

THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

JOINT SUB-COMMITTEE OF COMMITTEES II AND III

ADDENDUM TO REPORT TO COMMITTEE III ON ARTICLES 16 AND 42

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF EL SALVADOR

El Salvador, in its own name and on behalf of the other countries of Central America which supported it, withdraws its amendment to Article 16. El Salvador wishes however to state clearly:

I. that it still believes that its request as formulated is undeniably just and that the attitude of the countries of Central America should therefore be interpreted as a demonstration of their willingness to compromise.

II. that they have been encouraged in this attitude by the statements made in the later meetings of this Working Party, which lead them to believe that due consideration will be given to the requests of underdeveloped countries in Articles 15 and 42.

A further reason for their adoption of this attitude is their desire to strengthen the principle, contained in the Charter, requiring the elimination of old preferences, still in existence, which, as they are not designed to promote economic development, are and have been prejudicial to the normal progress of international trade.

Therefore we consider that our attitude will be shared by the members of this Working Party and that they will redouble their efforts to find a definitive formula satisfactory to all parties and promoting the economic development of the countries of Central America, and that also those countries maintaining old preferential systems of a different type will be encouraged to co-operate fully in eliminating them in accordance with the machinery established in the Charter.

On the grounds outlined above which we hope will be included in the records or report of this Working Party, we wish to state that:

1. we withdraw our amendment to Article 16;
2. as regards existing preferences, we return to the amendment initially presented by Costa Rica and subsequently withdrawn in favour
/of the amendment

of the amendment proposed by El Salvador, and declare ourselves in support of it;

3. as regards future preferences, we shall consider ourselves covered by Articles 15 and 42, which we hope will be substantially improved in the definitive text to be agreed upon. But it must be noted that in view of the fact that there are at present no definitive texts to which we can adhere, we reserve our position as regards these Articles until a formula is arrived at.

In conclusion we request, if this Working Party sees no objection, that the justice of our first proposal be recognized and noted in the records or reports, with the addition, of course, of a note to the effect that practical difficulties prevented its inclusion in the Charter.

(sgd) Ricardo Jiménez Castillo
Head of the delegation of El Salvador.
