

United Nations

**ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL**

Nations Unies

**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
ET SOCIAL**

RESTRICTED

E/PC/T/C.6/53
8 February 1947

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

DRAFTING COMMITTEE OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES

The United States considers that tariff negotiations in accordance with the Second Stage of the Memorandum on Procedures (Annexure 10 of the Report of the First Session), should begin on 8 April. With regard to the timing of the initiation of discussions on the draft Charter, the United States believes that a number of the provisions of the Charter might usefully be examined contemporaneously with the initial discussions on tariffs, it being understood that the tariff negotiations should in all cases have priority in the event of a conflict of meetings.

This view is based upon the following considerations:

1. The Second Stage of the tariff negotiations envisages that each member will submit a schedule of the proposed concessions which it would be prepared to grant to all other members in the light of the concessions it would have requested of each of them. It seems clear that a period will be required for each of the members to study and evaluate fully the offers conditionally made by other members, and it would appear desirable to use this interval for Charter discussions to the extent practicable.
2. On certain fundamental provisions of the Charter, a conditional and tentative understanding has not been reached among all members of the Preparatory Committee. Failure to obtain a conditional understanding on these provisions may well impede tariff negotiations between the members concerned, particularly in view of the doubt it would cast on the value of the tariff concessions to be exchanged.

/In view of

In view of the foregoing, the United States wishes to propose that the Delegations of the various members which will arrive at Geneva on 8 April, should include both persons competent to discuss tariffs, and persons competent to discuss the draft Charter. This will permit progress to be made on any point whenever progress is practicable and will avoid possible loss of time in carrying forward, during the relatively short period available for the Second Session, the heavy tasks which will fall on the Geneva meeting.