

GENERAL AGREEMENT ON TARIFFS AND TRADE

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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRD MEETING

Held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Monday, 2 March 1964 at 3 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. J.H. WARREN (Canada)

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1. Equatorial Customs Union/Cameroon - Report by Working Party (L/2169)

Mr. DONOVAN (Australia), the Chairman of the Working Party, drew attention to paragraph 4 of the Working Party's report which referred to the general recognition in the Working Party of the value of regional arrangements in furthering development objectives of less-developed countries. He also referred to paragraph 9 which contained an undertaking by the representative of the Customs Union to keep the CONTRACTING PARTIES informed of future developments, and noted that the CONTRACTING PARTIES would be able to examine the matter again if they so wished. Mr. Donovan pointed out that the second item in the terms of reference of the Working Party, the examination of the status of the Schedule of Gabon, was covered in paragraph 10 of the report.

Mr. PROPPS (United States) said that his delegation supported the creation of the Customs Union arrangement and believed that it would be of benefit to the countries concerned. However, his country was party to certain of the reservations expressed in the report. In the first place, he considered that the special treatment accorded to imports from the European Economic Community was difficult to reconcile with the fiscal and protective objectives underlying the creation of the common external tariff. The United States delegation was of the opinion that, for reasons given in paragraph 10 of the Working Party's report, amicable negotiations should be undertaken to reconcile any discrepancies between concessions included in Section B of Schedule XI, and the common external tariff. After such negotiations all contracting parties would be in a position to agree that the old Schedule no longer had any status.

It was inevitable, Mr. Propps continued, that legal and technical problems should arise in the creation of any customs union. In this case, countries which had previously conducted their commercial policy without protective devices, had now introduced a common external tariff with revenue as well as protective aims. He felt sure that contracting parties would co-operate with the members of the Customs Union to solve the legal and technical problems presented so that the Union would realize its objectives and serve as an example of what could be achieved in economic integration in Africa.

Mr. DE SMET (European Economic Community) in supporting the adoption of the report, thanked the Working Party for the frank and constructive manner in which it had considered the Customs Union arrangement. The EEC was, he continued, in favour of regional agreements as a means of facilitating development and raising living standards. Moreover, such regional arrangements were beneficial to third countries and led to the growth of world trade.

Mr. RYDFORS (Sweden) said his Government considered that regional economic integration of less-developed countries could play an important rôle in their development. As regards the status of the Schedule of Gabon, Sweden noted that all countries acceding under paragraph 5(c) of Article XXVI had accepted the obligations which had previously applied to them in relation to the GATT. Sweden therefore reserved the right to discuss with Gabon the character and scope of concessions undertaken. Sweden would, however, take into account in any such discussions, the fact that Gabon was in the process of economic development.

Mr. OCAYA (Uganda) expressed the support of his Government for the Customs Union arrangement. Uganda was well aware of the value of integration as it was a member of the East African Common Services Organization which administered a common external tariff embracing the three East African countries. This common tariff had been of considerable benefit in the encouragement of industrial growth and in facilitating the collection of revenue.

Mr. BEECROFT (Nigeria) also welcomed the Customs Union arrangement. Customs unions, such as that under discussion, represented an important step in the direction of more comprehensive African economic integration. Nigeria had participated in the Working Party and was grateful for the information it had received there. He noted that the Customs Union arrangement conformed to the provisions of the GATT.

Miss LOVAT-WILLIAMS (United Kingdom) expressed the hope that the Customs Union arrangement would be successful in promoting development by the creation of a larger market. The United Kingdom delegation shared the feeling that difficulties arising from the establishment of a common external tariff could be resolved amicably and satisfactorily and hoped that the Customs Union was a prelude to wider regional arrangements in Africa.

Mr. DAMAS (Gabon), speaking on behalf of all five members of the Customs Union arrangement, thanked contracting parties for the reception they had given to it. He was convinced that the exchange of views in the Working Party would increase the understanding of the problems of the less-developed countries and thus contribute to the finding of solutions. In his view regional groupings were the most effective means of promoting economic growth and were beneficial to trade in general. Nevertheless, the problems of the less-developed countries could not be overcome by action on the part of the less-developed countries alone. Commodity arrangements on a world-wide basis were necessary and he was pleased to note that GATT was giving consideration to such arrangements. He hoped, too, that the work of the Committee on Legal and Institutional Framework would be fruitful. Failure to assist less-developed countries in their development could have disastrous consequences but such a failure was hard to envisage in view of the favourable response given by all contracting parties to the problems raised in the course of the study of the Customs Union arrangement.

Summing up, the CHAIRMAN noted that there had been general agreement as to the value of regional integration arrangements, but that some countries had expressed certain reservations. He also noted the undertaking given by the representative of the Union to keep the CONTRACTING PARTIES informed of further developments so that the question could be examined again should this prove necessary.

The report was adopted.

2. Article XVIII(a) Request by Ceylon for extension of release (L/2082 and Add.1)

The CHAIRMAN recalled that the release granted to the Government of Ceylon under Section C of Article XVIII, in respect of measures affecting imports of sarongs, sarees and cotton piece-goods, had expired on 27 August 1963. In document L/2082 and Add.1, the Government of Ceylon had made a request for an extension of this release for a further five years. The Council had considered this matter in December and, by postal ballot, the release had been extended, as an interim measure, until the close of the twenty-first session.

Mr. DE SILVA (Ceylon) recalled that the release for a period of five years had been granted to Ceylon at the thirteenth session to facilitate the marketing of certain locally produced textiles. This decision had subsequently been amended to cover additional textile items. The Government of Ceylon had set out in document L/2082 and Add.1 the reasons for the application for an extension of the release with regard to these items and had provided the necessary particulars in accordance with the provisions of Article XVIII. The ratio of one local unit to every eight imported units which was currently being applied under the Industrial Products Act had remained unchanged. Although during the past years domestic production of the textiles, covered by the release, had shown a marked increase, the level of imports had remained relatively stable and was not likely to be disturbed. The Government of Ceylon was considering alternative measures for assisting domestic industry but certain technical adjustments had to be effected and at the moment the situation which had given rise to the initial application for release remained substantially unaltered. There was no immediate prospect of discontinuing the Industrial Products Act and Ceylon considered it essential that the measures authorized by the provisions of Article XVIII should be extended for a further period of five years, at the end of which time it was expected that action under the Industrial Products Act would no longer be necessary.

Mr. HAMZA (United Arab Republic) said that in view of the facts outlined in the statement by the representative of Ceylon, his Government would agree to the request for an extension of the release.

Mr. SUZUKI (Japan) expressed the support of his Government for an extension of the release.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Executive Secretary be requested to prepare the text of a Decision extending the release for approval at a subsequent meeting.

This was agreed.

(b) Annual review under paragraph 6

The CHAIRMAN recalled that paragraph 6 of Article XVIII required that the CONTRACTING PARTIES should review annually all measures applied pursuant to the provisions of Sections C and D of the Article. He suggested that, as the measures which were considered under sub-item (a) above were the only ones at present applied pursuant to the provisions of Sections C and D, the consideration given to the measures in question could be regarded as disposing of the need for any special review at the twenty-first session.

This was agreed.

3. Consular formalities (L/2153)

The CHAIRMAN recalled that the CONTRACTING PARTIES had on several occasions recommended that consular formalities be abolished as a step to ease world trade and that consular formalities still maintained had been reviewed by a Panel of Experts in 1962. The Panel's report had been submitted to the CONTRACTING PARTIES at their twentieth session and it contained a recommendation that governments maintaining consular formalities should be invited to report to the twenty-first session on the reasons for maintaining them and on their future policy in this regard. The Government of Turkey had submitted a written report which had been distributed in document L/2153. The Chairman enquired whether representatives of countries maintaining consular formalities, but which had not submitted a written report, wished to make oral statements.

Mr. MIGONE (Argentina) recalled that in October 1961 the Argentine delegation had announced to the GATT Council the Argentine Government's decision to remove all consular formalities and fees on 1 October of that year. Although the reasons which led the Argentine Government to take this decision remained valid, certain of the objectives of the customs rationalization introduced at that time were not attained and the Argentine Government had been compelled to re-establish the system of consular fees. The consular invoice entailing much paper work had not been reintroduced and the collection of the fees now took place in the exporting country. In the view of the Argentine Government the reintroduction of the fee, which it was hoped would be transitional, entailed the minimum intervention on the part of consulates and, on the other hand, made it possible to have certification of trade documentation in keeping with Argentine legislation. If the collection of the fee in the exporting country were abandoned, this would require administrative modifications in the Argentine which were impractical at the present time.

Commenting on the future policy of the Argentine Government, Mr. Migone reminded contracting parties that the present Argentine Government had assumed office only a few months previously and had devoted itself to reviewing and revising measures adopted by previous administrations. In due course the consular fee would be subjected to this review and the Argentine Government would then decide whether it was possible to revert to the system of complete removal of consular formalities as had previously been intended.

Mr. BOSCH (Uruguay) recalled that his delegation had already announced the introduction of simplifications in the administration of customs formalities in Uruguay. For budgetary reasons it had not, however, proved possible to reduce fees. The Uruguayan Government had been studying further simplification of the formalities including the removal of consular invoices and bills but had not yet reached a decision. It was the hope of the Uruguayan Government that it would, where practicable, be able to satisfy the wishes of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in this regard.

Mr. WALLADAO (Brazil) stated that his Government had always attached importance to the recommendations of the CONTRACTING PARTIES that consular formalities should be removed or simplified. The Brazilian Government had recently simplified a number of consular formalities and had, in certain cases, reduced fees. Details of the steps taken would be circulated in the near future. Brazil had not been in a position to comply fully with the recommendations of the CONTRACTING PARTIES but had adopted such measures as were practicable under present circumstances.

Mr. AWUY (Indonesia) reported that his Government had been unable to take any steps to implement the recommendations of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. It was still, however, the intention of the Indonesian Government to abolish all consular formalities as soon as possible.

Mr. RYDFORS (Sweden) recalled that his was one of the countries which had sponsored the recommendation of the CONTRACTING PARTIES that consular formalities be removed in the interest of facilitating world trade. In this connexion they had taken into account views expressed by Governments of Argentina and Cuba that it would be in the interest of the final consumer if trade were to be conducted without consular formalities. In the view of the Swedish Government, the experience gained in countries which had removed formalities showed that this could be done without great difficulty since control could be achieved by other means and income derived from other sources. He noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Governments of Turkey and Brazil to modify their consular formalities.

Where countries were unable to remove immediately all restrictions, the Swedish Government would welcome measures which represented progress towards that goal. In this connexion, Mr. Rydfors mentioned the desirability of abolishing the requirements for presentation of documents long before the departure of a vessel. In certain cases some countries required presentation of documents seventy-two hours before departure. In an age when documents could be dispatched by airmail rather than by ship, such steps seemed unnecessary and in fact most countries applying consular formalities now permitted presentation of documents after the departure of a vessel.

Mr. Rydfors suggested that the countries still applying consular formalities at the time of the next session be invited to report to that session on the reasons for their maintenance as well as their future policy. He expressed the hope that progress would be made before the twenty-second session and particularly that no country would reintroduce formalities already removed.

Miss LOVAT-WILLIAMS (United Kingdom) welcomed the action taken by Turkey and Brazil and the fact that other countries were studying the possibility of complying with the CONTRACTING PARTIES' recommendations. It had to be borne in mind that consular formalities were often more restrictive than other trade barriers. It was regrettable that Argentina had had to reintroduce, as a temporary measure, consular fees previously eliminated. It was the hope of the United Kingdom delegation that the question of consular formalities would shortly be removed from the agenda of the CONTRACTING PARTIES.

Mr. SKAK-NIELSEN (Denmark) associated himself with the views expressed by the representatives of Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Mr. IJSEN (Norway) shared the hope that it would soon be possible to eliminate all consular formalities and suggested that the item be placed on the agenda for the twenty-second session.

Mr. RISTIC (Yugoslavia) recalled that even before its provisional accession to the GATT, Yugoslavia had abolished most consular formalities. There now remained only one instance where a fee was applied and the Government was currently studying the possibility of its removal. It was hoped that removal would be achieved in the near future.

Mr. EMRE (Turkey) drew attention to document L/2153, which showed that, in compliance with the recommendations of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, the Turkish Government intended to relax and simplify formalities and to eliminate fees. At present bills to this effect were before the General Assembly of the Turkish Parliament. The steps taken indicated the willingness of the Turkish Government to adhere to the spirit of the GATT.

Mr. STONER (Canada) emphasized that it would be particularly appropriate, in a year when contracting parties were devoting their energies to the removal of tariff and non-tariff barriers, if substantial progress could be made in the elimination of consular formalities.

Mr. SCHNEBLI (Switzerland) pointed out that his country had commercial contacts with most of the world and wished to see barriers such as consular formalities removed in the interest of facilitating trade. He supported the position taken by the representative of Sweden and noted that although one country had found it necessary to reintroduce consular fees, progress had been made.

Mr. CARMODY (Australia) noted with satisfaction that some progress had been achieved. It was unfortunate that one country had had to re-institute consular fees on a temporary basis. Mr. Carmody pointed out that fees represented, in some cases, a considerable charge on imports and bore no relation to the services rendered. It had been calculated that they could amount to 5 per cent of value at the consulate and 8 per cent in the importing country. He urged that a major effort should be made to eliminate the remaining formalities before the twenty-second session.

Mr. SEN GUPTA (India) recalled that consular formalities had been on the agenda of the CONTRACTING PARTIES since 1952 and suggested that it would be appropriate if such formalities could be removed in the current year when liberalization was being contemplated on a wide front.

Mr. PROPPS (United States) stated that his Government had noted with interest the action taken and trusted that further progress would be possible. He suggested that when countries made modifications in their consular formalities they should immediately notify the CONTRACTING PARTIES. He proposed that the item be maintained on the agenda for the twenty-second session.

The CHAIRMAN, in summing up, noted that the progress made had been welcomed but that regret had been voiced that one country had had temporarily to re-introduce consular fees. It was noteworthy that even those countries which maintained consular formalities recognized the desirability of their removal.

The Chairman proposed that the item should remain on the agenda for the twenty-second session, when countries still maintaining consular formalities would either report their abolition or provide reasons for their maintenance and details of future policy. He also suggested that contracting parties modifying their requirements should immediately advise the CONTRACTING PARTIES of the action taken.

This was agreed.

4. Subsidies - the "Standstill" on Article XVI:4

The CHAIRMAN said that this item had been included on the agenda to afford the CONTRACTING PARTIES an opportunity to review the status of the Declaration of 19 November 1960 providing for a "Standstill" in connexion with the provisions of paragraph 4 of Article XVI. The Declaration had expired at the end of 1963. The Chairman recalled that in November 1960 the CONTRACTING PARTIES had drawn up two Declarations relating to paragraph 4 of Article XVI. The second Declaration, entitled the "Declaration Giving Effect to the Provisions of Article XVI:4", which had become operative in November 1962, remained in force for the sixteen contracting parties which had accepted it. The "Standstill" Declaration had been intended as a first stage towards the abolition of subsidies and had been drawn up for acceptance by contracting parties which were not prepared at that time to accept the "Giving Effect" Declaration. The Chairman also pointed out that an acceptance of the "Giving Effect" Declaration automatically constituted an acceptance of the "Standstill" Declaration. Not many contracting parties, other than the sixteen which were parties to both declarations, had accepted the "Standstill" Declaration.

Mr. SUZUKI (Japan) recalled that his country was a signatory to the "Standstill" Declaration since Japan had not to date been able to accept the "Giving Effect" Declaration. However, as had been pointed out in document L/1625 circulated in November 1961, it was the intention of the Japanese Government to sign the "Giving Effect" Declaration on the completion of certain domestic legislative changes. The Japanese Government would sign this Declaration not later than the end of March 1964.

Mr. PROPPS (United States) and Miss LOVAT-WILLIAMS (United Kingdom) welcomed the announcement by the representative of Japan.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that it would be desirable to provide for an extension of the "Standstill" Declaration and that the Executive Secretary be requested to prepare a draft for consideration by the CONTRACTING PARTIES at a subsequent meeting.

This was agreed.

5. Newly-Independent States

The CHAIRMAN recalled that, by the Decision of 14 November 1962, the CONTRACTING PARTIES had prolonged their recommendation for the de facto application of the GATT to certain newly-independent States of Africa. This Decision provided for a review of the status of the territories concerned to be undertaken at the twenty-first session. With two exceptions (Congo (Leopoldville) and Mali) the countries concerned had now acceded to the General Agreement.

The Government of Congo (Leopoldville) had submitted a request for a further extension of the de facto application, explaining that it was engaged in a general plan of organization rendered necessary by many recent disturbing events, therefore a further period would be required in order to determine the future commercial policy of the Republic. The Government hoped to arrive within a reasonable period at a final decision concerning accession to the GATT. The Chairman added that it was his understanding that the Government of Congo (Leopoldville) was prepared to continue to apply the GATT on a de facto basis to the trade of the contracting parties.

Mr. DE SMET (European Economic Community) and Mr. BELCROFT (Nigeria) proposed that the recommendation for de facto application should be renewed in respect of both Congo (Leopoldville) and Mali.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that an extension of the Decision be granted until the close of the first session of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in 1965. He felt that it would not be necessary to draw up a formal recommendation to this effect if this were the unanimous wish of the CONTRACTING PARTIES. The recommendation for the continued application of de facto application of the GATT to the trade of the Congo (Leopoldville) and Mali would be brought to the attention of governments in a GATT document and would be recorded in the next supplement of the Basic Instruments and Selected Documents.

This was agreed.

Mr. SUMINWA (Congo (Leopoldville)) expressed the appreciation of his Government for the understanding of the CONTRACTING PARTIES in agreeing to the request for an extension of the Recommendation. His Government would endeavour to reach in reasonable time a decision on whether or not it would accede to the GATT. It was a source of regret to the Government of Congo (Leopoldville) that for internal reasons it was still unable to play its full part in the work of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, particularly in those bodies concerned with the development of the trade of the less-developed countries.

6. Reports under waivers

(a) Australia/Papua - New Guinea (L/2164)

Mr. CARRODY (Australia) said that in order to meet the time-table of the twenty-first session the Australian Government had compiled its Tenth Annual Report (L/2164) at an earlier date than usual. This Report showed that in 1963 Australia had taken action under the waiver in respect of coffee and recently some timber items. Consultations had been held with the Government of Uganda on the subject of coffee and those had been successfully concluded. As regards timber the Australian Government was prepared to consult with any contracting party which felt that its trade was substantially threatened.

It had been pointed out, however, that average imports of the two timber items concerned from Papua-New Guinea had been A.£5,000 in the last two years as compared with the average total import of A.£750,000.

Referring to the measures taken under the waiver since the Decision of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, Mr. Carmody stated that there could be little doubt that these had been of material assistance in encouraging the economic development of Papua-New Guinea.

Mr. PROPPS (United States) observed that the Tenth Annual Report had only recently been distributed and his delegation had not had time to conduct a detailed study of its contents. The offer of Australia for consultations on the two timber items had been noted and the United States would avail itself of this opportunity if necessary. It had to be noted, however, that by extending margins of preference on the two timber items prior to consultations with interested parties, the Australian Government had appeared to act inconsistently with the provisions of paragraph 2 of the Decision of 13 November 1956.

The Report was noted on the understanding that contracting parties were free to request consultations with Australia on the two timber items concerned.

(b) Italy - Trade with Libya (L/2034 and L/2039)

Mr. MARCHETTI (Italy), in presenting the Eleventh Report of Italy (L/2034) under the Waiver Decision of 9 October 1952, pointed out that the validity of the Decision terminated at the end of 1964 and that the situation could be reviewed at that time. The report contained a statistical analysis of trade between Italy and Libya and showed that Libya benefited from the arrangement which did not, however, constitute any significant prejudice to the trade of contracting parties. Italy was at the disposal of contracting parties for any additional information they might require.

Mr. ALI MUSA (Libya) drew attention to certain points contained in the Report (L/2039) which showed that the Libyan Government had made considerable efforts to encourage development of exports to world markets on a competitive basis. However, particularly as regards olive oil and tunny fish, the special trading relations were still valuable and contributed to the economic development of Libya.

The Reports were noted.

(c) Rhodesia and Nyasaland - United Kingdom territories (I/2116)

The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of contracting parties to a Report of the Government of Rhodesia and Nyasaland (L/2116), submitted before the dissolution of the Federation, on action taken by the Federal Government in 1963 under the Waiver granted in 1960. The Report showed that favourable

tariff treatment had been accorded to certain dependent territories with the intention of assisting their economic development. Due notification of the Federal Government's intention had been made but no contracting party had asked for consultations in terms of the Waiver.

The Report was noted.

(d) South Africa/Article I (L/2126)

The CHAIRMAN drew attention to a Report by the Government of South Africa (L/2126) recording action taken in 1963 affecting special customs treatment to certain products from Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The Report was noted.

7. Fellowship Programme and Technical Assistance (L/2166)

The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY drew attention to certain features of his report. (L/2166). He said that, despite the considerable extension in the activities of the secretariat consequent upon the considerable enlargement of membership of the organization and the intensification of its activities, it had been possible to maintain and even to extend assistance to those contracting parties which were in the early stages of development. In addition to maintaining the traditional in-service training programme, the GATT had initiated a new venture in Africa and was developing the programme of technical assistance to newly-independent States.

The in-service training programme continued to enjoy considerable support from contracting parties and indeed it was clear that if the facilities were available its scope could be substantially extended. In considering the possibility of expansion it had always been his main preoccupation that expansion should not be at the cost of the effectiveness and efficiency of the programme, a consideration which had imposed limitations on the number of candidates that could be accepted. However, the time had perhaps come when careful consideration should be given to the possibility of an enlargement of the programme and to some modification in its administration. The Executive Secretary said that with this end in view, he was holding discussions with the United Nations, and as soon as these studies had been carried further he would be submitting proposals to the CONTRACTING PARTIES. In the meantime, and in order to give recognition to the importance of the programme and to provide for more systematic administration, he had appointed a full-time Director to supervise the programme and had allocated additional secretariat staff to assist.

Commenting on the second part of the report, the Executive Secretary drew attention to the series of courses in Africa which had been enlarged in scope in 1963 and which were conducted with the full collaboration and assistance of the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations. It was noteworthy and a matter of satisfaction that, although originally intended to cater for junior officials, the programme had aroused such interest among African countries that a number of more experienced officials had found it helpful to participate. The reactions of the governments which sent participants to the African courses had been very favourable and again there would not appear to be any question as to the value of this particular activity nor as to the desirability of continuing and where possible extending it. He proposed, with the assent of the CONTRACTING PARTIES, to enter into discussions with the United Nations Bureau of Technical Assistance Operations and the Economic Commission for Africa with a view to arranging further courses in 1964.

Finally, referring to Part III of the report regarding technical assistance to newly-independent States in dealing with their commercial policy problems, the Executive Secretary stated that during 1963 the GATT had undertaken a number of missions, certain of them of some importance, for example, the missions to Libya and to Somalia. Towards the end of 1963, discussions had been held with officials of Uganda concerning the dispatch of a GATT team of experts to study the possibility and desirability of revising the customs tariffs of Uganda, Tanganyika and Kenya, and a preliminary mission was already in East Africa. It was probable that similar requests would be received during 1964 and, in view of the value of this type of technical assistance for the newly-independent less-developed countries, it would be his intention to make every effort to accommodate them. If these requests involved financial expenditures not covered by the regular budget it would, he considered, be appropriate to report these matters to the Council or to draw upon the working capital fund.

The representatives of Canada, India, Federal Republic of Germany, Yugoslavia, Uganda, Nigeria, European Economic Community, Indonesia, Czechoslovakia, Argentina, Ghana, United States and Sweden congratulated the Executive Secretary on the In-Service Training Programme, the Joint GATT/ECA Course in Africa and on the assistance afforded to newly-independent States in connexion with commercial policy problems, and endorsed his decision to strengthen the staff allocation with regard to these programmes. They emphasized the opinion of their Governments that this work was of great practical value and should be continued and where possible extended. They expressed their willingness to consider any proposals by the Executive Secretary concerning the further intensification of these programmes. Gratitude was also expressed to the UNTAB and ECA for their assistance.

Mr. HAMEZ (United Arab Republic) associated himself with the general remarks recorded above and advised that the Government of the United Arab Republic had submitted an invitation to the Executive Secretary for the members of the present In-Service Training Course to spend fourteen days in Cairo. He considered that it would be useful for trainees to spend some time in studying the commercial problems of less-developed countries as well as those of industrialized countries.

The report of the Executive Secretary was adopted.

The meeting adjourned at 5.30 p.m.