



PRIME MINISTER

PRESS STATEMENT NO. 338
26 September 1974

TARIFF BOARD REPORT - FIBREBOARD CONTAINERS, PAPER AND TEXTILE BAGS

The Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, announced today that the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Tariff Board in its report on Fibreboard Containers, Paper and Textile Bags.

The Government's decision to implement the Board's recommendations will mean that a General rate of duty of 25% will apply to boxes, bags and other packing containers of paper or paperboard. Existing ad valorem rates of duty, including primage, range from 24% to 47% approximately. The Board recommended that the existing rate of duty on corrugated fibreboard remain unchanged at 30% or, if lower, \$48.225 per tonne.

It is not expected that there will be any significant changes in the industry as a result of the Government's decision because of the substantial natural protection afforded local production.

Mr Whitlam said that details of the Customs tariff changes arising from the Government's decision will be announced when administrative arrangements to implement them have been finalised.

CANBERRA. A.C.T.