Intersessional Committee

Proposed conclusions for incorporation in the Summary Records

The following note covers the various points outstanding at the conclusion of the meeting of 25 February. It is proposed that the terms of reference of working parties etc., which are submitted below should be incorporated in the summary record of the meeting at the end of the item to which each refers.

With reference to the proposed membership of working parties, it should be mentioned that, in accordance with the procedures adopted at the Sixth Session, other contracting parties which claim a substantial interest and which advise the Executive Secretary that they wish to be represented, will be included as members of the working parties.

Item I:

(a) The Date of the Seventh Session

It was agreed that the Seventh Session should convene on Wednesday, 1 October 1952 in Geneva. Further, the Committee agreed that a special session should be convened in the latter half of July to receive the report of the Intersessional Working Party on United States' Restrictions on Dairy Products and/or the report of the Working Party on the European Coal and Steel Community, if so requested by either or both of these Working Parties. Since, under the rules of procedure, a contracting party may request the convening of a special session, it is understood that other matters of great urgency may be proposed for discussion at the session envisaged for July. In view of this advance notice of the possibility of a special session being held in July, the Committee considered that the requirement of 21 days’ notice need not be insisted upon on this occasion, provided, however, that reasonable notice should be given of any new items proposed for inclusion in the Agenda.

Consequent upon the decision on the date of the convening of the Seventh Session it was agreed that the Committee should meet on Thursday, 4 September to consider what matters are likely to arise at the Session and examine the adequacy of the documentation available.

(b) U.S. Import Restrictions on Dairy Products

It was agreed:

(1) to appoint an Intersessional working Party on U.S. Import Restrictions on Dairy Products with the following terms of reference and membership:

MGT/26/52
Terms of Reference:

In the light of the Decision of 26 October 1951 and in accordance with the provisions of Article XXIII, paragraph 2:

(a) to investigate complaints of contracting parties of nullification and impairment arising from restrictions imposed by the Government of the United States on the importation of dairy products,

(b) to consider any requests which may be made by the contracting parties concerned for authorization to suspend the application to the United States of obligations or concessions under the General Agreement, and,

(c) to submit recommendations thereon to the Contracting Parties.

Membership:

Brazil  France  New Zealand
Canada  Italy  United Kingdom
Denmark  Netherlands  United States

(ii) that this Working Party will be convened by the Executive Secretary upon the request of one of the complaining contracting parties or at an early date in July if at that time the restrictions in question continue in force.

Item 2: Consultations under Article XII:4 (b)

Without prejudice to the question discussed at the Committee's meeting in January, whether the measures introduced by the United Kingdom Government in November 1951 call for consultations under Article XII:4 (b), the Committee agreed, in view of the fact that those measures taken together with those introduced in January 1952 amount to a substantial intensification of the United Kingdom's restrictions on imports, that the United Kingdom should be invited to consult with the Contracting Parties in terms of Article XII:4 (b), the consultation to take place concurrently with the consultation with the United Kingdom under Article XIV:1 (g).

A similar conclusion was reached on the procedure to be followed in the case of the Government of Southern Rhodesia.

The Committee also agreed that the various measures introduced by the Government of France constitute a substantial intensification of the French restrictions on imports and that, therefore, the Government of France should be invited to consult under Article XII:4 (b), this consultation to take place during the Seventh Session.
Concerning the measures notified by the Union of South Africa affecting the issue of licenses for the importation of textile piece goods, the Committee concluded that there was no prima facie case of substantial intensification of restrictions requiring the initiation of consultations under Article XII:4 (b).

**Item 4: Belgian Restrictions on Imports from the Dollar Area**

It was agreed:

- to set up a working party with the following terms of reference and composition:

**Terms of Reference**

(a) to consider, in the light of the provisions of Article XXIII, the contention of the United States that the imposition by Belgium of discriminatory restrictions against dollar imports is inconsistent with Belgium's obligations under the General Agreement, that the benefits accruing to the United States directly and indirectly under the General Agreement in its trade with Belgium are being nullified and impaired, and that the attainment of the objectives of the General Agreement is being impeded; and to report to the Contracting Parties.

(b) in its consideration of this matter the working party should take into account the results of the consultations which the International Monetary Fund will shortly be undertaking with Belgium in accordance with Article XIV of the Articles of Agreement of the Fund.

**Composition**

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(ii) In view of paragraph (b) of the terms of reference, the date of convening the Working Party should depend upon the time at which the International Monetary Fund could make available the results of its consultations with Belgium. The Executive Secretary should therefore communicate with the International Monetary Fund on this point.