The Final Meeting of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Employment was held in public session in the Council Chamber of the Palais des Nations at 10.00 AM on October 30, under the chairmanship of H.E. M. Max Suetens (Belgium). The following vice-chairmen of the Committee were present: H.E. Dr. Erik Colban (Norway), Mr. Sergio I. Clark (Cuba) and Hon. L.D. Wilgress (Canada).

The Chairman of the Tariff Agreement Committee reported that the Tariff Agreement Committee had completed its work and today submitted to the Preparatory Committee a Final Act to be signed on behalf of all those countries which participated in the Tariff negotiations. This Final Act authenticates the text of a General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade together with its accompanying Annexes and Schedules and also a Protocol of Provisional Application. A total of 123 negotiations between pairs of countries were completed during the course of the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee and the results of these negotiations are embodied in the Schedules to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

The Chairman, M. Suetens, then addressed the Committee. The full text of his remarks is contained in Press Release No.475.

The Chairman of the Sub-committee of the Tariff Agreement Committee, on Credentials, Dr. Erik Colban (Norway) then submitted his report and announced that all credentials were satisfactory.

The Chairman, M. Suetens, then announced that the Final Act was open for signature, and the following representatives signed in alphabetical order:

For the Commonwealth of Australia:
Mr. C.E. MORTON

For the Kingdom of Belgium: Pour le Royaume de Belgique:
Mr. P.A. FORTHOMME

For the United States of Brazil: Pour les Etats-Unis du Brésil:
Mr. A. de V. FERREIRA BRAGA

(P.t.o.)
For Burma: Pour la Birmanie:
Mr. U. NYUN

For Canada: Pour le Canada:
Hon. L.D. WILGROESE

For Ceylon: Pour Ceylan:
Mr. G.C.S. CORÉA

For the Republic of Chile: Pour la République du Chili:
Mr. A. FAIVOVITCH

For the Republic of China: Pour la République de Chine:
H.E. Dr. WUNSZ KING

For the Republic of Cuba: Pour la République de Cuba:
Mr. Sergio I. CLARK

For the Czechoslovak Republic: Pour la République tchécoslovaque:
H.E. Dr. Z. AUGENTHALE

For the French Republic: Pour la République française:
Mr. P. BARADUC

For India: Pour l'Inde:
Mr. S. RANGANATHAN

For Lebanon: Pour le Liban:
Mr. MIKAOUTI

For the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg: Pour le Grand-Duché de Luxembourg:
Mr. J. STURM

For the Kingdom of the Netherlands: Pour le Royaume des Pays-Bas:
Dr. A.B. SPEEKENBRINK

For New Zealand: Pour la Nouvelle-Zélande:
Mr. J.P.D. JOHNSEN

For the Kingdom of Norway: Pour le Royaume de Norvège:
H.E. Mr. E. COLBAN

For Pakistan: Pour le Pakistan:
Mr. H.I. RAHINTOOLA

For Southern Rhodesia: Pour la Rhodésie du Sud:
Mr. K.M. GOODENOUGH

For Syria: Pour la Syrie:
Mr. H. JABBARA

For the Union of South Africa: Pour l'Union Sud-Africaine:
Mr. PARMINTER
For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: Mr. T.M. SNOW

For the United States of America: Mr. Winthrop G. BROWN

6. The Chairman, M. Suetens, then announced that the Protocol of Provisional Application was open for signature, and the following representatives signed in alphabetical order:

Belgium
Canada
Luxembourg
Netherlands
United Kingdom
United States

Note to Press representatives: The countries named in the Protocol are: Australia, Belgium, Luxembourg, Canada, France, Netherlands, United Kingdom and United States. The release of the General Agreement together with the schedules on November 18 by the Secretary General depends on his having received signatures to the Protocol of all the above named countries by November 15. The signatures of Australia and France must therefore be received within the next 15 days.

7. Exchange of Notes. Notes, or instruments, were exchanged between the following countries and were signed in duplicate by their representatives. These Notes are concerned with the relationship between existing trade agreements and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Czechoslovakia - Australia
United States - United Kingdom
Canada
France
Brazil
Belgium
Netherlands

8. Chairman's closing remarks. The Chairman read the text of a telegram received today from the Secretary General of the United Nations: "I am heartened to learn of successful conclusion of tariff negotiations begun under auspices of Preparatory Committee in April. Successful conclusion of these negotiations is encouraging evidence of intention of United Nations to take common action to press on with the economic organisation of peace with a view to attaining the higher standards of living and economic progress envisaged in Article 55A of the UN Charter. Stop. Your agreement in Geneva is also a happy augury for successful outcome to the UN Conference on trade and employment which is to open in Havana next month."

(P.t.o.)
The Chairman made the following announcement of invitations issued to attend the Havana Conference.

Acceptances received up to October 24: Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Haiti, Liberia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Philippines, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Afghanistan, Sweden, Pakistan, Portugal, Switzerland, Trans-Jordan through Iraq, Indonesia, Burma, Ceylon, Southern Rhodesia.

Refusals received up to October 24: Byelo-Russia, Ethiopia, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine, USSR, Yugoslavia, Siam, Bulgaria.

The proceedings then terminated and the Second Session of the Preparatory Committee was concluded.