

JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE OF COMMITTEES II AND III ON TARIFF PREFERENCES

NOTES OF ELEVENTH MEETING

Held at Havana on Friday, 5 March 1948 at 3.00 p.m.

Chairman: M. Jean ROYER (France)

1. Election of Chairman

Mr. ROYER (France) was elected as Chairman in place of Mr. Sahlin who had returned to Sweden.

2. Article 15

The text of Article 15 as approved by the Co-ordinating Committee (document E/CONF.2/45/Rev.1) was discussed.

Title

It was agreed to add the words "and Reconstruction" at the end of the title.

Paragraph 1

Paragraph 1 was approved subject to drafting changes in the French text and the addition of the following interpretative note:

"It is understood that the special circumstances mentioned in paragraph 1 are those referred to in Article 15 itself."

Paragraph 2

Paragraph 2 was approved.

Paragraph 3

Paragraph 3 was approved subject to drafting changes in the French text.

Paragraph 4

Preamble. A proposal was made to delete the words "between Members", it being argued that this limitation had been introduced without adequate discussion. It was the view of the meeting, however, that the words should remain, and the preamble was approved subject to drafting changes in the French text. The delegates for Argentina, Chile, Poland and Syria wished it put on record that in their view no final decision should be taken on this point until a definitive text of Article 93 was available.

The delegate for Argentina reserved his position in regard to the powers of the Organization specified in the preamble.

/Sub-paragraph (a)

Sub-paragraph (a) and the interpretative note relating to it were approved subject to drafting changes in the French text of the sub-paragraph. The delegate for the United Kingdom entered a formal reservation pending instructions from his government.

Sub-paragraphs (b) and (c) were approved.

Sub-paragraph (d). The delegate for Poland introduced his amendment (document E/CONF.2/50), but explained that, in view of the agreement by Heads of Delegations, he would not press it if any delegation could not accept it. The amendment was not accepted. A proposal to substitute the text most recently discussed by the Working Party was also rejected, two members supporting it, eight opposing, and several abstaining. The text of the Co-ordinating Committee was then approved. The delegate for Argentina reserved his position.

Sub-paragraphs (e) and (f) were approved.

Paragraph 5

It was agreed to set up an informal working group consisting of the delegates for Chile, Iraq, Poland and the United States, to clarify the text, taking into account amendments submitted by the delegation of Iraq, and to report back to the next meeting of the Joint Sub-Committee.

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