

THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

SUB-COMMITTEE F (ARTICLES 21, 23 AND 24)

NOTES ON SEVENTH MEETING

Held on Friday, 16 January 1948, at 3.00 p.m.

Chairman: J. MELANDER (Sweden)

(Reference: E/CONF.2/C.3/7)

ARTICLE 23 - EXCEPTIONS TO THE RULE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

On the invitation of the CHAIRMAN the delegate of Czechoslovakia explained the redraft of Article 23 proposed by Czechoslovakia (see C.3/F/W.14). The text of his statement is being circulated to the Sub-Committee as a separate document.

The Meeting proceeded to consider the remaining amendments to Article 23, paragraph by paragraph.

Item 66 (Italy) found no support.

Items 67 (Denmark), 68 (Mexico) and 69 (Italy) were referred to the Working Party, as were the Czechoslovak amendments to paragraph 3, sub-paragraphs (a) and (c).

Item 71 (Geneva Draft Note) was deferred for consideration in connection with Article 24.

The Norwegian amendment proposing a new sub-paragraph under paragraph 5 (document C.3/F/W.4) was explained by the delegate of Norway. The delegate of the United States noted the relationship of this amendment to the provisions of Section D of Chapter IV of the Geneva text but it was agreed to refer the Norwegian amendment to the Working Party on Article 23 in the first instance.

The delegate of Brazil maintained the reservation of Brazil on paragraph 5, sub-paragraph (b) (Item 73) pending the report by the Working Party of Sub-Committee A of Committee III on Article 16.

The CHAIRMAN stated that he assumed that the Working Party on Article 16 would take into account the provisions of Article 21, paragraph 5 (b) and that after notification of the report of that

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Working Party the Sub-Committee could decide what action, if any, was necessary.

After discussion it was agreed to refer the French proposal for a new paragraph 6 (Item 74) to the Working Party on Article 23.

With reference to Item 77 (Reservations by Belgium and Chile) the delegate of Chile said that he had no comment to make and the delegate of Belgium stated that Belgium's reservation was replaced by its amendments to Articles 21 and 23.

On the suggestion of the CHAIRMAN it was agreed to establish a Working Party to consider amendments to Article 23, consisting of the delegates of Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.