

SECOND AND THIRD COMMITTEES

JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE ON TARIFF PREFERENCES

Notes on Fifth Meeting, Held on Friday, 2 January 1948

Chairman: Mr. S. SAHLIN (Sweden)

Article 15

The delegates for Canada, Haiti, Poland and Iran gave their views on the proposals regarding prior approval for new tariff preferences for development purposes. The Chairman in summing up the discussion recalled that the proposal of Argentina and Chile to dispense entirely with control by the Organization had been supported by El Salvador; the proposal of Venezuela to substitute some subsequent approval for prior approval had received the sympathy of Haiti, Iran and Syria; and the other eight members of the Sub-Committee (with the exception of the delegate of Turkey who had not participated) had expressed the view that the condition of prior approval should be upheld. The delegate for Turkey then stated that his delegation favoured the deletion of the provision for prior approval. The Chairman stated that, in summing up the discussion, he had not intended to imply that any decision was being reached; he had only wished to record, in order to clarify the progress made by the Sub-Committee, the opinions that had been expressed thus far in the discussion; there would of course be further opportunities to discuss Article 15 after Articles 16 and 42 had been reviewed by the Sub-Committee, and the amendments proposed, particularly those of Chile and Venezuela, would be examined in detail at a later stage.

The Committee then agreed in principle that the proposals of Chile and Venezuela (Items 3 and 5 in the Agenda, E/CONF.2/C.2&3/A/6), and possibly the proposal of Ecuador on the question of voting, should be referred to a Working Party after the Sub-Committee has discussed Articles 16 and 42.

The Sub-Committee decided to proceed with the examination of Article 16 at the next meeting.

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