

THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

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

NOTES ON NINTH MEETING

Held on Friday, 23 January 1948, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: J. MELANDER (Norway)

CONSIDERATION OF REPORT OF WORKING PARTY ON ARTICLE 21 (C.3/F/W.19)

Mr. J. A. GUERRA (Cuba), Chairman of the Working Party on Articles 21 and 23, presented a report dealing with amendments to Article 21 submitted by the delegations of Belgium (C.3/F/W.6) and Australia (Items 28 and 33) of the Annotated Agenda).

After general discussion the Sub-Committee considered the proposed new paragraph 1 of Article 21, section by section. It was agreed that the principle of paragraph 1 sub-paragraph (a) was acceptable, subject to drafting changes which might be made in sections (iii) and (iv) for the purpose of bringing out clearly the intention of the provisions. The CHAIRMAN asked the delegates for Belgium, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States to meet informally to suggest such changes if necessary and to report to the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

The Sub-Committee agreed to the text of paragraph 1 sub-paragraph (b) as submitted by the Working Party.

The Sub-Committee agreed on the redraft of present paragraph 2 (b) of Article 21 as recommended by the Working Party. In connection with this paragraph it was pointed out that the French translation was inconsistent with the English text and on the suggestion of the delegate for Belgium it was agreed that the first sentence of the French text should read as follows:

"Un Etat Membre appliquant des restrictions en vertu de l'alinéa (a) devra les atténuer progressivement jusqu'à suppression complète, au fur et à mesure que sa position financière extérieure s'améliorera, conformément aux dispositions du dit alinéa."

The Sub-Committee agreed with the recommendation of the Working Party

/to amend

to amend present paragraph 3 (c) (iii) by adding the following phrase at the end of the paragraph: "including interests under Articles 3 and 9".

After discussion, the Sub-Committee approved the following sentence to be inserted as the first sentence of paragraph 4 (e) of the Geneva text:

"In consultations between a Member and the Organization under this paragraph, there shall be full and free discussion as to the various causes and the nature of the Member's balance-of-payments difficulties."

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