ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

Note by the Chairman

The experience of last year has shown that it was sometimes difficult for the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman to be available at meetings of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. Moreover, the heavy programme of work confronting the CONTRACTING PARTIES in the course of next year would make it desirable to increase the number of officers.

In these circumstances, I would suggest that the CONTRACTING PARTIES elect two Vice-Chairmen. If this suggestion commends itself to the CONTRACTING PARTIES, I would propose the following changes in Rules 10 to 12 of the Rules of Procedure:

Rule 10 - to read:

"A Chairman, a first Vice-Chairman and a second Vice-Chairman shall be elected from among the representatives. Should this period............ next meeting"

Rule 11 - to read:

"If the Chairman is absent from any meeting or part thereof, the first Vice-Chairman or, in his absence, the second Vice-Chairman shall preside. If no Vice-Chairman is available, the CONTRACTING PARTIES shall elect a Chairman for that meeting or that part of the meeting"

Rule 12 - to read:

"If the Chairman ceases to represent a contracting party, or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the first Vice-Chairman shall become Chairman. If the first Vice-Chairman ceases to represent a contracting party or is so incapacitated that he can no longer hold office, the second Vice-Chairman shall become first Vice-Chairman."