

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE
ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

COMMITTEE III

SUMMARY REPORT

Ninth Meeting
held on 16 November 1946 at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. GONZALEZ (Chile)

I. Chairman's Report on the Drafting Sub-Committee and Liaison
Sub-Committee Meetings

The CHAIRMAN described how the documents tabled for discussion, namely the Final Report (E/FC/T/C.III/17) and the Specific Instructions to the Drafting Committee (E/FC/T/C.III/W.5), had come to be drafted in their present form. It had been decided at a meeting of the Head of Delegations that the final reports of Working Committees and of the Preparatory Committee as a whole should be drawn up as follows:

Reports should be in two parts, both destined for publication. The first part should deal with the history of the Committee's work; the second should amalgamate Parts II and III so that under each heading of the agenda the general principles discussed in the Committee were presented, followed by the agreed draft text, amendments, revisions, additions and suggestions submitted by delegations, but without attributing reservations to any specific delegation. Delegations making reservations, additions, etc., should be specified by name in a separate document withheld from general publication.

There was only one change in the text of the draft which was formerly contained in the third part of the Report, namely the addition of Article H, corresponding to the former Article 65 of the Draft Charter. The Liaison Sub-Committee, in co-operation with Committee V, had decided to recommend to the latter Committee a revised text of Article 65 and to incorporate it into the final report of Committee III. The new text represented a compromise between the Draft Charter, a text submitted by the United Kingdom, and a re-draft by the United States.

2. Debate on the Final Report of Committee III (E/FC/T/C.III/17)

Mr. FERRILL (United States) moved the adoption of the Report with such modification as might be adopted at the present meeting.

Mr. HOLMES (United Kingdom) suggested the addition of the following sentence after the word "production techniques" in Section 4 of Part II:

"It was felt, however, that there should be some provision in this obligation of members to furnish such information whereby the legitimate business interests of particular enterprises should be safeguarded, as far as feasible, from possible injury which might arise if detailed information were to fall into the hands of their competitors or other private persons."

The CHAIRMAN agreed that the suggestion of Mr. HOLMES (United Kingdom), being a point of principle, might be a useful addition, but suggested it might be inserted as a new paragraph at the end of Section 4.

Mr. MCGREGOR (Canada) agreed with Mr. HOLMES (United Kingdom) and also with the Chairman regarding the place of insertion.

The CHAIRMAN instructed the Secretariat to make the insertion.

Mr. TERRILL (United States) suggested the words "and conferences" should be added to the headings of Section 2, page 9, and of Article B, page 10.

Agreed.

Mr. TERRILL (United States) had experienced some confusion when reading the Report, and suggested Part II should be drafted to include the text with appropriate notes in one section and the exposition in another section.

Mr. NAUDE (South Africa), referring to the omission of services, suggested an explanatory preface or note might be published explaining the grounds for this omission.

The CHAIRMAN recalled that the General Notes on page 18 included an observation on services.

Mr. JURESHI (India) said that, if reasons were given for the omission of services, the reasons for their inclusion as stressed by his colleagues should also be published.

Mr. GUERRA (Cuba) felt that the publication of such notes would entail a detailed report on the discussions of Committee III concerning services.

Mr. MCGREGOR (Canada) suggested that a general reference to the subject of services rather than separate references by individual Committees should be made, as services were to be dealt with by the Preparatory Committee as a whole.

Mr. WYNDHAM-WHITE (Executive Secretary) suggested that a written statement could be made to the Plenary Committee when the general report on Committee III was submitted.

The Meeting adopted the Final Report (E/FC/T/C.III/17) and the Specific Instructions to the Drafting Committee (E/FC/T/C.III/W.5).

5. Closure of the Meeting

The CHAIRMAN thanked all delegates, and especially the Rapporteur and his colleagues, for their tireless efforts and co-operation. He contrasted the approved Final Report with the wide initial cleavage of opinion and felt that an auspicious beginning for true international co-operation against harmful business practices had been achieved. He pronounced the closure of the Final Session of Committee III.

The Meeting rose at 11.55 a.m.
