

THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

SUB-COMMITTEE E (ARTICLES 20 AND 22)

NOTES ON THE SIXTH MEETING

Held on Saturday, 10 January 1948 at 5.45 p.m.

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

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

ARTICLE 20 - GENERAL ELIMINATION OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS

1. Item 15 (Egypt)

This amendment was withdrawn at the Fifth Meeting but the Sub-Committee agreed to a suggestion of the delegate for Egypt that the substance of his amendment should be considered by the Working Party dealing with Items 21 and 22.

ARTICLE 22 - NON-DISCRIMINATORY ADMINISTRATION OF QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS

2. Item 61 (Argentina)

There was no support for the proposal of the delegation of Argentina to delete paragraphs 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this Article.

3. Items 52 (Mexico), 54 (Turkey) and 60 (Syria and Lebanon)

Some delegates were strongly opposed to the use of a "representative period" as the basis for allocating quotas. Others sympathized with the spirit of the Turkish amendment but felt that its provisions should be carefully limited. The problem of a country with a shortage of a particular currency, which the amendment of Syria was destined to meet, was acknowledged to be a serious one but there was some feeling that it could be more properly dealt with by Sub-Committee F (Articles 21, 23 and 24). It was finally agreed that a Working Party composed of the delegations of Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, the United Kingdom and the United States should be set up to revise sub-paragraph 2 (d) of Article 22, with authority to consult on matters of common concern with a Working Party of Sub-Committee F. It was also agreed that a representative of the International Monetary Fund should be requested to assist in the deliberations of the Working Party.

4. Paragraphs 1, 2 (a), 2 (b) and 2 (c) of Article 22 were accepted by the Sub-Committee.

/5. Items 55 and

5. Items 55 and 57 (India) and 56 (Czechoslovakia)

There was some support for the amendments of the delegation of India which would make more elastic the requirement to give public notice of the details of quotas. There was, however, also some opposition to any loosening of the present provisions. It was suggested that the words "wherever practicable" in the amendment of India might be replaced by the phrase "unless serious prejudice to the Member would result from such action". It was agreed to consider this suggestion at the next meeting.

6. Item 58 (Mexico)

The delegate for Mexico said that this amendment should be considered in conjunction with his amendment to sub-paragraph 2 (d). It was, therefore, agreed to refer considerations of this item to the Working Party dealing with items 52, 54, and 60.

7. Item 59 (Geneva Draft Note)

Discussion of this note was deferred.