

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED  
LIMITED C  
CP.6/W/21  
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CONTRACTING PARTIES  
Sixth Session

## WORKING PARTY 3 ON THE CONTINUING ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT

### Note by the Chairman of the Working Party

I have been giving some thought to the question raised by the Delegation of the United States in document GATT/CP.6/13/Add. 1, which was briefly considered by the Working Party at its first meeting. I would propose, if the other members of the Working Party agree, that this matter might be dealt with in our report along the following lines:

The Contracting Parties have not hitherto experienced any serious difficulties arising from the lack of any definite arrangements between them and the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations for inter-communication and the avoidance of unnecessary overlapping between the two parties. This has been due in considerable measure to the expectation that the Havana Charter would in due course enter into force, and the consequent reluctance which the Economic and Social Council has in general shown to giving any detailed consideration to questions which would have eventually fallen to be dealt with by the International Trade Organization; and the Secretariat of the Interim Commission for an International Trade Organization, as representing the interests of the proposed International Trade Organization, have been in a position to foresee and assist in the avoidance of possible duplication of activities.

In the new circumstances created by the fact that the entry into force of the Havana Charter must be regarded as indefinitely postponed, it seems desirable to examine the question whether there is a need for more clearly defined arrangements between the Contracting Parties and the Economic and Social Council to facilitate communication between the two bodies and avoid unnecessary duplication of international activities in the field covered by the General Agreement. Accordingly, the Contracting Parties might instruct the Executive Secretary to consult with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on this subject and to report to the Seventh Session.