

FOURTH COMMITTEE: RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

SUB-COMMITTEE A

SUMMARY RECORD OF FIFTEENTH MEETING

23 December 1947 at 10.30 a.m.

The Sub-Committee continued the discussion of the Amendments submitted by the delegation of Ceylon and by the delegation of Ecuador in connection with Articles 44 and 50 (Nos. 2, 13, 14, 54 and 55 of E/CONF.2/C.4/4). The delegate of Ceylon stated that his country had suffered because of the restrictive practices of some services and he was of the opinion that control over services should be strengthened in the Charter. The delegations of Belgium, Canada, India, Iraq, United States and the United Kingdom all expressed themselves in favour of keeping the text of Article 50 substantially the same as it now reads.

The delegate of Belgium suggested that in the report of the Sub-Committee to the Full Committee an interpretative explanation be included to clarify the meaning of paragraph 1, of Article 50 in regard to what type of services are intended to be included within the provisions of this Article.

The delegate from Ecuador, after hearing various explanations from members of the Sub-Committee, stated that if it was made specifically clear that Article 50 would not interfere with the operation of telecommunications by the governments of Member States, he would consider the advisability of withdrawing his amendment.

The Ad Hoc Committee submitted a report to the Sub-Committee together with several proposed drafts applicable to Articles 44 and 47. The Sub-Committee desired more time to study the proposed drafts and discussion of these was postponed to the next meeting. The Ad Hoc Committee was directed by the Chairman to study the text of Article 50 with a view to effecting a compromise between the divergent viewpoints expressed.

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