

Agenda for Meeting of EFTA Permanent Council to be attended by Senior Officials, on June 6

It is the understanding of the United Kingdom that at the special meeting of EFTA Heads of Delegations and senior officials from capitals, held in Geneva on May 16 and 17, it was agreed that each country would submit a memorandum as soon as possible in preparation for a further meeting to start in Geneva on June 6. This memorandum was to set out their views on the next steps. The U.K. Representative understood further that the points to be included in these memoranda would cover inter alia the two possibilities discussed at Geneva, namely:-

- that we should continue to work for a purely economic association between EFTA and the European Economic Community;
 - (b) that we should try to negotiate an arrangement on the basis of the United Kingdom and perhaps other member of EFTA acceding to the Rome Treaty, and the remaining EFTA countries having appropriate forms of economic association with the two communities.

It would be very helpful to know which EFTA countries would agree to seek accession in the event that it was agreed to proceed on the lines of (b) above; and what arrangements the remaining EFTA countries would wish to see made for themselves. As regards the latter point, the United Kingdom would like to know, for example:-

- (i) whether they would be prepared in principle to accept a common tariff;
- (ii) whether they would be prepared in principle to accept a common commercial policy;
- (iii) if the answers to (i) and (ii) above are affirmative, what arrangements they would wish for their participating in the control of tariffs or formulation of the common commercial policy.

It is hoped that these points will be covered in each country's memorandum.

May 29, 1961

