Committee III - Expansion of Trade

COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF PRODUCTS OF IMPORTANCE IN THE EXPORT TRADE OF LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Draft List Prepared by the Secretariat

1. At its last meeting, Committee III agreed that it should not restrict its attention to the products included in the three existing lists, but should draw up a more comprehensive list of items of importance in the export trade of less-developed countries, which would be useful both as an adjunct to the Declaration of 7 December 1961 on the Promotion of Trade of Less-Developed Countries and as background material for the Working Party on Procedures for Tariff Reduction. The secretariat was asked to circulate a draft of such a list (see L/1925, paragraph 41).

2. In preparing the attached draft list for consideration by the Committee, the secretariat requested information from contracting parties. In order that account could be taken, as instructed by the Committee, of products of interest to non-member countries, it also sought the advice of the United Nations regional commissions and other international organizations. The proposed list, while not drawn up in accordance with any strict quantitative criterion, attempts to enumerate the main products involved. The inclusion of a product on this list is not intended to prejudge the type of action which the Committee may wish to take. It may well be felt that certain products, although of importance to the less-developed countries, need not be examined in detail within the forum of Committee III.

3. The limited information available to it has not permitted the secretariat to draw a distinction, in its draft list, between items of current importance to less-developed countries and those which they might expect to export only in the future.

4. In considering this list, the Committee may wish at the same time to decide on the order of priority in which the individual products listed will receive the attention of the Committee in respect of any future action. In this connexion, it may be expected that the developing countries will be able, by reference to their development plans and programmes, to identify the products of the most immediate significance to them.
DRAFT COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF PRODUCTS OF IMPORTANCE IN THE EXPORT TRADE OF LESS-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

The list should contain the following in addition to those already included in the three existing lists examined by the Committee:

- Alcoholic beverages
- Antimony
- Asbestos and asbestos products
- Barium minerals
- Bismuth
- Borates
- Cadmium
- Casein
- Cement
- Chlorine and derivatives (plastics, solvents, etc.)
- Chrome ore and chromium
- Cigarettes and other tobacco manufactures
- Cobalt
- Coffee, soluble
- Coir
- Cutlery
- Esparto
- Essential oils
- Fish and meat meal
- Fruits (e.g. citrus, dried, pineapples)
- Fruit, canned
- Fruit, juices
- Glass
- Graphite
- Gum arabic
- Gypsum
- Hard board, chip board
- Hard fibres (e.g. abaca, coir, hemp, sisal) and manufactures
- Hides and skins
- Iron and steel semi-processed goods
- Jute and allied fibres
- Kapok
- Linoleum
- Manufactures of metals
- Manganese
- Mercury
- Mica
- Mohair and other fine hair (e.g. alpaca, cashmere, llama and vicuna)
- Nickel
- Nitrogen compounds
- Nuts
- Polyethylene and polypropylene (from natural gas)
- Pulp and paper
- Quebracho and other tanning materials
- Radio receivers
- Rice
- Rubber
- Rubber manufactures (e.g. shoes, tyres)
- Rugs and carpets, commercial quality handicraft
- Salt
- Silk and manufactures
- Spices (e.g. cardamom, cinnamon, cloves, ginger, nutmeg, pepper, pimento, vanilla)
- Sugar
- Sulphur
- Sulphuric acid
- Tin
- Tungsten
- Uranium
- Vegetables (canned)
- Vegetable oil cake
- Wool and derivatives (e.g. yarn)
- Woollen textiles
- Zinc