UNITED NATIONS *NATIONS UNIES*

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

CONSEIL ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL

RESTRICTED
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ORIGINAL : ENGLISH

PREPARATORY COMMITTEE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT

TARIFF NEGOTIATION

PROCEDURES

There is transcribed here below the text of a telegram circulated to members of the Preparatory Committee by the Secretariat on March 20 last, at the request of the United Kingdom Government.

KINDLY BRING FOLLOWING TO ATTENTION YOUR GOVERNMENT

BEGINS

HAVE HONOUR TRANSMIT FOLLOWING VIEWS ON TARIFF NEGOTIATION PROCEDURE AT SECOND SESSION PREPARATORY COMMITTEE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT RECEIVED FROM UNITED KINGDOM WITH REQUEST FOR CIRCULATION

TEXT BEGINS

PROCEDURE SET OUT SECTION F SECOND STAGE OF PROCEDURAL MEMORANDUM FORMING ANNEXURE TEN OF REPORT OF FIRST SESSION PREPARATORY COMMITTEE APPEARS TO PRESUPPOSE THAT BY OPENING OF SECOND SESSION EACH COUNTRY REPRESENTED ON COMMITTEE WILL HAVE RECEIVED LISTS OF REQUESTS ON IT FROM EVERY MEMBER. THIS HAS NOT BEEN FULFILLED IN THE EVENT AND WE OURSELVES HAVE RECEIVED FEW SUCH REQUESTS FROM OTHER COUNTRIES SO FAR. EVEN IF IT PROVES THAT BY 10 APRIL LISTS OF REQUESTS SO FAR AS WE ARE

CONCERNED ARE COMPLETED, THERE IS CLEARLY ALREADY TOO SHORT AN INTERVAL BETWEEN NOW AND THEN FOR US TO HAVE FINISHED OUR EXAMINATION OF THE REQUESTS AND TO HAVE FORMULATED OUR REPLIES TO THEM. AS WILL HAVE BEEN SEEN FROM COMMUNICATION MADE TO SECRETARIAT ON 24 FEBRUARY WE OURSELVES, LIKE SEVERAL OTHER COUNTRIES, ATTACH GREAT IMPORTANCE TO NEGOTIATIONS BEING FACILITATED BY EARLY EXCHANGE OF REPLIES TO REQUESTS. WHILE WE STILL BELIEVE THAT PROCEDURE CONTEMPLATED IN PROCEDURAL MEMORANDUM IS THE BEST AND THAT IT SHOULD BE OPEN TO ANY COUNTRY WHICH IS PREPARED TO FOLLOW IT TO DO SO, WE FEEL THAT IN CIRCUMSTANCES OUTLINED ABOVE, SOME DEPARTURE FROM THAT PROCEDURE IS INEVITABLE AND VIEW WE HAVE REACHED IS AS FOLLOWS. AT OPENING OF SECOND SESSION WE SHALL BE PREPARED WITH REPLIES TO REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM ANY COUNTRIES WHOSE LISTS HAVE BEEN IN OUR HANDS A REASONABLE TIME. WE SHOULD PROPOSE EITHER TO DRAW UP COMBINED LIST OF OFFERS BASED ON SUCH REQUESTS OR INDIVIDUAL LISTS OF OFFERS FOR INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WHOSE REQUESTS WE SHALL BY THEN HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CONSIDER IN THE NECESSARY DETAIL. WE SHOULD PROPOSE, SUBJECT TO RECIPROCITY, TO MAKE THIS COMBINED LIST OR SUCH INDIVIDUAL LISTS AVAILABLE TO EACH OF THE OTHER COUNTRIES WITH WHOM WE ARE THUS IN A POSITION TO DEAL AND WE SHOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO COMMUNICATE LIST OR LISTS OF UNITED KINGDOM OFFERS TO UNITED NATIONS SECRETARIAT. IT MUST HOWEVER BE UNDERSTOOD THAT IN NEW CIRCUMSTANCES AS WE SEE THEM THIS COMMUNICATION OF LIST OR LISTS EITHER TO SECRETARIAT OR ANY INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY WILL BE SUBJECT TO PROVISO THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE CIRCULATED TO OTHER MEMBERS OF PREPARATORY COMMITTEE UNTIL WE OURSELVES FEEL IN A POSITION TO AUTHORIZE SUCH MORE GENERAL RELEASE. AT THIS STAGE, THEREFORE, LIST OR LISTS MUST NOT BE COMMUNICATED BY RECIPIENT TO ANY OTHER PARTY. ANY WIDER RELEASE WOULD ALSO BE SUBJECT TO RECIPROCITY AND GENERALLY SPEAKING WE SHOULD NOT AUTHORIZE IT IN ANY CASE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS WE ARE ABLE TO GIVE OUR REPLY TO REQUEST OF COUNTRY CONCERNED.

TEXT ENDS

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TRYGVE LIE
SECRETARYGENERAL