At its twentieth meeting the Tariff Agreement Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to consider whether the Protocol of Provisional Application should provide that the countries signing it should first have to sign the General Agreement and its accompanying Protocols.

Representatives of the Delegations of Australia, Brazil, France, Norway, the United Kingdom and the United States were appointed Members of the Sub-Committee.

Mr. MELANDER (Norway) was elected Chairman.

The Sub-Committee held one meeting; the Delegate for New Zealand was also invited to attend and assisted the Sub-Committee in its deliberations.

The Sub-Committee, taking into account the different views put forward during the debate in the Tariff Agreement Committee, began by considering whether and to what extent it was necessary to have a separate Protocol of Signature, and, if this was not necessary, whether any part of this Protocol ought to be incorporated elsewhere in the Agreement.

The Sub-Committee agreed that, since the Agreement was subject to an acceptance procedure, and since the test would be authenticated by the signature of the Final Act, there was no need for signature of the Agreement. The undertaking to observe
the principles of the Charter should be included in the provisions of the Agreement itself. In this way countries signing the Protocol of Provisional Application would automatically undertake also to observe the principles of the Charter.

In accordance with this recommendation, the Sub-Committee suggests the following changes as contained in the text E/PC/T/196:

1. In Article XXIII to delete the words "or its accompanying Protocol" appearing in line 3 and in lines 6 and 7 of this Article.

2. In Article XXVI to amend the title and paragraphs 1 and 2 to read:

   ARTICLE XXVI

"Acceptance, Entry into Force and Registration."
"1. The present Agreement shall bear the date of the signature of the Final Act adopted at the conclusion of the second session of the Preparatory Committee for the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment and shall be open to acceptance by any government signatory to the Final Act."
"2. The original of this Agreement done in the English and French languages, each in single copy, both authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall furnish certified copies thereof to all interested governments."

3. In Article XXIX to amend the title and insert a new paragraph 1 (altering the numbers of the present paragraphs accordingly) as follows:
ARTICLE XXIX.

"Relation of this Agreement to the Charter of an International Trade Organization."

"1. The Contracting Parties, recognizing that the objectives laid down in the Preamble to this Agreement, can best be attained through the adoption by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment of a Charter for an International Trade Organization, thereby leading to the creation of such an Organization, undertake, pending their acceptance of a Charter in accordance with their constitutional procedures, to observe to the fullest extent of their executive authority the general principles of the Draft Charter submitted to the Conference by the Preparatory Committee."

4. In the Protocol of Provisional Application to amend the second paragraph to read as follows:

"Any government applying this Protocol shall be free to withdraw such application on sixty days' written notice to the Secretary-General of the United Nations."

5. To delete the provision for signature following after Article XXXIV at the end of the text of the Agreement (p.65).

6. To dispense with the separate Protocol of Signature.