

FOURTH COMMITTEE: RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

SUB-COMMITTEE A

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE FOURTEENTH MEETING

22 December 1947 at 10.30 a.m.

The Ad-Hoc Committee submitted a preliminary verbal report and stated that while they had tentatively agreed on several draft amendments to Articles 44, 45-A (new) and 47, they wished to postpone presentation of a formal report until other interested delegations had had the opportunity of discussing the proposed texts with the Ad-Hoc Committee.

The next subjects discussed were the amendment proposed by the delegation of Ceylon for the deletion of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Article 50 and the amendment proposed by the delegation of Ecuador for the deletion of the word "Telecommunications" in paragraph 1 of Article 50 (Nos. 54 and 55 of E/CONF.2/C.4/4). The delegate of Ceylon spoke in support of his amendment and stated that he could see no reason why services should not come within the provisions of Article 44 and be dealt with in the same manner as commercial products.

The representatives of Brazil and India supported the position that public services should be included within the scope of Chapter V, but were in favour of retaining the present text of Article 50. The Sub-Committee agreed that Article 50 was a compromise between two opposite view points, to effect some measure of conciliation and to afford some indirect control over services in general. There appeared to be some divergencies of view points in the sub-committee as to how far services actually came within the scope of Chapter V.

The representative for Ecuador explained that his amendment to delete the word "telecommunications" from Article 50 was prompted by the fact that telecommunications in Ecuador had, for the past three years been successfully operated as a governmental agency, and for that reason he was not in favour of telecommunications being included in Article 50.

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