
Subject: The progress of the Tariff Negotiations.

In view of the fact that the first stage in the Tariff Negotiations - i.e., the initiation of all contemplated bilateral talks - has now been almost completed, the Tariff Negotiations Working Party believes that the time has come to establish some procedure for obtaining reports from Delegations on the progress of their negotiations. Accordingly the Working Party recommends that a questionnaire be issued to each Delegation asking for information in respect of each negotiation in which it is participating; it is proposed that Delegations be asked which of the following descriptions would apply to the state of each negotiation:

(i) Negotiations in preliminary stages,
(ii) Negotiations making satisfactory progress,
(iii) Negotiations making considerable progress, or
(iv) Negotiations nearing completion.

In addition, Delegations should be asked for supplementary or explanatory comments including, when possible, an estimate of the approximate date by which the negotiations will be concluded.

The Working Party recommends that reports in the form of replies to the proposed questionnaire should be obtained from Delegations fortnightly.

It is suggested that the first report should be submitted to the Secretariat, on forms to be supplied, not later than Monday, 16 June, and that subsequent reports be submitted on alternate Mondays thereafter.