

The Committee's duties should be confined to the tasks outlined above, and should not extend to matters connected with the compilation of statistics, except as provided in Appendix A.

With the object of avoiding any overlapping the Advisory Committee should work in close co-operation with the Economic Organisation of the League and the International Institute of Agriculture.

As the work of the proposed Committee would be concerned with business rather than policy it should be small. It was recognized that the chief exporting countries—viz., Argentine, Australia, Canada and the United States—should be separately represented, and that the Danubian Countries should be entitled to a representative, as would the U.S.S.R. It was regarded as essential that importing countries should be represented as well as exporting countries.

It was at first suggested that the importing countries might be represented by two or three members, to be named by the Economic Committee of the League of Nations. But it appeared from the discussion in the Sub-Committee that it would be preferable that the committee should contain an equal number of representatives of importing and exporting countries. Subject to this it was agreed that the Committee should be given power to enlarge its membership if circumstances appeared to render such a course desirable.

Importing States to be represented might be selected according to one of two methods: either the importing countries participating in the Conference might make their selection while the Conference is still sitting, or the choice might be left to the Economic Committee of the League. It was felt that a decision on this matter should be left to the importing countries.

In any case, the members of the Committee should be appointed as representatives of States, and not in their personal capacity.

The Advisory Committee would be authorized, if it considered that circumstances rendered such action necessary, to convene a general meeting of the States parties to the Agreements.

Various suggestions were made regarding the chairmanship of the Advisory Committee. Some members thought that the League of Nations might be requested to ask some person of recognized standing and undoubted impartiality to accept the post of Chairman. Others thought that in view of the exceptional importance to the exporting countries of the wheat question, it might perhaps be desirable that the Chairman should be chosen from among their representatives. It was finally agreed that the appointment of Chairman should be left to the Advisory Committee itself, which might be empowered to elect a Chairman from among its members or, if it appeared practicable and desirable, to select some other person of recognized standing.

The Sub-Committee was anxious to keep expenditure on the lowest possible basis. The staff employed should be small in number and might consist of a highly competent secretary with a technical assistant and a shorthand-typist.

The cost of representation at meetings should be borne by the several Governments represented on the Committee. The Committee itself would only be responsible for cost of the staff, office expenses and the travelling expenses of the staff in so far as that might prove necessary. It was considered that the annual appropriation for the committee need not exceed a total of sixty thousand gold francs. The suggested basis of contribution was that each country accepting the Wheat Agreements should contribute four gold francs per 100,000 quintals of the average quantity of wheat produced during a given period, and that the wheat-exporting countries should contribute a further eight gold francs per 100,000 quintals of wheat exported in an average year of the given base period.

The suggested basis of contributions towards the maintenance of the Advisory Committee are set out in the Annex to this Report.

The seat of the office of the Advisory Committee would be at London, but the Committee are set out in the Annex to this Report. The seat of the office of the Advisory Committee would be at London, but the Committee would be authorized to meet elsewhere if circumstances rendered it necessary.