

## U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)

The U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), is a program designed to promote economic growth in the developing world

- Eliminates duties on a wide range of products (approx..3500) when imported from one of 119 designated beneficiary countries and territories.
- GSP promotes sustainable development in [beneficiary countries](#) by helping these countries to increase and diversify their trade with the United States.
- Established by the Trade Act of 1974; GSP is the largest and oldest U.S. trade preference program
- GSP is up for renewal by the US Congress by the end of this year

And the Secretariat is concerned that structural changes in apparel and textiles will destabilize key provisions of AGOA

- Causing undue hardship in a region already floundering from the impact of COVID-19.
- Severely damage our nation's standing in the continent as a strategic development and trade partner
- And would give global competitors, such as, China a considerable win

- From its inception, GSP has specifically excluded preferential treatment for textiles and apparel. Having been designated for eligible AGOA countries and a few countries in the Western Hemisphere, such as, Haiti in order to boost garment sectors in critical need of preferential trade concessions

This is an area of concern and the Secretariat wants your input on how to address this in our policy recommendations and action?