

As well, Mr. Regan announced that effective immediately, separate categories for boot imports have been established, so that timely information will be available on boot imports, as distinct from imports on shoes and sandals. This information will enable the government to determine whether separate quotas need be established for imports of boots, as opposed to the present system of allocating quota for boots, shoes and sandals together.

In announcing these changes in the quota administration Mr. Regan indicated both domestic and international considerations had been reviewed. The changes were made in accordance with Canada's rights and obligations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and followed meetings Mr. Regan has had with various trade, consumer and union groups representing the footwear sector.

Mr. Regan indicated the importance he attached to working closely with all participants in the footwear sector on questions relating to footwear import quotas, and advised he had invited representatives from the footwear sector to come forward to form an advisory group to whom he could turn for counsel and advice on an ongoing basis.