

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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CONTRACTING PARTIES

Eleventh Session

## INTERIM REPORT OF THE WORKING PARTY ON BUDGET ON THE QUESTION OF AFFILIATION OF THE STAFF TO THE UNITED NATIONS JOINT STAFF PENSION FUND

1. The Working Party considered the questions arising out of the affiliation of the staff to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund on the basis of a Note presented by the Executive Secretary (document L/527), and came to the conclusion that, as was recognized by the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1955, the most appropriate method for removing the administrative difficulties which have so far prevented the staff joining the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund would be for those contracting parties which are members of the United Nations to instruct their representatives at the Session of the General Assembly opening on 11 November 1956, to obtain from the General Assembly a clear understanding that the ICITO staff members transferred to a successor organization would be allowed to remain participants of the Fund until such time as that organization becomes a member of the Fund.
2. The Working Party suggests therefore that the CONTRACTING PARTIES recommend to the governments parties to the GATT to give such instructions to their representatives at the General Assembly. In order to assist those representatives, the Working Party has prepared a memorandum which could be used as a background paper by those representatives, a copy of which has been given to each delegation.
3. The Working Party sincerely hopes that concerted action by the governments will dispose of the problem in a satisfactory manner. Its attention has been drawn, however, to the fact that if the matter were not cleared up this year at the General Assembly it would be difficult to postpone for another year the setting up of a final pension scheme. Although the Working Party expects that the General Assembly will give favourable consideration to this question, it felt that in order to avoid any possible delay some alternative scheme should be explored, and if such scheme appears satisfactory and reasonable, the CONTRACTING PARTIES might consider before the end of this session whether they might authorize the Executive Secretary to put such scheme into effect if the question of the affiliation to the United Nations Pension Fund is not clarified at the forthcoming Session of the General Assembly. The Working Party is considering therefore several alternative proposals which the Executive Secretary has been required to explore, and it will submit later on a report on those proposals.