U.S. International Trade Commission

During the past year, the Office of Economics of the U.S. International Trade Commission has focused much of its efforts on updating and revising its CGE model of the U.S. economy. Staff are using this model to assess the impact of significant U.S. import restraints on U.S. workers, producers, and consumers. This assessment will be published in a report that the Commission provides to the United States Trade Representative biennially. The report, which will be published in late May 1999, focuses on restraints (both tariff and non-tariff barriers) applied to imports of textiles and apparel, various agricultural products, various other products within the manufacturing sector, and transportation services (specifically, services governed by the Jones Act).

Commission staff regularly uses CPE and CGE models (including use of the GTAP model) in the informal technical assistance to both the USTR and Congressional Committees. More formally, the staff relied, in part, on such models to assess the impact of U.S.-E.U.sectoral trade liberalization, the EU's Association Agreements with selected CEE partners, and various statutory investigations (anti-dumping, countervailing duty, and escape clause). Staff currently is assessing the impact of China's accession to the WTO. Finally, staff anticipates using this type of modeling in an upcoming assessment of the impact of recent U.S. sanctions imposed on India and Pakistan.