

*United Nations*

*Nations Unies*

**ECONOMIC  
AND  
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL  
ECONOMIQUE  
ET SOCIAL**

RESTRICTED  
LONDON  
E/PC/T/CV/3  
21 October 1946  
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE  
ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

COMMITTEE V

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

NOTE BY SECRETARIAT ON SUGGESTED ORDER OF  
BUSINESS AND PROGRAMME OF WORK

In accordance with the request made by the Committee at its first meeting, this note is submitted in explanation of the proposal (annexed hereto) which has been made by the Secretariat in connection with the Committee's order of business. Some further suggestions relating to the general programme of work of the Committee are also advanced for the consideration of delegates.

The Committee's Terms of Reference are broadly fixed by the suggested basis of discussion contained in the resolution of the Economic and Social Council February 18, 1946, as modified by the Preparatory Committee in Executive Session on October 15.

The Provisional Agenda that has been submitted represents an elaboration of these very broad terms of reference for the purpose of indicating more precisely the general scope and nature of the subject matter which Committee V will be expected to consider. It will be observed that the headings of this Provisional Agenda correspond to those of the "Suggested Charter for an International Trade Organization" proposed by the United States Government (Chapters I, II & VII). It is the Secretariat's understanding that this form of Agenda has been suggested for reasons of practical working convenience and that its provisional acceptance, in this form, would not preclude modifications or additions being made at any time, should the Committee consider such changes expedient or desirable.

It seems evident, however, that with respect to much of Committee V's Agenda, comparatively little progress can be made until such time as the other substantive committees have reached at least tentative conclusions on those points which have a direct bearing on the structure and functions of the proposed International Trade Organization. If this assumption is correct then the Committee will doubtless wish, at its first business session, to consider the most effective and expeditious way in which its work can be organized and, in particular, the order in which the various topics set down for discussion can best be taken up.

The Secretariat has accordingly attempted to arrange the subject matter of the Provisional Agenda in a tentative order of priority based solely on the extent to which it is considered it might be dealt with in Committee V, independently of other related aspects of the Preparatory Committee's work. Thus it is felt that should the Committee so wish, a relatively early start could be made with discussions of such matters as Organization of the Secretariat and Relationship with other Organizations whilst such topics as Purposes and Functions of the Organization and of its principal organs might more usefully be considered during the later stages of the committee's work when members will have the benefit and guidance of the opinions expressed and the tentative conclusions reached by Committees I to IV. The order of business proposed could of course be modified at any time.

It will be noted that the Secretariat in submitting a suggested order of business has also indicated after each topic the relevant Articles of the United States Draft Charter which has been submitted to the Preparatory Committee as a working paper for the purpose of facilitating consideration of its Agenda.

It is envisaged that the normal procedure, as each Agenda topic (or Article of the United States Draft Charter) is taken up, would be to consider at the same time such alternate proposals as may be submitted by other delegations as well as such modifications of the United States text as may be offered. It would be helpful, therefore, if delegations which have specific changes they wish to see made in the text of Chapters 1, 2 and 7 of the United States draft or alternative proposals which they intend to submit, could hand these in to the Secretariat as soon as possible. It is, of course, appreciated that some time may need to elapse before delegations are in a position to submit definite proposals of this nature. In the meantime, attention is drawn to the Comments on the United States Proposals, submitted by the Government of India, relative to Purposes and Organization, and to Chapter I (Purposes) and Articles 44-45 (Structure) of the draft Charter submitted by Brazil (Document E/PC/T/W/16).

Should the Committee concur in this general procedure, it is suggested that the topics listed in the proposed order of business down to and including "Withdrawal and Termination" would be suitable topics for early consideration. Provisions relating to Membership and to voting etc., on the Conference and Executive Board would seem to involve rather special and probably controversial considerations which, moreover, are to some extent linked with considerations that will arise in other committees. Committee V may nevertheless feel that an early, if only preliminary exchange of views on these matters, particularly on voting arrangements, would serve a useful purpose. As for the remainder of the Agenda items, e.g. purposes, functions, commission, structure, etc., it would not seem very practicable for Committee V to embark on a detailed discussion until it has received from Committees I, II, III and IV some general guidance with respect to the administrative and organizational aspects of their conclusions

LONDON  
E/PC/T/CV/3  
Page 4

and recommendations. Consideration may therefore need to be given at the appropriate time to the problem of ensuring effective co-ordination and consultation with these other committees.

PROPOSED ORDER OF BUSINESS

Provisional Agenda Item	Subject	Relevant Articles of United States Charter
7	The Secretariat	67-70
8b	International Responsibilities of Personnel	72
8a	Relations with other organizations	71
8c	Legal capacity of the Organization	73
8d	Privileges and Immunities	74
8e	Amendments	75
8g	Contributions of Members	77
8h	Entry into force (acceptance and depository arrangements)	78 (except par.3)
8i	Withdrawal and Termination	79
2	Membership of Organization	2 (except last part of par.1)
4	The Conference:-	
a	Membership	52
b	Voting	53
c	Procedure	54
5	The Executive:-	
a	Membership	57
b	Voting	58
c	Procedure	59
1	General Purposes of the Organization	1
3	Functions of the Organization	50
4d	Powers and Duties of the Conference	55
5d	Powers and Duties of the Executive	60
6	The Commissions - Structure, Composition, Procedure and Functions	61-66
8f	Interpretation and Settlement of Legal Questions	76
8h	Entry into Force	78 (par.3) and 2 (last part of par.1)
4e	Interim Tariff Committee	56