SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SIXTEENTH PLenary MEETING

Held at the Capitol, Havana, Cuba,
on Tuesday, 16 March 1948 at 4.00 p.m.

President: Mr. MALEK (India)


Mr. COLBAN (Norway), Chairman of the Sixth Committee, explained the purpose of the report and of the resolution contained therein. The representatives of governments which accepted the proposal for an Interim Commission would elect an Executive Committee of eighteen members to carry out the functions set forth in the Annex. The Sixth Committee had attempted to enumerate all possible activities which might be undertaken by the Executive Committee.

He drew attention to a typographical error in paragraph 1 in which the reference to paragraph 2 (1) should be changed to read "paragraphs 2 (b) and (1)".

Mr. SUZUKI (Switzerland) said that as on the basis of the report on the Swiss question, Switzerland would be unable to become an original Member, he felt compelled to abstain in the vote on the establishment of the Interim Commission, even though the Commission had been given the task of studying further the case of Switzerland.

In reply to the representative of the United Kingdom, the PRESIDENT said that approval of the Report on the establishment of the Interim Commission would be conditional upon the signature of the Final Act.

The PRESIDENT called for a roll call on the resolution. It was approved; the representatives of Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, France, Greece, Haiti, India, Republic of Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Italy, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Southern Rhodesia, Sweden, Syria, Transjordan, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, and Venezuela, expressing their approval, while...
the representatives of Ireland, Portugal, Switzerland, and Turkey abstained.

The representative of Bolivia reserved his position.

The representative of Turkey explained that his abstention was provisional, subject to the receipt of instructions from his Government.

Mr. KELLOG (United States) proposed that the election of Members to the Executive Committee should follow the procedure laid down in Article 75 and its Annex with respect to the election of the members of the Executive Board and that the Executive Secretary should circulate a paper showing how this procedure could properly be followed.

After a short discussion, it was agreed that the Executive Secretary would circulate the necessary paper to the members of the Interim Commission.