

H. de Bunket

NATO CONFIDENTIAL

To: Secretary General

c.c. Deputy Secretary General  
ASG for Political Affairs  
Mr. Chapman  
Mr. Vincent  
Mr. de Camaret  
Mr. Menne

From: Secretary of Sub-Group No. 4

Subject: Fourth Meeting of Sub-Group No. 4 on Developments  
in Regions outside the NATO Area (AC/261)

Sub-Group No. 4 held its fourth and last meeting on 14th September at 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

The Sub-Group members had before them a new text of the complete report(1) revised by Professor Patijn. At the outset of the meeting it was agreed that the report would remain under the sole responsibility of the rapporteur as his personal contribution to the exercise.

A number of suggestions on specific points were put forward with a view to improving the text and it was decided to have later a more thorough and full examination of the most important section of the report dealing with Professor Patijn's "proposals for improving political consultation" (paragraphs 32-38).

During the preliminary discussion on the report, the French Representative informed the Sub-Group that he did not think his Government would react favourably to the idea of assuming any form of responsibility through the Alliance outside the Treaty area. In this context, he questioned the validity of applying western standards of law and order to the rest of the world as implied in paragraph 10.

The Sub-Group later went over Professor Patijn's proposals in the last section of the paper paragraph by paragraph. Most delegations rejected outright the idea of establishing groups with limited membership. The Turkish Representative, maintaining his previous opposition to this idea, pointed out the difference

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(1) With the exception of one brief section on development aid which the rapporteur hopes to insert at a later date.

between participation during the initial formative stage of a report and participation in the discussions at a later stage, for instance in the Council, when a country which is not a member of a restricted group would be eventually forced into accepting a report emanating from it, to avoid being called "unco-operative".

The German Representative said that from a practical view-point, the creation of restricted groups might lead to interminable discussions in the parent body as to the membership of them; he added that all member countries had a concern in every problem that affected the interests of the Alliance as a whole. It was finally agreed to replace the words "restricted groups" by "specialised groups" in the first sentence of paragraph 35 and to amend the following sentence to avoid giving an impression of mandatory limitation.

The Canadian Representative repeatedly stressed his preference for "contingency consultation" and said that "contingency planning" as stated in paragraph 35 might not be needed in all cases and that, therefore, the possibility of choosing from a spectrum of progressive steps should be left open to the Alliance.

The Danish Representative thought that since Professor Patijn's proposals included the upgrading of POLADS and the Political Experts Groups, there might be no further need for APAG. This idea received little support from other representatives.

The Group decided that any further proposals for minor textual amendments should be sent in writing to the rapporteur in the course of next week. Professor Patijn was given carte blanche by the Sub-Group to prepare a new revised text for the meeting of the rapporteurs at Ditchley Park, England in October. It was understood that the final text of the report would eventually form part of the joint report of the rapporteurs to the Special Group.