

DRAFTING COMMITTEE OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTH MEETING

SUB-COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATION

Held at Lake Success on 3 February 1947 at 2:45 p.m.

Chairman: Dr. Guillermo ALAMILLA

1. Corrections

The Delegate of Brazil pointed out that the Secretariat paper containing a statistical elaboration of a Brazilian proposal was entitled "Formula for Weighted Voting Proposed by the Brazilian Delegation". In view of Brazil's attitude of "one vote - one country", he requested the record to show that this is a formula for rating economic importance with reference to Membership in the Executive Board and not a formula on weighted voting.

The Brazilian Delegate also wished the record to show that in E/PC/T/C.6/31, second page, last three lines, the Brazilian motion referred to the elimination of the words "and for the reduction of tariffs and other trade barriers and the elimination of all forms of discriminatory treatment in international commerce", and Chile had supported that motion.

2. Papers Submitted

- (a) Table of the Statistical Division of the United Nations Secretariat and Corrigendum to this table; compiled on the request of the Administrative Sub-Committee in its fourth meeting;
- (b) Secretariat paper dated 2 February 1947 and entitled "Formula for Weighted Voting", although the correct title should be "Formula for Rating Economic Importance".

/3. The Committee

3. The Committee examined the statistical table submitted by the Secretariat, came to the conclusion that one point per fifty dollars of foreign trade per capita was an inadequate measure of weighting the formula and decided to use one vote per twenty-five dollars of foreign trade per capita. The Chairman requested the Secretariat to have a recomputation made on this basis.

Upon the suggestion of the Chairman, the Sub-Committee decided to formulate two compromise drafts of Article 68, one upon the basis of the third Secretariat draft of Article 68, to be used as a formulation using the principle of two categories of Members of the Executive Board, and one entirely new formulation on the basis of three categories of Executive Board Membership. In formulating these drafts, it was understood by all Delegates that these drafts were to be reported out merely as satisfactory formulations on the basis of the principle used, but would not involve any endorsement on the part of any Member of the Sub-Committee on behalf of his country. All reservations, made previously or in this meeting of the Sub-Committee are understood to be fully sustained.

With this understanding, the Sub-Committee approved the two alternatives of Article 68 as contained in the working papers of the Sub-Committee, dated 3 February 1947 and entitled "Alternate Article on Composition of Executive Board Based Upon Divided Seats into Two (respectively, Three) Categories".

The United Kingdom wished the record to show that the United Kingdom sustains a reservation against the factors used in computing the formula for rating economic importance, as used in the Secretariat table as well as on the clause "excluding the [6], [9] Members mentioned above" in paragraph 1 of the third Secretariat draft of Article 68.

The Belgian Delegate wished the record to show that Belgium opposed the rating formula used in the Secretariat table on the rating of economic
/importance,

importance, if this formula was to be used for Executive Board Membership on the basis of two categories of Members. Belgium is of the opinion that the inclusion of national income and trade per capita constitute undue weighted factors in this formula. For this reason, he asked leave to postpone a final decision on the new draft based upon divided seats into two categories until the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

The decision to use figures for 1937 in paragraph 3 of the "Redraft based upon divided seats into two categories", was taken by the Committee in view of the fact that certain countries, such as Czechoslovakia, who were dismembered prior to 1938 or in the course of 1938 would otherwise be unjustly discriminated against.

The United States proposed and the Sub-Committee approved unanimously to transfer Article 2 to Chapter VIII, thus eliminating the whole of Chapter II.

In a preliminary discussion of Section E of Chapter VIII, the Delegate of Canada requested clarification from the United States Delegate on several points relating to Article 73. The United States Delegate explained that membership of commissions might be in some cases permanent, in others, temporary; this might vary according to the nature of the commission. Members of the commissions will not be staff members of the Organization under the Director-General; they will be independent experts, not representatives of their governments, but their governments will be consulted prior to their appointment. The commissions will present their reports directly to the Executive Board.

The meeting was adjourned to 4 February 1947 at 2:45 p.m.
