FOURTH COMMITTEE: RESTRICTIVE BUSINESS PRACTICES

DRAFT CHARTER

GREECE: PROPOSED ADDITION

Insert the following either 1. as a paragraph between paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 44 of the Draft Charter

or 2. as an explanatory note to paragraph 3 of that Article.

"The provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article shall not, however, be construed as referring to all practices involving the fixing of prices or terms or conditions of sale in cases where such practices are intended not to establish barriers to international trade, but to stabilize domestic prices and the income of national producers."

Grounds

The delegation of Greece has particularly in mind a number of measures which the Greek Government has frequently been obliged to take in order to stabilize the income of national producers by guaranteeing them fair prices to enable them to earn a living and to go on working and producing. These measures comprise the concentration of the crop in the hands of Government agencies and the fixing of prices. They are applied only in the case of a few basic agricultural products (wheat and other cereals, tobacco, currents, figs, etc.) without any intention of monopolizing the trade in such products or influencing international trade. The best proof of this is afforded by the fact that such measures are applied indiscriminately to products consumed inside Greece (wheat, cereals) and to those of which a part is intended for export. The amounts produced by Greece for export are, moreover, so limited that it is clear that the international market could not in any case be affected.