

THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

SUB-COMMITTEE E (ARTICLES 20 AND 22)

NOTES ON THE FIFTH MEETING

Held on Friday, 9 January 1948 at 5.45 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. J. E. HOLLOWAY (South Africa)

(Reference: E/CONF.2/C.3/7)

ARTICLE 20 - GENERAL ELIMINATION OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS

1. Item 17 (Sweden)

The delegate of Sweden said he would withdraw his amendment if the records included a statement that the case was covered by the existing draft of the Article. The delegate of Colombia reserved his position both as to the present wording of sub-paragraph 2 (c) (ii) and the proposed explanatory statement. It was agreed that the delegates of Sweden and the United Kingdom should draft an explanatory note to meet the request of the delegate of Sweden.

2. Item 19 (Norway)

The delegate of Norway said he would withdraw this amendment if the present wording were interpreted in such a way as to permit a country to impose quantitative restrictions on the import of any one product used in the production of a given animal product. He feared that the word "mainly" might mean that if, for example, a country imported both maize and oil cake, it would have to restrict the import of both or of neither.

After a lengthy discussion on the meaning of the word "restrict" in sub-paragraph (c), it was agreed that the delegates of Mexico and the United Kingdom should draft a note on this point. Further consideration of the amendment of Norway was deferred until this note had been submitted to the sub-committee.

3. Item 8 (China)

There was substantial support for drafting a provision which would incorporate the substance of the proposal of China. It was agreed that a Working Group composed of the delegates of Chile, China and the United States should consult together to draft such a proposal.

4. Item 13 (Norway)

There was no support for this amendment.

/5. Item 15 (Egypt)

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The delegate of Egypt withdrew this amendment.

6. Item 23 (Chile)

There was support for the principle of this amendment but some delegates expressed doubt as to the present wording. It was agreed that a Working Party composed of the delegations of Chile, the Netherlands, Peru, the United Kingdom and the United States should submit a new draft.

7. Item 16 (United Kingdom)

This amendment was accepted.

8. Item 24 (Geneva Draft Note)

It was agreed that this note must be retained in some form. The delegate of Chile pointed out that the amendment of his delegation to Article 53 was relevant to this issue and further consideration by the sub-committee was therefore postponed.

9. Item 25 (Geneva Draft Note)

Consideration was deferred as the delegate of Peru announced that he would submit an amendment to sub-paragraph (c).

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