AGENDA FOR MEETING COMMENCING 26 JULY 1954

1. THE REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT

(a) the date of meeting
(b) preparation of an annotated agenda
(c) representation of non-contracting parties
(d) other arrangements

2. PROCEDURES FOR TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

At the Eighth Session the CONTRACTING PARTIES instructed the Committee (SR.8/15):

"(a) to make arrangements for the completion of the technical examination of the French proposal, the 'Low Tariff Club' proposal submitted by the Council of Europe, and any other proposals which might be submitted by governments, and

"(b) to pursue at such time as might seem appropriate having regard to the prospect of further progress in the process of tariff reduction, the examination of the questions of principle raised by the proposals against the background of the broader question of the adequacy of the present negotiating procedures."

In view of the proposals which the President of the United States has submitted to Congress and since the contracting parties are engaged in preparing for the review of the Agreement, the Committee may wish to recommend that this question should be pursued as a part of the review.

3. METHODS OF VALUATION

At the Eighth Session the CONTRACTING PARTIES instructed the Committee to consider what aspects of valuation should be studied by the CONTRACTING PARTIES and to establish a programme of work (G/57).
The Committee may wish to recommend that in the review of Article VII the CONTRACTING PARTIES should take account of their experience in dealing with problems of valuation, and of the appropriate rôle of the CONTRACTING PARTIES and of the Customs Co-operation Council which also has some responsibility in this field from the point of view of customs technique.

4. FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND

At the Eighth Session the CONTRACTING PARTIES instructed the Committee to prepare the changes with respect to the Agreement consequent upon the Federal Government assuming responsibility for determining its policy on matters covered by the Agreement (SR.8/13 and L/172). The Executive Secretary is in touch with officials of the Federal Government and, if possible, will report to the Committee at this meeting.

5. THE NINTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

(a) review of the agenda items and their documentation (an outline of the agenda is annexed)

(b) the date for the opening of the Session

(c) other arrangements.

6. OTHER BUSINESS
ANNEX

OUTLINE OF AGENDA FOR THE NINTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES

The following list of items to be included in the provisional agenda for the Ninth Session has been prepared on the basis of the records of and the information available to the secretariat.

1. ADOPTION OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN

Under Rule 10 of the rules of procedure the terms of office of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen will expire at the opening of the Session.

3. REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT (L/189 and L/200)

4. PROCEDURES FOR TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

Report by the Intersessional Committee

5. BALANCE-OF-PAYMENT IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

(a) Consultations under Article XIV:1(g) with Australia, Ceylon, New Zealand and the United Kingdom (L/194 and Add.1) -

The Federal Government of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, in view of the period of transition from independent controls exercised by the three constituent territories of the Federation to a unified system of restrictions, has asked the CONTRACTING PARTIES not to press for a consultation at the Ninth Session. The Committee may wish to recommend that the CONTRACTING PARTIES should accept the fact that the Federal Government was not in a position to initiate a consultation in March 1954 and should not insist on a formal consultation, but should request it to furnish details of the regulations in force and of the discrimination which it proposes to maintain under the provisions of Annex J so that contracting parties will have an opportunity for discussion with its representatives during the Session. If the Committee accepts this recommendation it is suggested that the Executive Secretary be instructed to communicate it to the Federal Government with a request to furnish the required information in advance of the Ninth Session.

(b) Fifth Annual Report on Discrimination -

Contracting parties applying discriminatory restrictions pursuant to the provisions of Article XIV were invited to submit statements by 14 July (L/196).
6. CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATION

(a) Methods of Valuation -

Report by the Intersessional Committee.

(b) Nationality of Imported Goods -

The contracting parties have been asked to comment by 1 September on a proposed definition of origin which was prepared by the Working Party at the Eighth Session (L/179).

(c) Consular Formalities -

Contracting parties which require consular invoices or visas in connection with importation have been asked to submit statements by 1 September on the measures taken to abolish these requirements (L/197).

(d) Documentary Requirements -

Contracting parties have been asked to report by 1 August on steps taken to bring their practices into conformity with the standards adopted at the Seventh Session to decrease and simplify import and export documentation requirements (L/198).

7. ANNUAL REPORTS

(a) European Coal and Steel Community -

Consideration of the Second Annual Report by the governments of the member States on the measures taken by them towards the full application of the Treaty.

(b) United Kingdom Waiver on Article I -

Consideration of the First Annual Report by the Government of the United Kingdom on action taken.

(c) Australia/Papua-New Guinea -


(d) Italy/Libya -

Consideration of the Second Annual Report on the special customs treatment accorded by Italy to Libyan products to be submitted by the two governments by 1 September.
(c) South Africa/Southern Rhodesia -

Consideration of Fifth Annual Report of the Southern Africa Customs Union Council and of the "definite plan and schedule for the completion of the Customs Union" to be submitted by the two governments by 1 July.

(f) Nicaragua/El Salvador -

Consideration of the Third Annual Report by the Government of Nicaragua, due on 30 June, on its free-trade area Treaty with El Salvador.

8. REPORTS ON COMPLAINTS

(a) United States dairy products -

Consideration of report by the United States Government on action taken pursuant to the Resolution of 13 October 1953.

(b) United States Duty on dried Figs -

Consideration of report by the Governments of the United States, Greece and Italy on action taken pursuant to the Resolution of 23 October 1953.

(c) Brazilian internal Taxes -

Consideration of report by the Government of Brazil on action taken pursuant to the Resolution of 24 October 1953.

(d) Brazilian compensatory Concessions -

Consideration of report by the Government of Brazil on action taken pursuant to the Resolution of 24 October 1953.

(e) Belgian dollar import Restrictions -

Consideration of report by the Governments of Belgium, Canada and the United States (SR.8/14).

(f) Belgian family Allowances -

Consideration of report by the Government of Belgium on action taken since the last Session. It was reported in L/187 that a law supressing the tax on imports of goods purchased by public bodies entered into force on 6 March 1954.
9. SCHEDULES AND PROTOCOLS

(a) Rectification of Schedules -

Contracting parties wishing to rectify their schedules should submit details as long as possible in advance of the Session.

(b) Status of Schedules after 30 June 1955

(c) Status of Protocols -

The Second and Third Protocols of Rectifications and Modifications require three and seven signatures respectively before they can enter into force (L/199).

10. FEDERATION OF RHODESIA AND NYASALAND

Report by the Intersessional Committee

11. SAMPLES CONVENTION

Only three governments, namely Finland, Indonesia and Pakistan, have thus far acceded to the International Convention on the Importation of Samples and Advertising-material.

12. DISCRIMINATION IN TRANSPORT INSURANCE

Contracting parties have been asked to furnish information to assist the Executive Secretary in preparing the report on the issues involved which he has been asked to submit to the Ninth Session.

13. RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

The Secretary-General of UN has been asked to submit recommendations to the Economic and Social Council not later than its 19th Session on the administration of the proposed convention on restrictive business practices and he has intimated that he will seek the advice of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. It is expected that the 19th Session of the Council will be held early in 1955. If the Secretary-General's enquiry is received in time it can be dealt with by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their Ninth Session, but if not arrangements should be made for intersessional action.

14. ARTICLE XVIII: NOTIFICATION BY URUGUAY (GATT/CP.3/40/Add.4)
15. **ACCESSION OF JAPAN**

The Decision of 23 October 1953 providing for the participation of Japan in the Sessions of the CONTRACTING PARTIES will cease to be valid on 30 June 1955 unless this date is extended or unless Japan has acceded to the Agreement. If it should appear during the Session that Japan will not accede by 30 June 1955 and that the Tenth Session will not be held before that date, the CONTRACTING PARTIES may wish either to extend the date or to make provision for intersessional action.

16. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND BUDGET**

   (a) Financial Statement for 1954

   (b) Budget Estimates for 1955

17. **RENEWAL OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERSESSIONAL ADMINISTRATION OF THE AGREEMENT**

18. **DATE AND PLACE OF THE TENTH SESSION**