
Mr. WILGRESS (Canada), Chairman, presented the report. The Working Party had met twice since the last meeting of the Chairman's Committee and had now decided to meet each Monday and to submit a progress report to the Chairman's Committee at its next subsequent meeting. The Second Report indicated that tariff negotiations were proceeding as planned. The only significant changes (set forth in Annex C) were that the dates for two negotiations had been postponed, the dates for two negotiations advanced, and dates established for four additional negotiations. Dates had now been established for 100 negotiations in all.


3. Agenda Item 2: Note by the Executive Secretary on Consultation with Non-Governmental Organizations in Category A (E/PC/T/45).

The CHAIRMAN asked the Committee to consider first the Executive Secretary's suggestion that a small committee be
established to consult with the representatives of non-governmental organizations in Category A, and secondly, how the proposed committee, if established, should function.

4. Mr. WILGRESS (Canada) proposed that:
(a) such a committee should be established, and
(b) as in the case of the ad hoc Working Party on Tariff negotiations, it should be composed of delegates having a special knowledge of the Draft Charter and having played an important part either in the work of the First Session or of the Drafting Committee. With this in mind, he wished to make the following nominations:

Mr. Colban (Norway) - Chairman of the Drafting Committee
Mr. Malik (India) - Chairman of the Joint Committee on Industrial Development (First Session)
Mr. Helmore (United Kingdom) - Chairman of Committee IV (First Session)
Dr. Coombs (Australia) - Chairman of Committee II (First Session)
Dr. Speekenbrink (Netherlands) - Chairman of an important sub-committee of Committee II (First Session)
Dr. Augenthaler (Czechoslovakia) - First Vice-Chairman (First Session)

5. Dr. COOMBS (Australia), supported by Mr. WILGRESS (Canada), proposed that Mr. WILCOX (United States) be added to the list of nominees.

6. Mr. MINOVSKY (Czechoslovakia), supported by Mr. WILGRESS (Canada), nominated a representative of France (to be designated
by the French Delegation).

7. Dr. S. KORTEWEG (Netherlands) doubted whether Dr. SPEEKENBRINK (Netherlands) would be able to serve on this sub-committee in view of his duties as a member of the ad hoc Working Party on Tariff Negotiations, and suggested that his name be withdrawn.

8. Mr. PILLAI (India) nominated Mr. WUNZ KING (China), in view of the important part he had played during the First Session as Chairman of Committee I.

9. The Committee agreed that the name of the Netherlands Delegate should be withdrawn and those of Mr. WILCOX (United States), Mr. WUNZ KING (China), and a French representative (to be designated by the French Delegation*) added to the slate of candidates proposed by Mr. WILGRESS.

10. In connection with the sub-committee's method of work, the CHAIRMAN called attention to the following suggestions made by the Executive Secretary in E/PC/T 45:
   (a) the Consultative Committee, after studying the comments made by non-governmental organizations in Category A on the Report of the First Session, should invite the representatives of the organizations to discuss these comments with the Committee;
   (b) these representatives should be invited to submit to the Committee, in writing or orally, any other points which their organizations might wish to raise on the Report of the Drafting Committee. These, in turn, could be discussed with the Committee.

11. Dr. COOMBS (Australia) considered that the normal channel of communication between the representatives of non-governmental organizations in Category A and the Consultative Committee should be through the Executive Secretary.

* M. FARADUC has subsequently been designated by the French Delegation.
12. The CHAIRMAN said that he had assumed as a matter of course that the Consultative Committee would act with and through the Secretariat.

13. Mr. HELMORE (United Kingdom) suggested that the Committee be instructed to report fairly regularly to the Preparatory Committee. Not only would this be helpful to the Preparatory Committee, but it would assure the representatives of these organizations that their comments were being considered.

14. The Committee agreed that the Executive Secretary, taking into account their discussion, should submit to the Preparatory Committee in Executive Session recommendations regarding the composition of the Consultative Committee and its method of work.

15. The next point considered in connection with arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations in Category A was whether Charter discussions during the Second Session should be conducted in closed or in open meetings. If the practice of the First Session were continued, the question arose whether the Committee should nevertheless allow representatives of the non-governmental agencies to attend private meetings as observers, i.e. without the rights of discussion or of voting.

16. Mr. WINDHAM WHITE (Executive Secretary) suggested that the attendance of representatives of non-governmental organizations as observers at Charter discussions, whether open or closed meetings, would facilitate and complement the work of the Consultative Committee in that these representatives would then be in a position to determine what points arising from the Preparatory Committee's discussion they wished to pursue with the Consultative Committee.
17. Mr. HELMORE (United Kingdom) believed Preparatory Committee meetings should continue to be held in private. If representatives of non-governmental organizations were admitted to private meetings, however, the Preparatory Committee, in his judgment, would be exceeding the precedent established by the Economic and Social Council. The Preparatory Committee should follow the Council's precedent, subject to the procedure being changed by a further Council decision.

18. Mr. WYNDHAM WHITE (Executive Secretary) said that in his personal view, the Preparatory Committee was at liberty to make whatever arrangements it regarded as most effective for the conduct of its business. Therefore any decision made by the Preparatory Committee in this connection need not necessarily prejudice the future interpretation by other organizations of the relevant section of the Economic and Social Council's Report. If it were open to the Preparatory Committee to decide to hold its meetings in public, it seemed logical to conclude that the Committee could invite the representatives of non-governmental organizations to attend its closed meetings. The degree of secrecy attending its meetings was a matter for the Committee itself to determine. The Council's Report provided that "... consultation shall normally be with the Commission itself." Therefore, it was not so much a question of admission to closed meetings as one of facilitating consultation with the Committee (which had assimilated itself to a Commission of the Council for this purpose). If this interpretation were accepted, he believed that the Council's Report gave the Committee a free hand in this matter.
19. Mr. HELMORE (United Kingdom) thought that the Committee, although at liberty to formulate its own Rules of Procedure, must take into consideration possible repercussions on other United Nations organizations in the economic field. Furthermore, he did not consider that merely permitting the representatives of non-governmental organizations to listen in on private meetings would constitute "effective consultation". He suggested that the correct procedure for the Preparatory Committee to follow, based on the Economic and Social Council's Report, would be for the Consultative Committee to recommend to the Preparatory Committee that representatives of non-governmental organizations be permitted to "consult" (i.e. discuss) with the Committee or any of its sub-committees on a particular point or points. This, in his view, was more likely to be "effective consultation."

20. Mr. BARADUC (France) supported Mr. HELMORE'S point of view, which he considered to be more nearly in line with the wishes of the non-governmental organizations.

21. Mr. NASH (New Zealand) again raised the question of public meetings. He reminded the committee that the United Nations had divided non-governmental organizations into Categories A and B in order to distinguish between the terms of their association with the Organization. If Category A agencies were permitted only to attend public meetings, it would appear that they had no more standing than Category B agencies. He did not regard as "effective consultation" merely advising the representatives of Category A agencies what had already taken place in a closed meeting. The Second Session, during which recommendations already made to governments and in some cases discussed publicly in Parliaments would be considered, would differ considerably from the London and New York sessions. Therefore, he believed that the feasibility of meeting in public might well be given further consideration.
22. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that since the Reports of the First Session and of the Drafting Committee, annotated with members' reservations and comments, were available to the representatives of non-governmental organizations, it would not appear necessary for them to be present at all meetings in order to be familiar with the Committee's work.

23. Dr. COOMBS (Australia) strongly opposed conducting the work of the Committee in open sessions. It should be open to delegates to speak freely without the restraint imposed in public meetings by the necessity to consider the effect of all statements on representatives of non-governmental organizations, of the press, and of the public. Although closed meetings should be the general rule, it might be desirable for representatives of non-governmental organizations to be present when certain issues were being discussed. In such cases, it should be made known to delegates in advance that they would be present. Dr. COOMBS proposed that the Executive Secretary should be responsible for suggesting to the Committee points which might well be discussed either publicly or in the presence of representatives of non-governmental organizations. The Committee should decide the correct procedure in each case.

24. Mr. WILCOX (United States) associated himself with the views expressed by the Delegates of the United Kingdom, France and Australia. Additional considerations in favour of closed meetings were (a) the intimate relationship between tariff negotiations and the Charter discussions, which would proceed simultaneously; and (b) the fact that the Preparatory Committee had not yet acted on the Report of the Drafting Committee. It would, however, be open to the Committee at any time to hold public meetings or to invite representatives
of the non-governmental organizations to participate in any
discussion to which they could make a contribution. He
believed the proposed Consultative Committee would be a most
effective mechanism provided it was given latitude to suggest
to the Chairman's Committee or to the Preparatory Committee
occasions on which these representatives should be permitted
to consult with the Committee as a whole.

25. Mr. WUNZ KING (China) added his support to the views put
by the United Kingdom Delegate, already supported by a number
of other delegates.

26. The general sense of the discussion was that the work of
the Committee should normally be conducted in private, but
that the representatives of non-governmental agencies should
be invited to participate in their discussion on certain points
as recommended by the Consultative Committee and agreed by the
Chairman's Committee or the full Committee. It was agreed that
the Executive Secretary should put to the Preparatory Committee
in Executive Session recommendations regarding arrangements for
consultation with representatives of non-governmental
organizations in Category A along these lines.

27. Agenda Item 3: Note by the Executive Secretary on
procedure for the Charter talks and for the consideration of
certain other items on the agenda. E/PC/T/DEL/24).

The CHAIRMAN suggested that this Note be referred to the
Executive Committee.

28. Mr. WYNDHAM WHITE (Executive Secretary) stated that the
results of his inquiry showed the Committee would, on the whole,
be prepared by May 7th to discuss Articles 15 to 23 inclusive
and Article 37 of the Charter, if a recommendation to that effect was made within the next two or three days. He proposed, therefore, that the Committee undertake the consideration of these articles on or about May 7th and that a Working Party be constituted for this purpose. Delegations were asked to submit the names of the representatives they wished to have serve on such a Working Party prior to the next meeting of the Preparatory Committee in Executive Session.

29. Mr. WILCOX (United States) suggested that it was within the competence of the Chairman's Committee to act on this item without reference to the Executive Committee.

30. It was agreed that a Working Party should be constituted to consider certain provisions of the Charter, to which each delegation would nominate a representative, and that the Executive Secretary would convocate a meeting of the Working Party on or about May 7th.

31. The Committee noted the reference in the Note by the Executive Secretary to Item 11 of the Second Session agenda - Date and place of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment, and Item 12 - Consideration of recommendation to the Economic and Social Council regarding what states, if any, non-members of the United Nations, should be invited to the Conference.

32. Mr. HELMORE (United Kingdom) remarked that the preliminary view of the United Kingdom regarding Item 12 was that, with one or two obvious exceptions, the "net should be cast very widely". Urgent consideration should be given to Items 11 and 12 and any other items of concern to the Economic and Social Council since it would be necessary to submit papers
for the Council's consideration at the meeting scheduled for July 19th several weeks prior to that date.

33. It was agreed that the Secretariat should prepare papers on items of concern to the Council, to be submitted either to the Chairman's Committee or to the Preparatory Committee in Executive Session, as appropriate. These papers should be submitted as soon as practicable so that the Committee might be in a position to submit a report to the Council by, say, June 20th.

34. The Committee agreed that delegates to the First Session of the Economic Commission for Europe from countries also represented on the Preparatory Committee should be given passes admitting them to the Security Block and that the Heads of Preparatory Committee Delegations from the countries concerned should assume responsibility for ensuring that ECE delegates issued passes complied with the security arrangements outlined in E/PC/T 39.

35. The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.