NOMINATION OF CHAIRMAN OF ICCICA

Note by the Executive Secretary

1. Under the terms of Resolution 373(XIII) of 13 September 1951 of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the Chairman of the Interim Coordinating Committee for International Commodity Arrangements is appointed on the nomination of the CONTRACTING PARTIES to the General Agreement. At their Eighth Session in October 1953, the CONTRACTING PARTIES nominated Sir Edgar Cohen (United Kingdom) to succeed Sir James Helmore (United Kingdom), who had been Chairman since the inception of ICCICA in 1947, and to hold that office for a period of two years. At the Tenth Session, the CONTRACTING PARTIES nominated Sir Claude Corea (Ceylon) for a period of one year.

2. In view of the fact that the next meeting of ICCICA has been scheduled to take place on 19 November 1956, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has expressed the wish that the CONTRACTING PARTIES should deal with the question of the nomination of the Chairman for the ensuing period as early as possible at their Eleventh Session.

3. Accordingly, contracting parties are hereby invited to submit nominations as soon as possible so that a decision can be made early in the Session. The name of each nominee should be accompanied by a statement of his qualifications, bearing in mind the criteria agreed upon by the CONTRACTING PARTIES on 16 October 1953, viz.:

"The Chairman of ICCICA nominated by the CONTRACTING PARTIES should be a person who has wide knowledge of commodity policy, of the General Agreement and of the problems of producer countries and of the trade in commodities."

4. Certain background information on the constitution and functions of ICCICA and on events up to October 1955 was given in secretariat Note L/442. Since that time the Economic and Social Council, by resolution XXII/13 adopted on 9 August 1956 has, inter alia, requested the Committee to continue to discharge for the time being the functions given to it, namely to convene intergovernmental study groups, to make recommendations to the Secretary-General on the convening of commodity conferences and to coordinate the activities of the individual commodity study groups and councils.