Mexico City, December 19, 2024

PRESS RELEASE

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index expresses reservations about the decree on textile goods

The National Council of the Export Manufacturing Industry (index) has concerns about the effectiveness of the new measure that increases tariffs to 35% on manufactured goods and 15% on imported textiles, excluding countries with free trade agreements.

While we support efforts to prevent unfair trade practices that harm local production and jobs, we must also consider the impact on export companies that rely on textile and apparel products for their processes.

Regarding the claims that 48% of imported goods under the Export Manufacturing and Maquiladora Industry program do not show a return, it is important to note that discrepancies arise because goods like textiles are imported under one category but, after processing, are exported under a different classification.

We suggest that measures like those announced today be thoroughly and proactively reviewed in advance with index, in coordination with the Ministry of Economy and representatives of the textile and apparel sector. This involves — as we are already doing with steel and domestic suppliers — reviewing tariff classifications and IMMEX programs to identify exceptions when textiles that are not manufactured in Mexico and are solely for export purposes.

During the presidential briefing, it was noted that key textile-producing states such as Mexico State, Puebla, Hidalgo, Coahuila, Guanajuato, and Jalisco will benefit from these new policies. Four of these states are part of the index network. However, we are concerned about the potential impact in other regions, particularly in the north and southeast. These companies may face operational challenges, reduced investment, and even a shift of export production to other countries due to similar policies.

According to index President Humberto Martínez Cantú, policies should strengthen Mexico's industries and its role as the United States' top trade partner. He emphasized that our shared goal is to position Mexico as a leading global economy and one of the top 10 exporters worldwide, paving the way for up to $50 billion in foreign direct investment from corporate relocations.