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**ECONOMIC
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**CONSEIL
ECONOMIQUE
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LIMITED

E/CN.7/AC.2/SR.7*
30 November 1949

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

Ad hoc Committee of the Principal Opium-producing Countries

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE SEVENTH MEETING

held at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Ankara,
on Wednesday, 30 November 1949, at 3.45 p.m.

CHAIRMAN: His Excellency Mr. Ali TARHAN

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the limitation of the production of opium, and
- (d) Establishment of an international purchasing and
selling agency (continued)
- (b) Method of allocating Exports of opium (continued)

Present:

Members:

India
Iran
Turkey
Yugoslavia

Mr. COEHLÖ
Mr. AMINI
Mr. KARABUDA
Dr. OR
Mr. KUSHEVITCH
Mr. NIKOLITCH

Observers:

China
Egypt
France
Netherlands

Mr. JEN KI-SIN
Dr. LABIB
Mr. SUSINI
Mr. de JONGH

Also present:

Mr. KRASOVEC

Chairman of the Commission
on Narcotic Drugs

Secretariat:

Mr. Steinig

Representative of the Secretar.
General, Director of the
Division of Narcotic Drugs
Division of Narcotic Drugs
Secretary to the Committee

Mr. Masar
Mr. Bolton

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QUESTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE Ad hoc COMMITTEE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS TERMS OF REFERENCE (Item 4 of the Agenda) (continued)

- (c) The establishment of Government monopolies, and the limitation of the production of opium; and
- (d) Establishment of an international purchasing and selling Agency (documents E/CN.7/AC.1/L.6/Rev.1, E/CN.7/AC.1/L.10 and E/CN.7/AC.1/L.12) (continued)

Mr. AMINI (Iran), announcing that, as an outcome of informal talks held earlier that day and attended by all four delegations, a large measure of agreement had been reached on the outstanding points of difference, requested the Representative of the Secretary-General to read out the agreed text embodying the reservations entered by the Turkish representative at the preceding meeting. It was understood that the text would not form part of any of the draft articles, but would be included in the Committee's report.

Dr. OR (Turkey) asked that the following passage embodying the reservation of the Turkish delegation be included in the Report

"The Committee decided that the Rules and Regulations of the International Purchasing and Selling Agency shall contain, inter alia, the following provisions:

- (a) Should the Government monopoly of a producing country request that its opium be disposed of to a particular manufacturing country, or to particular manufacturing countries, the Agency shall, so far as may be practicable, comply with the request;
- (b) should a manufacturing country request the Agency to supply opium from a certain producing country, the Agency shall, so far as may be practicable, comply with the request; and
- (c) the Agency shall in every case inform a manufacturing importing country of the country of origin and trade mark of the opium with which it is being supplied."

Mr. STEINIG (Representative of the Secretary-General) explained that the text just read out by the representative of Turkey was that referred to by the representative of Iran.

Mr. AMINI (Iran) requested the Representative of the Secretary-General to explain to the Committee that as a further result of the informal talks the proposals dealing with the establishment of the international Agency (document E/CN.7/AC.1/L.6/Rev.1) and with the co-ordinating authority (document E/CN.7/AC.1/L.9) respectively, had been combined to form a single article.

The CHAIRMAN understood that the text of the combined article would be distributed later in the meeting. In the meantime, he suggested that the Committee take up document E/CN.7/AC.1/L.10,

in which the Secretariat, at the request of the Committee, had provided an outline for an article on quality control, which was then read out.

There being no observations,
the Committee unanimously adopted the draft article on quality control.

Mr. AMINI (Iran) felt that, since, at the previous meeting, the discussion on the draft article relating to the international Agency had been deferred without formal adoption, it should be put to the meeting paragraph by paragraph. Later, similar procedure should be followed in the case of the combined article, in order to ensure that no clerical errors crept into the new text. He was particularly anxious to ensure that it was stipulated that the price of opium should not be fixed by any international body without the prior agreement of the Governments of the producing countries, as the Iranian Government had made an express reservation to that effect.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the point raised by the representative of Iran was covered by paragraph (b) of the draft article on the co-ordinating Authority (document E/CN.7/AC.1/L.9), which had been unanimously adopted by the Committee at its sixth meeting.

After some further discussion, in which Mr. AMINI (Iran), Mr. NIKOLITCH (Yugoslavia), Mr. KARAPIDA (Turkey) and Mr. COEHLO (India) took part, and the CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Committee could either adopt the proposal relating to the international Agency in the form in which it existed in document E/CN.7/AC.1/L.6/Rev.1, or wait to do so until the combined article had been circulated,

the Committee decided to consider the proposal in its original form (document E/CN.7/AC.1/L.6/Rev.1) paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraph 1

Paragraph 1 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Paragraph 2

Paragraph 2 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Paragraph 3

Paragraph 3 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Paragraph 4

Mr. NIKOLITCH (Yugoslavia) asked the Chairman for elucidation as to whether, in determining the basis for calculation provided for in paragraph 4, the requirements for manufacturing purposes, of producing countries would also be taken into account.

Mr. STEINIG (Representative of the Secretary-General), replying to the Yugoslav representative at the request of the CHAIRMAN, re-iterated the principles underlying the basis for calculation, as set out in sub-paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of paragraph 4, and explained that the correct approach to that paragraph was to regard it as defining the total share of a given country in the world production of opium, not its share in world exports of opium, which formed only one element in the computation of the production quota.

Mr. NIKOLITCH (Yugoslavia) having indicated his satisfaction with the explanation,

paragraph 4 was unanimously adopted.

Paragraph 5

Paragraph 5 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Paragraph 6

Paragraph 6 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Paragraph 7

Paragraph 7 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

Paragraph 8

Paragraph 8 was unanimously adopted without discussion.

The text of the combined draft article on the co-ordinating Authority and the international purchasing and selling Agency, sponsored by the Indian and Iranian delegations and comprising the texts of the separate articles already adopted by the Committee, was then circulated (document E/CN.7/LC.1/L.12).

After a brief discussion,

the Committee agreed to consider the text of the combined draft article as read and adopted.

(b) Method of allocating exports of opium (document E/CN.7/LC.1/L.11
(continued)

The CHAIRMAN drew the attention of the meeting to the draft article on sales shares and the annex thereto. He understood that all delegations were agreed on the substance of the article. All that remained, therefore, was to reach agreement on the percentages, and insert the appropriate figures in the blank spaces in the annex.

Mr. COEHLO (India) formally moved the adoption of the draft article on sales shares.

Mr. AMINI (Iran) said he would support the Indian proposal in order to facilitate the work of the Secretariat in drafting the Committee's report. In the meantime, delegations would do their

best to fill the blank spaces in the Annex. He would, however, welcome an assurance that, even if it proved impossible to reach agreement on the percentages, the Secretariat would be able to produce the Report for adoption at the closing meeting.

The CHAIRMAN felt that it would be premature for the Committee to adopt the draft article since, were it to prove impossible to reach agreement on the percentages and hence on the Annex, the article itself would lose its point. The Committee should content itself with recording its agreement on the drafting of the article, deferring formal adoption to the next meeting, by which time it would be known whether or not agreement on percentages was possible.

Replying to Mr. AMINI (Iran), who pressed his support of the Indian proposal, he pointed out that in the draft before the Committee, the emphasis was on the words "on the basis of the percentage shares laid down in the Annex to the Agreement". So long as those words remained, and so long as there was no agreement on percentages, the formal adoption of the draft articles could not make sense. He repeated his proposal that adoption be deferred to the next meeting, and suggested that the Committee should proceed forthwith to fix the time of that meeting.

After some further discussion, Mr. COELHO (India) withdrew his motion.

Mr. AMINI (Iran) concurred, but still wished the Representative of the Secretary-General to reply to his question about the effect of the delay on the preparation of the Committee's report.

Mr. STEINIG (Representative of the Secretary-General) said that, provided the Committee agreed that the relevant chapter of the report should merely record the views expressed by representatives, and should make no mention of an agreement on percentages, he could give the Iranian representative the assurance he desired.

He felt, however, that there was a second question implicit in Mr. Amini's request, namely, when could the Committee expect to have the report before it? In view of the amount of work entailed and the somewhat limited secretarial facilities available, he did not think it would be safe to reckon on the report's being ready before Friday morning, 2 December. He would therefore suggest, with the Chairman's permission, that the next meeting be held on that day at 10.30 a.m. The Committee could then give the report a first reading and, if the extent of the modifications made it desirable, give it a second reading in revised form at a later date although that was a procedure not commonly followed by organs of the

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United Nations. Any representative obliged to leave Ankara on Friday could submit his amendments to the first draft in writing for subsequent incorporation in the final version of the report.

After a brief discussion,

The Committee decided to hold its next meeting on the date and at the time suggested by the Representative of the Secretary-General, it being understood that the agenda would consist of the completion of the consideration of item 4 (b) of the agenda (method of allocating exports of opium), followed by the adoption of the report.

Mr. COEHLO (India) said that, as it was possible that he might be prevented from attending the next meeting, he would like to express the thanks of the Government of India to the Government of Turkey, for making the work of the Committee possible and for its welcome hospitality, and to the Chairman for the just and efficient manner in which he had conducted its meetings.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.