

THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

SUB-COMMITTEE F (ARTICLES 21, 23 AND 24)

NOTES ON THE FOURTEENTH MEETING

Held on 15 March 1948, at 9.45 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. J. MELANDER (Norway)

1. The representative of the United Kingdom said that an account of certain of the proceedings of the Working Party which had been considering Article 23 had appeared in the press. It was generally understood that Working Party proceedings were of a private nature, and in any case, some of the statements had been inaccurate.

The CHAIRMAN of the Working Party made it clear that although he had been approached by the press on more than one occasion he had reluctantly declined to release any information. The CHAIRMAN of the Sub-Committee expressed his regret at the irregularity of the method in which this information had been obtained by the press. He pointed out in regard to the Fourteenth Meeting of the Sub-Committee, however, that the Report under discussion would be published as an unrestricted document.

CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON ARTICLE 23 (Document E/CONF.2/C.3/F/W.31/Rev.2 and Document E/CONF.2/C.3/F/W.31/Rev.2/Corr.1)

Text of the Article

2. Paragraphs 1 and 2 were approved.

3. On the suggestion of the representatives of the United Kingdom and the United States, it was agreed that paragraph 4 of the Geneva text should be reproduced in its entirety as paragraph 3 of the text of the Article. As a consequence it was agreed that paragraph 2 of the Annex should be deleted.

Paragraph 3 was approved.

4. Paragraph 4 was approved. The words in square brackets were provisionally retained in the text pending further discussion by the full Committee.

5. Paragraph 5 was approved.

6. The deletion of the Interpretative Note to paragraphs 1 - 4 and the insertion of a new Interpretative Note to sub-paragraph 1 (g) were approved.

Text of the Annex

7. Paragraph 1 was approved.

/8. It was

8. It was agreed that paragraph 3 should be renumbered to conform with the amendment approved above in paragraph 3 and that the first sentence should be amended to read: "Any Member taking action under paragraph 1 of this Annex...".

This paragraph was approved.

9. A similar renumbering was approved in the case of paragraph 4. It was also agreed that the third and fifth lines of the paragraph should be amended to include only a reference to paragraph 1 of the Annex.

This paragraph was approved.

10. The Interpretative Note to the Annex was approved.

11. The delegation of Argentina reserved its position on the Article on the grounds that his country wished to maintain freedom of action in regard to its system of controls and that the functions and powers of the ITC should not be of an executive nature.

12. The delegation of Brazil expressed no opinion on the Article.

Report of the Working Party

13. It was agreed that paragraph 11 of the Report should be altered to conform with the amendment approved above in paragraph 3.

The Report was approved.

Other Business

14. It was agreed that, since the Chairman of the Sub-Committee would be leaving Havana before the full Committee considered Articles 23 and 24 in second reading, the Report of the Sub-Committee should be presented to Committee III by Mr. Phillips (Australia).

15. It was agreed that the Sub-Committee should not hold a meeting to approve its Draft Report and that any delegations would have the right to submit statements on the Report as published by the Secretariat.
