AGENDA FOR MEETING COMMENCING 26 JULY 1954

Revision of the Agenda presented in IC/W/25 with Reference to the Notes distributed by the Chairman and the Executive Secretary in IC/W/26

1. THE NINTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES
   (a) review of the agenda items and their documentation (an outline of the agenda is annexed to IC/W/25)
   (b) the date for the opening of the Session (IC/W/25, para. 1)
   (c) appointment of working parties (IC/W/25, para. 3)
   (d) administrative and other arrangements (IC/W/25, para. 3)

2. THE REVIEW OF THE AGREEMENT
   (a) the date for the beginning of discussion (IC/W/26, para. 1)
   (b) attendance of Ministers (IC/W/26, para. 2)
   (c) representation of non-contracting parties (IC/W/26, para. 4)
   (d) preparation of an annotated agenda (IC/W/26, para. 5)
   (e) other arrangements

3. ACCESSION OF JAPAN

   The Japanese Government has asked that its request for an opportunity to negotiate for formal accession pursuant to Article XXXIII be considered by the Committee (L/205).

4. CUBAN REQUEST TO RENEGOTIATE AN ITEM IN SCHEDULE IX

   The request for authority to renegotiate an item in Part II of Schedule IX, under the procedures agreed upon by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at the Eighth Session, was communicated to the contracting parties on 21 July in SECRET/12.
5. 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 be pursued as a part of the review. In considering this matter the Committee may wish to take into account the statement by the Benelux Governments in L/210.

6. 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).

In view of the fact that the CONTRACTING PARTIES are going to review all the provisions of the Agreement, the Committee, before establishing a programme of work, may wish to recommend the completion of the examination of valuation methods which was begun at the last Session and to instruct the secretariat to obtain from the contracting parties further information concerning their valuation practices. The Committee may also wish to recommend that, in the review of the provisions relating to valuation, account be taken of the appropriate role 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.

7. 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 will report to the Committee at its next meeting.
8. NEXT MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

It will be necessary for the Committee to decide whether to hold a meeting four to six weeks before the opening of the Ninth Session in order to review the documentation for the Session and/or to prepare an annotated agenda for the review of the Agreement (IC/W/26, para. 5).

9. OTHER BUSINESS