

United Nations  
CONFERENCE  
ON  
TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

Nations Unies  
CONFERENCE  
DU  
COMMERCE ET DE L'EMPLOI

RESTRICTED  
E/CONF.2/C.6/W.10  
29 December 1947  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SIXTH COMMITTEE: ORGANIZATION

SUB-COMMITTEE ON ARTICLE 75 (COMPOSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD)

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTH MEETING

Held on 27 December 1947 at 4.00 p.m.

Mr. SCARPATI (Argentina) reiterated the support he had given in the Sixth Committee for Alternative B. The delegate of Australia had shown the difficulty of establishing criteria for membership of the Board. Such criteria in any case should not be limited to chief importance in international trade. He had no objection to taking the United States draft as a basis of discussion but he opposed paragraph 3 (a) of that draft as it did not give to the criterion of representation of diverse types of economy the primary importance which it should have.

Mr. GAZDER (Pakistan) thought that paragraph 2 of the United States draft should be generally acceptable. He agreed it would be difficult to establish criteria and to ascertain the eight states of chief importance in international trade. Any criteria must be precise and must ensure the continuity, stability and impartiality of the Board.

Mr. HOLMES (United Kingdom) found the United States draft generally acceptable. He thought that it would make for the efficiency and stability of the Board. The fact that it would be difficult to establish criteria was no reason why an attempt should not be made to do so. Were no criteria for membership of the Board established, he feared that election to membership would depend upon political considerations.

Mr. VANER (Turkey) agreed that the United States draft should be taken as a basis of discussion.

Mr. PARAFAGUA (Brazil) considered the United States draft a step forward because it showed the three classes of states which should be represented on the Board. The Executive Board was the soul of the Organization and therefore must be truly representative. He thought that the United States draft should be brought to its logical conclusion by dividing the members of the Board into three lots of six members each.

Mr. COUILLARD (Canada) found the United States draft to be a good basis of discussion. It effaced the presumption of permanent seats which some delegates opposed and it established clearly the sovereignty of the Conference

/as well as

as well as ensuring that the Board was truly representative.

Mr. COLBAN (Norway), referring to the statement of the delegate of Brazil that the Executive Board was the soul of the Organization, remarked that the Board, although performing the daily work of the Organization, was subject to the Conference.

The Sub-Committee agreed to take the United States draft as a basis of discussion and to examine it paragraph by paragraph. It was also agreed that at the end of this examination a small drafting group might be established.

Paragraph 1

Discussion centred around the second sentence. Three principal points arose:

- (a) It was agreed that the words "shall be eligible" did not mean that a customs union was entitled as a right to a seat upon the Board.
- (b) One delegate suggested that the second sentence should be included in a subsequent paragraph and not in the first paragraph.
- (c) It was suggested that the word "states" in the last line of paragraph 1 should be omitted.

-----