

25 March 1960

Committee III - Expansion of TradeDRAFT THIRD REPORT OF COMMITTEE IIION EXPANSION OF TRADEAddendumTIMBER

The Committee, in conducting its further examination of the points raised in the Second Report of the Committee in relation to this commodity, had in mind the importance of timber exports for a number of less-developed countries and dependent territories. While noting that the difficulties encountered by timber exporters were not so acute as those encountered by exporters of some of the other products under consideration by the Committee, the Committee nevertheless noted that since their previous examination no changes, such as would facilitate the further early expansion of the export earnings of the less-developed timber producing countries, had been made in the restrictive measures applied by importing countries with the exception of the liberalization by France of tropical timber from all sources. The Committee noted in particular the discrimination still existing against certain areas and in favour of OEEC countries in the application of quantitative restrictions and stressed the importance of the rapid abolition of the remaining discrimination and the complete removal of quantitative restrictions as a vital step towards the expansion of international trade and not least the export earnings of less-developed countries. The Committee noted also the concern expressed by less-developed countries at certain increases resulting from the Common External Tariff and the differential treatment which was following from implementation of the Rome Treaty. The Committee furthermore recognized that the establishment of timber processing industries in the timber producing less-developed countries represented an important and natural step towards industrialization of such countries.