

28. With regard to voting, it was pointed out that each Government would not necessarily appoint two Commissioners, and, as a consequence, it was decided that voting must be by countries, each of which should designate one of its Commissioners as a "senior" Commissioner. Senior Commissioners only will be entitled to vote, two-thirds of all of them constituting a quorum on other than budgetary or financial matters. Provision is made in the Agreement (clause 15) for the second or an alternate Commissioner to exercise the functions of the senior Commissioner during his absence.

29. Nevertheless, it was recognized as equally important that the views of all the Commissioners which may be expressed in discussions should be recorded and made available to the participating Governments.

30. Decisions on budgetary or financial matters involving financial contributions by the participating Governments (other than a decision to adopt the annual administrative budget of the Commission) require a unanimous vote.

Location of Headquarters

31. Considerable discussion took place over the question of the selection of a site for the headquarters of the Commission. The opinion of the majority was that it is vitally necessary to choose a site located within the area to be covered by the Commission. On the other hand, it was claimed by some that, from the point of view of administration, communications, health, and research facilities, the Commission might function with greater efficiency if the site chosen were within the metropolitan area of either Australia or New Zealand. The New Zealand delegation, however, felt strongly that, in spite of any real or imagined disadvantages which might result, the primary consideration should be the desirability of having the headquarters within the area, and this consideration could not be outweighed by any arguments in favour of Sydney or any other place outside the area. The New Zealand views were circulated to the members of the Committee as a Conference document. In this paper the contention was made that the Commission can only be fully aware of the problems with which it will have to deal if it is situated at close quarters to them. Island residents are critical people, and, if the Commission is located among them, this criticism can be made to work for the good of the Commission, since the pressure of public opinion will demand that the Commission produce results and that those results be demonstrated