

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION
Department of Homeland Security

Memorandum

August 11, 2003

CMP-11 FO:TCF:TEO:TO SST

TO : Directors, Field Operations

FROM : Executive Director, Trade Compliance and Facilitation
Office of Field Operations

SUBJECT: TBT-03-022 Clarification to the Preferential Tariff Treatment of
Handloomed Fabric and Handmade Articles From Such Handloomed
Fabric Produced in an Eligible African Growth and Opportunity Act
(AGOA) Beneficiary Country

REF : TBT-01-008 AGOA Implementation Instructions
TBT-02-032 Kenya Handloom AGOA Agreement
TBT-02-039 Botswana Handloom AGOA Agreement
TBT-02-042 Lesotho Handloom AGOA Agreement
TBT-02-044 Malawi Handloom AGOA Agreement
TBT-03-009 Swaziland Handloom AGOA Agreement
TBT-03-011 Namibia Handloom AGOA Agreement
TBT-03-021 Zambia Handloom AGOA Agreement

BACKGROUND:

The Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements (CITA) has determined that handloomed fabrics and handmade articles made from such handloomed fabrics from Kenya, Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Swaziland, Namibia and Zambia be treated as being "handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles" under the AGOA when accompanied by an appropriate AGOA visa.

In an August 6, 2003 Federal Register Notice (68 FR 46590), CITA provided a clarification to their determinations. CITA stated that the determinations include handloomed rugs, scarves, placemats, tablecoths, and other handloomed articles. These articles are eligible for preferential tariff treatment under section 112(a) of the AGOA if accompanied by an AGOA export visa for Grouping 9 issued by the

governments of those countries listed above. An AGOA claim may be filed for such articles under Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS) provision 9819.11.27 when accompanied by an appropriate AGOA visa.

ACTION:

Handloomed rugs, scarves, placemats, tablecloths and other handloomed articles shall be treated as "handloomed, handmade, or folklore articles" for the purpose of the AGOA when classified under HTS 9819.11.27 and accompanied by an appropriate AGOA visa in Grouping 9.

Please pass this memorandum to Port Directors, Assistant Port Directors, Import Specialists, Inspectors, Entry Specialists, Brokers, Importers and Other Interested Parties.

INFORMATION:

For additional information, please contact Ms. Susan Thomas, at (202) 927-3719 or Mr. Robert Abels, at (202) 927-1959.

(signed Janet L. Labuda for)
Elizabeth G. Durant