

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

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COUNCIL

19-23 February 1963

WORKING GROUP ON THE REVIEW OF PRINTING COSTS AND RELATED MATTERS

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. In its last report the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration proposed that the Council appoint an ad hoc Working Group with strictly defined terms of reference to examine the replies to document L/1806 when received. The Working Group could also consider various other questions raised during the Committee's discussion of Section 3(vii) - Reproduction and Distribution of Documents, of the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1963, and any other relevant matters referred to it by the Executive Secretary. The Working Group should report, in the first instance, to the Committee on Budget, Finance and Administration for examination of the financial aspects of its recommendations (L/1842).
2. The Executive Secretary now proposes that such a Working Group be convened during the month of July, the exact dates to be decided by the Council.
3. Meanwhile reminders will be sent to those governments which have not, so far, replied to the enquiries contained in document L/1806 (replies have been received from Belgium, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United States and Uruguay).
4. The United Kingdom and the United States have asked to be members of the Working Group. In addition, the Executive Secretary proposes the following countries: Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Japan, Nigeria, Switzerland and Uruguay. It is suggested that participants be familiar with the technical as well as the financial aspects of the question.
5. The terms of reference of the Working Group would be as follows:
 - (a) to examine the usefulness to the CONTRACTING PARTIES of publications and documents currently issued by the secretariat, particular attention to be paid, in the case of documents, to their length and the numbers distributed;
 - (b) to examine the procedure to be followed by the secretariat in regard to the duplication processes used, i.e. printing, offset, roneo, etc.;
 - (c) to examine any related questions as appropriate.

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