ARTICLE XXVIII NEGOTIATIONS - 1957

Meeting of the Steering Group

1. The Steering Group held a meeting on Thursday, 10 October 1957, with the Heads of delegations participating in the Article XXVIII Negotiations.

   In the absence of Mr. J. KITSHOFF (South Africa), Chairman of the Steering Group, Mr. G. STUYCK (Belgium), presided.

2. It appeared that despite a substantial number of meetings which had been held, the negotiations had made little progress. In some cases full documentation was not yet available, in others delegations after making preliminary contacts were studying the position before proceeding further; several consultations could not proceed because of the absence of interested parties.

3. The Chairman, taking note of the slow progress, invited delegations to press forward with their negotiations. While this might present some difficulties for certain delegations, nevertheless every effort should be made to avoid carrying over a large number of negotiations beyond the end of the Twelfth Session.

4. At the request of the Steering Group the secretariat asked delegations involved in the Article XXVIII Negotiations whether they would be able to conduct these negotiations during the present Session or whether they would prefer to suspend them for resumption after the Session. The almost unanimous desire was to negotiate during the Session.