

E/PC/T/C.I & II/PV/1

UNITED NATIONS  
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE

of the

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

Verbatim Report

of the

FIRST JOINT MEETING

of

COMMITTEE I and COMMITTEE II

in the

HOARE MEMORIAL HALL  
Church House, Westminster, S.W.1.

on

Friday, 18th October, 1946,

at

4.45 p.m.

Temporary Chairman: MR. WUNSZ KING (China).

(From the Shorthand Notes of  
W.B. GURNEY, SONS & FUNNELL,  
58 Victoria Street,  
Westminster, S.W.1.)

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: The meeting is in order.

It has been suggested and it has been commonly agreed that there should be a joint body in connection with Committees I and II to deal with questions of Industrial Development, and if it is agreeable to you I should like to call on somebody to nominate a Chairman of that joint body.

MR. A. T. BRENNAN (Union of South Africa): Mr. Chairman, having due regard to the great importance that will be attached to this joint meeting between Committees I and II, and in the light of the work they are going to undertake, I should like to propose to you and to my colleagues here that the Chairman of that particular Joint Committee should be Mr. H.S. Malik. Mr. Malik has wide experience, not only of the development of industry in his own country, but on account of his wide and extensive travels in the Eastern and Western Hemisphere, as well as the great work he has done as a member of other international organizations affecting Food, Agriculture, Rehabilitation, Labour. He is a man who, with his training and background, is particularly and outstandingly suited to take the Chair at a gathering of that nature. In addition to that, he is a very great friend of mine, and accordingly I make that nomination.

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: The delegate of South Africa has nominated Mr. Malik of the Indian Delegation to be the Chairman of this Joint body. Does anybody wish to second that?

MR. J.R.C. HELMORE (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, the United Kingdom delegation would like to second the nomination that has been made by the South African delegate in such happy terms.

THE TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: The proposal of the South African delegate has been seconded by the United Kingdom delegation, and if there is no other nomination may I take it that the Indian delegate, Mr. Malik, is elected unanimously and by applause? (Applause).

MR. H. S. MALIK (India) then took the Chair.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I am grateful to you for the honour you have done my country and me in electing me to this very important office. I am fortified by the confidence that you have been kind enough to place in me. I also feel strengthened by the knowledge that I shall receive your advice and your guidance in guiding the proceedings of this joint body. I can only promise you that I will do my best. (Applause).

As this is a body that has been constituted without very much notice, perhaps it would be helpful if we could have some suggestions regarding the method of working of this joint body.

MR. J.R.G. HELMORE (United Kingdom): Mr. Chairman, as it was the United Kingdom who suggested that this joint body might be useful to us, during the first meeting of Committee I, perhaps it would not be too invidious if we were to take upon ourselves the task of saying that, as you have reminded us yourself, Sir, we none of us had very much time to consider this. I think it would be generally agreed that our subject-matter is closely bound up with that of Committee I and Committee II, and therefore, though this subject takes no lack of precedence in importance, perhaps in time it would be better for us to return to it after Committees I and II have had two or three meetings and after the various delegations have had a chance to consider, to adopt the words of military communiqués, "the new situation" which has been thrust upon us.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments?

DR. H.C. COOMBS (Australia): I suggest, Mr. Chairman, that it might be advisable if you as Chairman of this joint body kept in touch with the Chairmen of Committees I and II in the first few days of their sessions, so that it can be decided in the light of their early work how quickly we can get this Committee going on its substantive business.

THE CHAIRMAN: If that is the general desire of the members of this joint body I shall act in accordance with the suggestions made by the delegate of the United Kingdom and by the delegate of Australia.

The suggestion is made that instead of electing formally a Vice-Chairman, in the absence of the Chairman the Chairman of Committee I or the Chairman of Committee II may act as Chairman of this joint body. May I know if that is generally accepted? (Agreed).

Then I propose to close the proceedings of this joint body, unless any delegate has anything to say?

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.