The Chairman notified the Sub-Committee that Norway had renounced its membership of the Sub-Committee owing to the absence of technical experts in this delegation. The Sub-Committee agreed to recommend to the Chairman of Committee III the appointment of the technical expert of the delegation of the Union of South Africa to serve on the Sub-Committee.


Paragraph 1

1. Item 3

On the recommendation of the Working Party consisting of Afghanistan, Lebanon, Pakistan, the United Kingdom and the United States, the Sub-Committee approved the following Note to be appended to paragraph 1:

"The Assembly of vehicles and mobile machinery arriving in a knocked-down condition or the disassembly (or disassembly and subsequent reassembly) of bulky articles shall not be held to render the passage of such goods outside the scope of 'traffic in transit', it being understood that any such operation is undertaken solely for convenience of transport."

It was felt with some reluctance that in this and similar cases in which a particular, rather than a general interest prevailed, a Note might be preferable to amending the already rather complex text of the Charter.

Paragraph 2

2. Item 5

The Sub-Committee continued the discussion of the proposal of Chile to insert a provision which would permit special arrangements among Members with regard to transit.

The delegate for Chile proposed, after consultation with his delegation, the following text of a Note to be appended to paragraph 2:

"It is understood
"It is understood that the provisions of paragraph 1, 2, 3 and 4 of Article 32 shall not hinder the conclusion, by two or more neighbouring countries, of special agreements for the regulation of transit in respect of their own trade".

The Chairman stated that there was no support in the Sub-Committee for the inclusion of this Note, on the grounds that it was not considered necessary. In the opinion of the Sub-Committee special arrangements among Members were permissible under paragraphs 1, 2, 3 and 4 provided that they had no deleterious effect on other Members' interests under the m.f.n. clause, or abrogated in any way the "Freedom of Transit" for other Members which is prescribed in paragraph 2.

Paragraph 5
3. Item 6

The Working Party consisting of Czechoslovakia, Netherlands, and the United States, stated that the new text of Note to the Geneva Draft had not yet been decided upon. The Chairman suggested that the representative of the Union of South Africa might attend the future meetings of this Working Party, as an observer and to assist if called upon, in the drafting of the text.

Paragraph 6
4. Item 7

The Sub-Committee discussed the proposal of France, to delete the qualification of "direct consignment" for the purpose of maintaining present national legislation.

The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.