

- (e) Members of the Organization accept an obligation to co-operate fully with the Organization in all matters associated with the investigation, consultation, and treatment of restrictive business practices, and may co-operate with each other for the better achievement of action required under the chapter.

Following is a review of the individual Articles in the chapter :—

*Article 46 : General Policy towards Restrictive Business Practices*

Discussion centres round business practices which might be adopted by private or public commercial enterprises. For the purposes of the chapter the term “public commercial enterprises” means agencies of Governments in so far as they are engaged in trade, and trading enterprises mainly or wholly owned by public authority and in respect of which a Member exercises effective control or assumes responsibility. The term “private commercial enterprises” means any other commercial enterprise.

Restrictive practices include the fixing of prices, terms, and conditions of sale and purchase ; limiting or allocating territorial markets ; fixing sale and purchase quotas ; discriminating against particular enterprises ; limiting production ; conscious prevention of the use of science and technology ; misuse of patent rights, trade-marks, &c. These practices restrain competition, limit access to markets, and foster monopolistic control.

Any Member is entitled to complain to the Organization if its trade is suffering on account of such restrictive practices employed in other countries, by any enterprise or combination of enterprises. Members accepting the Charter agree that complaints which are properly founded shall be subject to investigation.

*Article 47 : Consultation Procedure*

If a Member considers its trade affected by any practice which is in operation, consultation should take place between the Members in order that the position may be clarified. If requested to do so, the Organization may assist at the consultation.

*Article 48 : Investigation Procedure*

Any affected Member may proceed directly to ask for an investigation by presenting a written complaint to the Organization. If the complaint is against a single Government-controlled agency, consultation must precede a written complaint. The Organization may request any information it considers necessary to enable it to determine whether the practice complained of is in accordance with the definitions given and has had the effect specified in the first article of this chapter. If, on the basis