THIRD COMMITTEE: COMMERCIAL POLICY

SUB-COMMITTEE E (ARTICLES 20 AND 22)

NOTES ON THE THIRD MEETING

Held on Wednesday, 7 January 1948, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Dr. J. E. Holloway (South Africa)

(Reference: E/CONF.2/C.3/1)

1. The Sub-Committee deferred further discussion of the amendments of Chile (Item 1), Argentina (Item 2), China and Lebanon (Item 3) and Cuba (Item 4).

2. Items 21 (Sweden) and 22 (Ireland)

   The proposal of the delegation of Sweden was discussed. A Working Party consisting of the delegates of Colombia, Ireland, Netherlands, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States was set up to consider the amendment in conjunction with the amendment submitted by the delegation of Ireland.

3. Item 12 (Mexico)

   The view was expressed that the conditions of supply of agricultural and fisheries products were unique and that the proposed extension of the provisions of paragraph 2 (c) would be dangerous. The amendment found no support beyond the proposal and the Sub-Committee cannot recommend its inclusion in the text.

4. Item 9 (Sweden)

   The Sub-Committee was satisfied that the terms of Article 20, paragraph 2 (a) are adequate to allow a country to impose temporary export restrictions to meet a considerable rise in domestic prices of foodstuffs due to a rise in prices in other countries. In view of this consideration the amendment was withdrawn.

5. Item 10 (Mexico)

   The view was expressed that paragraph 2 (a) covered all products and each country had the right to decide for itself what products were "essential". In the light of this explanation the delegate of Mexico withdrew the amendment.

6. Item 6 (Australia) (first part)

   Various alternative wordings were suggested to replace the word /"temporarily"./
"temporarily". The delegate of New Zealand suggested "applied for the period necessary" and the delegate of China "for the sole purpose of preventing or relieving". It was agreed that the delegates of Australia, France and the United States should hold an informal consultation for the purpose of seeking an appropriate wording.

7. Item 6 (Australia) (second part)

The Sub-Committee considered the request of the delegation of Australia that the reference to the term "critical" in the minutes of the proceedings of Commission A in the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee (document E/PC/T/A/PV/40(1) pages 4, 6, 8 and 9) be concurred in by Committee III and included in its minutes. The Sub-Committee unanimously concurs in the conclusions of Commission A as set out in Geneva document and recommends to the Committee that the Australian request be met.

8. Item 11

The Sub-Committee began consideration of the proposal of the delegation of Peru. The discussion will be continued at the next meeting.