

“ It has also not included a specific provision empowering the Commission to render special services within its terms of reference to one or more of the participating Governments.

“ The Committee believes that, if no cost to the Commission is involved from the rendering of such special services, the Commission has adequate power to effect any arrangement which it is willing to make.

“ No specific provision has been included by the Committee providing that a record of the proceedings of the Commission, including the views of all the Commissioners which may be expressed in Committee discussions, should be recorded and made available to the participating Governments. Such a provision was not considered necessary, but the Committee concurs in the views expressed by the Committee on Area and Structure that the Commission should incorporate such a provision in its rules and regulations.

“ In making provision for the official languages of the Commission it is the understanding of the Committee that all documents issued by the Commission and its auxiliary and subsidiary bodies will be circulated in the official languages, except in those instances where, for special reasons, the Commission may otherwise determine.

“ In connection with the provision that Australia and New Zealand might be reimbursed for expenditure incurred in anticipation of the establishment of the Commission, the French, Netherlands, and United States delegations informed the Committee that their Governments might not be in a position to authorize reimbursement for expenditures incurred prior to the time when the Agreement comes into force.”

XII.—FINAL PLENARY SESSION

89. At the closing Session of the Conference on 6 February, the Report of Committee VI, which incorporated the text of the final agreement, and the various resolutions mentioned above, was adopted. The adoption of the Agreement and its reference to the Governments concerned for acceptance was moved by Mr Nash. He expressed the hope that the plan which had been brought into being would achieve the objective of giving the island peoples of the South Pacific an opportunity of being free human beings in the widest possible sense.

90. Following the adoption of the various Conference resolutions, the formal signature of the Agreement took place. Mr Nash and Mr Osborne signed on behalf of New Zealand.