

SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTY-SECOND MEETING
OF COMMISSION B HELD ON 19TH AUGUST 1947 AT
10.30 A.M. IN THE PALAIS DES NATIONS, GENEVA

Chairman: The Hon. L.D. Wilgress

The CHAIRMAN directed the attention of the Commission to document E/PC/T/W/303 which had been prepared by the Secretariat and which contained the three alternative texts of Article 72, together with amendments proposed by the delegates of the United Kingdom and Cuba. Subject to minor modifications, these three texts as amended were adopted.

ARTICLE 73

Paragraph 2

It was agreed that the amendments suggested by the Legal Drafting Committee should be adopted.

It was also agreed that this decision could not prejudice the question of whether there would be a system of postal voting in the Executive Board or not.

ARTICLE 74

Paragraph 1

Mr. AUGENTHALER (Czechoslovakia) introduced the amendment of his delegation to provide that the rules of procedure of the Board should be approved by the Conference.

Dr. COOMBS (Australia) suggested that the rules should be confirmed rather than approved by the Conference.

The suggestion of Dr. Coombs was adopted and the paragraph amended accordingly.

Paragraph 4

It was agreed that the change suggested by the Legal Drafting Committee of "Member of the Executive Board" to "Representative on the Executive Board" should be rejected.

Mr. EDMINSTER (United States) suggested that the wording should be amended to "which is not on the Executive Board." This was agreed.

ARTICLE 75

Paragraph 2

Mr. AUGENTHALER (Czechoslovakia) opposed this paragraph as enabling the Organization to interfere in the domestic affairs of Members.

Mr. De GAIFFIER (Belgium/Luxemburg) proposed that the words "Two Members or two Intergovernmental Organizations" should be deleted.

Mr. ROYER (France) supported the proposal of the delegate of Belgium/Luxemburg.

Dr. COOMBS (Australia) said that he thought there was no danger of interference in domestic affairs so long as the Organization was not empowered to direct Members to accept any recommendation made. He suggested that the Board be empowered merely to make reports, and not make recommendations; to Members.

The proposal of the delegate of Belgium/Luxemburg was adopted.

ARTICLE 76

Mr. AUGENTHALER (Czechoslovakia) introduced the amendment submitted by his delegation to make the Commissions responsible to the Conference and not to the Executive Board.

Dr. COOMBS (Australia) opposed the amendment of the delegate of Czechoslovakia and supported the text of the Committee which clearly recognized the sovereign authority of the Conference, but which also permitted an arrangement between the various parts of the administrative and executive machinery which ensured that it would work consistently.

Mr. AUGENTHALER (Czechoslovakia) withdrew his proposal after further discussion.

Mr. De GAIFFIER (Belgium/Luxemburg) proposed that the word "responsible" in the third sentence should be replaced by the word "report".

The proposal of the delegate of Belgium/Luxemburg was accepted subject to the right of the delegate of China to reopen the question after Article 77 had been considered.