17. Delete the last sentence and add the following:

"Most countries, including Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Norway, were able to maintain the level of liberalisation previously reached, and in certain cases increased percentages of liberalised imports were announced. The only notable exception to this trend was the case of Turkey; the liberalisation measures of Turkey were suspended in the period under review."

18. Take in the whole of the present paragraph 19 and add the following at the end:

"In July 1953 Southern Rhodesia relaxed its restrictions and reduced their discriminatory incidence; a wide range of goods was placed on the unrestricted list for importation from any currency area, import quotas for goods remaining under restriction were increased, and new quotas were provided for other commodities. In October 1953 the Government of the Union of South Africa announced the total elimination, effective at the beginning of 1954, of discrimination in the application of its import restrictions."

19. The general improvement in the world payments position was not shared by certain primary commodity producing countries, and in the period under review import restrictions were maintained or intensified by some of them which continued to experience reduced or low levels of export earnings. In the sterling area, Ceylon maintained at approximately the same level the import restrictions which had been intensified in August and September 1952. In the summer of 1952 Pakistan had removed a large number of items from the open general licence. In November, the controls were further tightened by the total cancellation of the open general licence. The import schedules published since March 1953 indicated that the restrictions had been intensified, and imports from the dollar area were limited to highly essential goods. In Latin America, Brazil tightened its import restrictions by several steps in 1952 and 1953. The Government announced in July 1953 that imports in the following six months would be reduced to well below the level of the country's essential requirements. In the case of Chile, the fall in the earnings from copper exports continued, and the Government adopted a comprehensive plan embracing both short-term and long-term measures for dealing with the difficulties. In the meantime, severe import restrictions were being maintained to limit external spending to essential imports. In Europe, Finland and Sweden, whose exports consist mainly of primary commodities such as timber, wood pulp, iron ore, were faced with the same problems of declining or lower export earnings. Among them, Sweden had to continue to maintain its severe restrictions on dollar imports, although it had been able to liberalise its imports from soft-currency countries. In the case of Finland, the restrictions remained severe and were generally applied to imports from all Western countries.