Council for North American Affairs  
and the American Institute in Taiwan  
concerning Textiles and Textile Products

1. Definition:

A. For the purpose of this arrangement, the term "textiles" means textiles and textile products of cotton, wool and man-made fibers, other vegetable fibers, blends of any of the foregoing fibers and blends containing silk, but does not include garments which contain 70 percent or more silk by weight (unless they also contain 17% or more by weight wool), or products other than garments which contain 85 percent or more silk by weight, as defined in the agreement between the American Institute in Taiwan and the Coordination Council for North American Affairs relating to trade in textiles.

B. The term "category" includes part categories and merged categories as established in the textile agreement.

2. Visa Requirements:

A. The Coordination Council for North American Affairs or their authorized agents shall issue a visa for each shipment of textiles or textile articles of Taiwan origin and exported to the United States, regardless of value (except as specified in paragraph N), of cotton, wool, man-made fiber, silk blend and other vegetable fiber textiles and textile products in categories 200-239, 300-369, 400-469, 600-670, 800-899, including part categories and merged categories. The visa shall be presented to the U.S. Customs Service before entry, or withdrawal from warehouse for consumption, into the Customs territory of the United States (the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico).

B. In the future, should additional categories, merged categories or part categories be added to the textile agreement or become subject to import quotas, the entire category, part category or categories shall be automatically included in the coverage of this visa arrangement. Merchandise exported on or after the date the category(s) is added to the agreement or becomes subject to import quotas shall require a visa specifying the new designation.

C. The Coordination Council for North American Affairs shall provide the American Institute in Taiwan with two original, clear, reproducible copies of the visa stamp which shall be the stamp designated for use throughout the entire period the visa arrangement is in effect, and two originals of the signatures of the officials authorized to sign visas. The stamp, and any subsequent changes thereto, must be approved by the American Institute in Taiwan. The Coordination Council for North American Affairs shall notify the American Institute in Taiwan of any changes of authorized officials.

D. A shipment shall be visaed by the stamping of the original circular visa in blue ink on the front of the original commercial invoice (known as the 'textile export visa'). The original visa shall not be stamped on duplicate copies of the invoice. The original of the invoice with the original visa stamp will be required to enter the shipment into the United States. Duplicates of the invoice and/or visa may not be used for this purpose.

E. Each visa stamp shall include the following information:

- i. The visa number: The visa number shall be in the standard nine digit letter format beginning with one numeric digit for the last digit of the year of export, followed by the two character alpha code specified by the International Organization for Standardization [ISO] (the code for Taiwan is ("TW")), and a six digit numerical serial number identifying the shipment; e.g., 1TW123456.
- ii. The date of issuance: The date of issuance shall be the day, month and year on which the visa was issued.
- iii. The signature of the issuing official(s): The signature shall be that of the issuing official(s) of Taiwan.
- iv. The correct category(s), merged category(s), part category(s), quantity(s), and unit(s) of quantity in the shipment in the unit(s) of quantity provided for in the U.S. Department of Commerce Correlation and in the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (HTSUSA or successor documents) shall be reported in the spaces provided within the visa stamp [e.g., "Cat. 340 - 510 DZ"]. Quantities must be stated in whole numbers. Decimals or fractions will not be accepted. Merged category quota merchandise may be accompanied by either the appropriate merged category visa or the correct category visa corresponding to the actual shipment. For example, quota category 347/348 may be visaed as 347/348 or, if the shipment consists solely of category 347 merchandise, the shipment may be visaed as "Cat. 347," but not as "Cat. 348."

F. If the quantity indicated on the visa is less than that of the shipment, entry shall not be permitted.

G. If the quantity indicated on the visa is more than that of the shipment, entry shall be permitted and only the amount entered shall be charged.

H. The visa will not be accepted and entry will not be permitted if the shipment does not have a visa, or if the visa number, date of issuance, signature, category, quantity or units of quantity are missing, incorrect, illegible or have been crossed out or altered in any way.

I. The categories and quantities shall be those determined by the U.S. Customs Service. The U.S. Customs Service classifies all imports into the Customs territory of the United States in compliance with applicable U.S. laws and regulations.

J. If the visa does not comply with the requirements set forth in this arrangement, a new visa must be obtained from the Coordination Council for North American Affairs or their authorized agents or a waiver may be issued by the U.S. Department of Commerce at the request of the Coordination Council for North American Affairs or their authorized agents in Washington, DC., and presented to the U.S. Customs Service before any portion of the shipment will be released. The waiver, if used, only waives the requirement to present a visa with the shipment. It does not waive the quota requirement. Visa waivers will only be issued for classification disputes or for one time special purpose shipments that are not part of an ongoing commercial enterprise.

K. If the visaed invoice is deficient, the U.S. Customs Service will not return the original document after entry, but will provide a certified copy of that visaed invoice for use in obtaining a new correct original visaed invoice or a visa waiver. The new visa number must begin with the numeric digit corresponding with the last digit of the year of export as stated in E(i).

L. The American Institute in Taiwan will make available to the Coordination Council for North American Affairs, upon request, information on the amounts and categories involved in the visa waiver process and for all items subject to the quota administered by the U.S. Customs Service.

M. The date of export is the actual date the merchandise finally leaves the territory represented by the Coordination Council for North American Affairs. For merchandise exported by vessel, this is the day on which the carrier departs the last port in that territory.

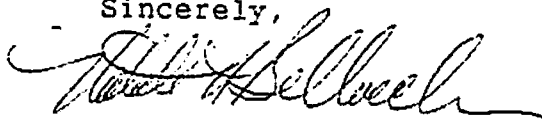
N. Merchandise imported for the personal use of the importer and not for resale, regardless of value, and properly marked commercial sample shipments valued at U.S. \$250 or less do not require a visa or exempt certification for entry and shall not be charged to the agreement levels. All other commercial shipments of the above mentioned require a visa or exempt certification for entry.

3. Annex I lists all the part-category and merged category visas required for entry. Annex II lists all the exempt products which will require a "Non-Quota Exempt Certification."

4. Either authority may terminate, in whole or in part, this administrative arrangement by giving 180 days written notice to the other.

This letter and your reply confirming the contents thereof on behalf of the Coordination Council for North American Affairs will constitute an administrative arrangement between the Coordination Council for North American Affairs and the American Institute in Taiwan.

Sincerely,



Natale H. Bellocchi  
Chairman of the Board  
and Managing Director

## ANNEX I

### Part-categories

Descriptions below are for general reference only  
Other miscellaneous products may also be included

359-C	- Coveralls & Overalls
359-H	- Headwear
359-O	- Other
369-L	- Luggage
369-S	- Shoptowels
369-O	- Other
640-O	- Other Shirts
640-Y	- Shirts with two or more colors in the warp and/or filling
641-O	- Other Blouses
641-Y	- Blouses with two or more colors in the warp and/or filling
659-C	- Coveralls & Overalls
659-H	- Headwear
659-S	- Swimwear
659-O	- Other
669-P	- Polypropylene Bags
669-T	- Tents and Tarpaulins
669-O	- Other
670-H	- Handbags
670-L	- Luggage
670-O	- Other

### Merged Categories

225/317/326  
300/301/607  
613/4/5/7  
619/20  
625/6/7/8/9  
333/4/5  
338/9  
347/8  
350/650  
352/652  
359-C/659-C  
359-H/659-H  
445/6  
447/8  
633/4/5  
633/4  
638/9  
645/6  
647/8  
369-L/670-L/870

## ANNEX II

### EXEMPT PRODUCTS REQUIRING EXEMPT CERTIFICATION

1. Pincushions
2. Embroideries (needle work), of man-made fibers with designs embroidered with wool thread.
3. Handmade carpets, i.e. in which the pile was inserted or knotted by hand.
4. Christmas or Easter ornaments having a non-textile core or a non-textile structural frame and man-made fiber textile covering.
5. Martial arts uniforms, such as kung fu, karate, and judo uniforms.
6. Toy (novelty) animals, birds or insects with a plastic wire, or other non-textile core that are covered or decorated with textile thread or fiber.
7. Traditional Chinese caps
8. Traditional Chinese garments:

Jackets- three-quarter length or shorter, of woven fabrics, usually with Chinese figures in the weave but may be plain/woven otherwise figured or printed. They have a low Mandarin collar, long sleeves and full frontal openings, with "frog" type closures (looped fastenings made of braid, cording, etc., used with a matching knot or toggle of the same material.)

Fur or imitation fur-lined jackets- which may or may not be reversible and are otherwise identical in appearance and construction with the jackets described above.

Vests- sleeveless garments extending from the neck area to waist with or without pockets at the waist. They are otherwise identical in appearance and construction with the jackets described above.

北美事務協調委員會駐美國辦事處

*Coordination Council for North American Affairs*

Office in U.S.A.

4201 Wisconsin Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20016

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May 1, 1991

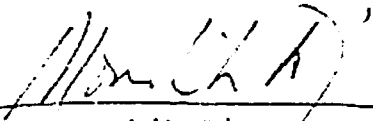
Ambassador Natale H. Bellocchi  
Chairman of the Board and Managing Director  
American Institute in Taiwan  
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1700  
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Ambassador Bellocchi:

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I agree that this letter of acceptance together with your letter of April, 1991 shall constitute an administrative arrangement between the American Institute in Taiwan and the Coordination Council for North American Affairs.

Sincerely yours,



Mou-Shih Ding  
Representative

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