The following countries have demonstrated only minimal regard for the rights of workers, and should be warned that they are in danger of losing eligibility to participate in the Generalized System of Preferences program unless real progress is demonstrated.

1. Central African Republic

2. Guatemala 1987

3. Haiti 1987

4. Zambia 1987
The following countries should be removed from the list of countries eligible for benefits under the Generalized System of Preferences, for violations of worker rights:

1. Chile
2. Indonesia
3. Korea, Republic of
4. Paraguay
5. Singapore
6. Suriname
7. Taiwan
8. Thailand
9. Turkey
"Worker Rights Violations Abroad"

A Submission by the AFL-CIO
regarding the Generalized System of Preferences

June 1, 1987

Submitted to:
David P. Shark
Chairman, GSP Subcommittee
Office of the United States
Trade Representative
600 17th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20505
Mr. David P. Shark  
Chairman  
GSP Subcommittee  
Office of the United States Trade Representative  
600 17th Street, N.W.  
Room 517  
Washington, D.C. 20506

Dear Mr. Shark:

I enclose the arguments of the AFL-CIO with regard to a number of countries whose violations of worker rights and labor standards should be considered in the annual review of benefits granted under the Generalized System of Preferences.

In our view any fair reading of the worker rights provisions of Title V of the Trade and Tariff Act of 1984 would require that Chile, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Paraguay, Singapore, Suriname, Taiwan, Thailand, and Turkey be denied GSP benefits. Other countries are serious labor rights violators whose practices need review, but, because of changes in government or other special circumstances, require special consideration. These countries -- Guatemala, Haiti, the Central African Republic, and Zambia -- should be issued a warning that GSP benefits could well cease unless improvements are made.

The AFL-CIO recognizes the reluctance of your office to consider cases involving countries that have so recently been examined. Nonetheless, we feel that the evidence and arguments herein presented warrant your review of all cases, both old and new.

The AFL-CIO will cooperate with you fully during the course of the next review. I strongly urge you to include all the enclosed cases in its scope.

Sincerely,

Tom Kahn  
Director  
International Affairs Department