Royaume du Maroc
Ministère de l'Industrie,
de l'Investissement, du Commerce
et de l'Economie Numérique

المملكة المغربية
وزارة الصناعة
والإستثمار والتجارة
والإقتصاد الرقمي

DRCI/SA/7/2019

Rabat,

14 MARS 2019

The Honorable Robert E. LIGHTHIZER
United States Trade Representative
Washington, D. C. 20508
United States of America

Subject: Request to modify the rules of origin for certain apparel articles under the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

Dear Mr. LIGHTHIZER,

On behalf of GOTTEX SWIMWEAR BRANDS LTD company, located in Morocco, I hereby submit this request regarding the amendment of rules of origin applicable to apparel articles, to allow the use of certain third country fabrics not commercially available in the countries of Morocco and the United States, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.3 of the US-Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

GOTTEX SWIMWEAR BRANDS LTD is a leading fashion swimwear manufacturer and the majority of its swimwear for the U.S. market is manufactured in its operations in Morocco. Most of the fabrics utilized for its products are specialized and trademarked fabrics included in the SENSITIVE® line produced by the Italian manufacturer EUROJERSEY, using trademarked elastomeric yarns (LYCRA®) produced at the Ireland facility owned by U.S.-based yarn producer INVISTA.

GOTTEX SWIMWEAR BRANDS LTD fabric concerned by the rule of origin change under the US-Morocco FTA is the one below. This fabric is not available in Morocco or the United States.

No	Item description	HTS	End use
1	Printed and piece-dyed warp knit fabrics of polyester or nylon fibers (containing between 6% and 41% elastomeric yarns), elastomeric yarns is classified under subheading 6004.10	6004.10	Women's or girls' swimwear classified in subheading 6112.41

We would appreciate the attention of your good offices to consider this request at an early opportunity and believe that by working cooperatively we can accelerate the process to ensure mutual benefit for both Moroccan and US companies.

Sincerely yours,

Moulay Hafid ELALAMY
Minister of Industry, Investment, Trade and Digital Economy
Kingdom of Morocco

مقر المديرية العامة للتجارة
قطعة 14، مركز الأعمال، الجناح الشمالي، شارع الرياض حي الرياض. صرب 610، الرباط شالة، المغرب
الهاتف : 49 62 70 37 5 212+   الفاكس : 43 51 73 37 5 212+
Siège de la Direction Générale du Commerce
Parcelle 14, Business center, alle nord Bd Erriyad, Hay Riad B.P 610, Rabat Chellah, Maroc
Tél : +212 5 37 70 62 49 Fax : +212 5 37 73 51 43

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الـمـمـلـكـة الـمـغـربـيـة
وزارة الـصـنـاعـة
والإسـتـثـمـار والـتـجـارة
والإقـتـصـاد الرقـمـي

DRCI/SA/7/2019

Rabat,

1 4 MARS 2019

Mr. Lloyd WOOD,
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements
Room H3 100, U.S. Department of Commerce,
14th Street and Constitution Avenue, Washington, DC 20230
United States of America

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