THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

SUB-COMMITTEE E (ARTICLES 20 AND 22)

REPORT OF WORKING PARTY NO. 3
ON ITEM 6 (AUSTRALIA) AND ITEM 7 (GREECE)

1. Working Party No. 3, consisting of the delegates of Australia, France and the United States, was set up at the Third Meeting of the Sub-Committee.

2. The Working Party considered the amendment of Australia to paragraph 2 (a) of Article 20 (Item 6) and, in consultation with the delegates of Greece, the amendment submitted by the Greek delegation to paragraph 2 (a).

3. Its recommendations to Sub-Committee E are as follows:

Item 6

The following text is recommended to meet the amendment put forward by the delegation of Australia:

"(a) export prohibitions or restrictions temporarily applied for the period necessary to prevent or relieve critical shortages of foodstuffs or other products essential to the exporting Member country".

Item 7

In connection with the amendment submitted by the delegation of Greece, it was felt that the position could best be met by an interpretative footnote. It is recommended that this note should take the following form:

"In the case of products which are basic to diet in the exporting country and which are subject to alternate annual shortages and surpluses, the provisions of this sub-paragraph do not preclude such export prohibitions or restrictions as are necessary to maintain from year to year domestic stocks sufficient to avoid critical shortages".

-----