

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
ON LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES INITIATIVE  
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA AND  
THE TRANSITIONAL OF AFGHANISTAN**

The Government of Canada and the Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan referred to as the Participants,

- acting in the spirit of partnership and cooperation,
- wishing to enhance economic development through the reduction of trade barriers by providing enhanced opportunities for access to the Canadian market for textile and apparel goods,
- sharing an interest in the verification and enforcement of rules of origin to maximize the positive outcome of the implementation of this Memorandum,

have identified, to fulfil these purposes, the following activities:

For the purpose of assisting Canada in the verification and investigation of the rules of origin, The Transitional Administration of Afghanistan has the intention of,

- a) providing, on request from the Government of Canada, information related to producers and exporters and their facilities in relation to the export to/import into Canada of textile and apparel goods;
- b) providing unobstructed admittance to, mobility within and departure from its national territory to Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) officials in order to facilitate the exchange of information with government officials and site-visits of producers' and exporters facilities in relation to the export to/import into Canada of textile and apparel goods;
- c) providing the Government of Canada with a designated official Afghani contact-point with whom to communicate.

**The Government of Canada has the intention of:**

- a) applying the Least Developed Country tariff rate of zero to all eligible textile and apparel goods exported from the territory of the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan,
- b) providing the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan with a designated official Canadian contact-point with whom to communicate,
- c) notifying the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan of the intended arrival of Canadian customs officials in advance of visitation in the territory of the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan,
- d) undertaking verification and investigation of the rules of origin in relation to the export to/import into Canada of textile and apparel goods in accordance with procedures as set out in Annex 1 and Annex 2.

**Both participants will:**

communicate and discuss through their designated official contact-points in order to facilitate the implementation of this Memorandum and to ensure ongoing cooperation,

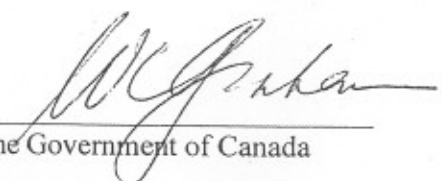
notify to officials of relevant agencies the content of this Memorandum for the purpose of its implementation.


This Memorandum will be implemented in conformity with the laws and regulations of each Participant.

This Memorandum will take effect on the date of the last signature of the Memorandum or on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2003 if the date of the last signature precedes the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2003 and will remain in effect until terminated by either Participant, giving the other one month advance written notice.

This Memorandum may be amended, at any time, by written consent of the Participants. Any such amendment will take effect on the date of the last signature of the amending document or upon such a date specified in the amending document.

Done in Kabul on September 5, 2003 in duplicate in French and English languages, each version being equally valid.

  
For the Government of Canada

  
For the Transitional Administration of Afghanistan