SECOND SESSION OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT.

NINTH REPORT

by the

TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS WORKING PARTY

on

THE PROGRESS OF TARIFF NEGOTIATIONS

1. Two meetings for the opening of negotiations were held during the week ending 21 June, namely, Chile with Czecho-slovakia and India with Lebanon/Syria. There are now 95 negotiations in progress and 335 meetings have been held. 12 pairs of countries have held more than 5 meetings of which 5 pairs have held more than ten. 8 pairs of countries (seven of them include Chile) which intend to open negotiations have not yet held the initial meetings.

2. In accordance with the procedure laid down in document E/PC/T/91, the Working Party reports that the delegations for Canada and Norway have completed the bilateral stage of their negotiations. It is to be understood that the outcome of these negotiations is subject to any adjustments that may be required in the light of other negotiations as they are completed, and is to be incorporated in the Schedules to be annexed to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade; further, the General Agreement, when arrived at, may be subject to approval by the authorities of the countries concerned.

P.T.O.
3. The Working Party wishes to record that a number of delegations have recently revised and consolidated their lists of tentative offers of tariff concessions, and to advise delegations concerned to take steps to obtain copies of these revised lists if they have not already received them. The Secretariat endeavours to keep delegations informed of changes in offers by issuing fortnightly reports in accordance with the procedure laid down in document E/PC/T/76, and on the basis of the information received from delegations. It is hoped that this procedure is working effectively and that delegations are being kept informed of all changes in the offers made by those delegations with which they have entered negotiations, but in addition to the fortnightly reports received from the Secretariat delegations should take steps to ensure that they are given copies of all revised and supplementary lists that may be issued from time to time by the delegations with which they are in negotiation.

4. The Tariff Negotiations Working Party propose to discontinue the weekly reports which have appeared during the past two months, and to issue instead fortnightly reports based on the statements received from delegations on the general progress of their negotiations.