Remarks by the Chairman on Article 6 of the Organizational Agreement

The amendments are intended to overcome the difficulties which have been experienced in agreeing upon a text for Article 6. Under this formula, whilst taking due account of the other criteria laid down in Article 6, it would be possible to arrive at a satisfactory geographical distribution of seats. This distribution might well for example be as follows:- two countries from North America, United Kingdom (which defies geographical classification), three from Northern and Western Europe, three from Central and Southern Europe, three from amongst the countries of Latin America, three from the countries of Asia, leaving two seats to be filled from amongst the countries which do not fall within these geographical units, that is to say Australia, New Zealand, Union of South Africa, and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

I think it is highly relevant also to call attention to the fact that any contracting party is entitled to be represented by an observer who can participate fully in the discussion of any matter of any concern to that contracting party. Moreover, there is an unfettered right of appeal to the Assembly from any Decision of the Executive Committee.

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4 March 1955.