

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

W.9/145

17 January 1955

Special Distribution

CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Ninth Session

Original: English

## Working Party on Commodity Problems

### PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE CEYLON DELEGATION FOR AMENDMENT OF THE DRAFT AGREEMENT ON COMMODITY ARRANGEMENTS W.9/140.

#### Preamble, Para (b):

1. delete the word "frustrated" and substitute the words "adversely affected"
2. interpolate the word "special" between the words "such" and "difficulties"
3. delete the words "excessive short term" and substitute the word "pronounced".

#### Para beginning with the word "agree":

1. delete the words "examining the extent to which they can"
2. alter the word "take" to "taking"
3. interpolate the words "as may be possible" between the words "action" and "to"
4. delete the words "and of taking such action, when appropriate and that in taking such action, they will have regard to the desirability of", and add the words "and in taking such action they shall give due consideration to the desirability of".

#### Para (d), page 2:

Add the words at the end thereof "and in appropriate cases the distribution of basic foods at special prices"

#### Article I(1):

1. delete the words "appear to exist" and substitute the words "exist or are likely to arise"
2. interpolate the word "any" between the words "in" and "primary"

3. delete the words "and proposals for their solution"
4. delete the words "their next session" and substitute the words "at a special session to be held at the earliest possible date"

NB. The procedure indicated in this Article is cumbersome and is likely to inconvenience the signatories. If their view is acceptable, the Ceylon delegation proposes that Article I(1) should be so amended as to provide that the standing Committee on receipt of a statement of special difficulties shall forthwith refer the case to a study group for immediate examination.

Article II:

1. include in sub-clause (1) paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of Article 59(1) of the Havana Charter with appropriate alterations.
  - In Sub-Clause (4) delete the words "and where a conference is summoned to draw up an agreement on a single commodity"
2. delete the remainder of the sub-paragraph.

Article III.

Delete paragraph (d)

Article IV.

Delete paragraph (d) and substitute a new sub-paragraph numbered 4 as follows:

"Any commodity arrangement concluded in accordance with the provisions of this Article and of Article III or of any other provision in this Agreement shall be approved by the signatories and by the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade before it is put into operation."

Article XI.

Amend paragraph (2) to read as follows:

"Each signatory shall recognize the signatories collectively in the first instance and ultimately the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in the manner indicated in Article IV paragraph (d) as the deciding authority in all matters of principle relating to commodity arrangements (except those provided for in Article VII)."

Article XIII (1).

Amend in first sentence the words "a standing committee of eight members" to read "a standing committee of not less than fifteen members"

Article XIV.

Add new paragraph numbered (3) as follows:

"The administrative and financial affairs under this special Agreement shall be conducted by the signatories under the general control and direction of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade."

Paragraph (3) - renumber as paragraph (4)  
delete the words "in agreement with" and  
substitute the words "with the approval of"

Paragraph (4) - renumber as paragraph (5)