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

CORRIGENDUM TO THE VERBATIM RECORD OF THE 17TH MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE IN ITS EXECUTIVE SESSION (DOC. E/PC/T/EC/PV.2/17)

Delete from the middle of line 14 on page 48 to the bottom of the page and substitute the following:

"I would go further. I consider that it is dangerous, however natural it may be, to judge the Charter solely by one's own interests. In a world which is not uniform, where economic systems belong to different types, where the degree of development varies according to the groups of countries, and in a world where the future is and remains uncertain, there can clearly be no question of drafting a simple Charter confined to certain fixed and uniform rules. A compromise is necessary and, furthermore, some safety valves for exceptional and unforeseen cases must be considered. Hence the necessity for flexibility and adaptability which certain people would like to construe as the beginning of weakness and abuse. The essential thing is the spirit in which the Charter will be applied. But the essential thing today is to draft a Charter as rapidly as possible without concerning ourselves in advance as to whether it will be well applied and without being too sceptical in this regard.

As Mr. Wilcox said, there is nothing desperate in the situation of the Conference. Anyway, nobody disputes the fact that it is working for an essential and urgent objective. In these conditions let us continue to work well. That is the only lesson that I wish to draw from today's debate."