Norway

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WAGE COMMITTEES IN LABOUR DISPUTES

1. There shall be a National Wage Committee for labour disputes, with its seat in the capital of the Realm.

If a dispute as mentioned in Section 6, sub-section 3, of the Labour Disputes Act is not settled by negotiations, the parties may jointly place the dispute before the National Wage Committee.

If the chairman of the National Wage Committee rules that the dispute is not of a nature to warrant being placed before the National Wage Committee, he may pass it on to a district wage committee, if the parties consent to this.

A wage committee decision is equivalent to a collective agreement in effect.

2. The National Wage Committee shall consist of a chairman and six other members.

The chairman and four other members, with personal substitutes, shall be nominated by the Crown for three years. One of the members shall represent employees' interests, and one employers' interests. The parties in each individual dispute appoint one member of the committee each. If a party fails to appoint its member within the time limit set by the chairman, the member shall be appointed by the ministry concerned.

In committee decisions, one member from the employees' side and one from the employers' side shall vote. The member appointed for the individual dispute shall vote, unless he transfers his right to vote to the permanent member representing the interests of the
party concerned. The consent of the permanent member must first be obtained.

If the parties consent, the chairman of the National Wage Committee may rule that in an individual dispute the committee shall consist of three members and himself, or one of the other permanent members not representing party interests, as chairman. The parties concerned in the dispute appoint one member each.

3. A district wage committee shall consist of three members. The Crown shall nominate a permanent chairman for three years. The parties in each individual dispute appoint one member each.

If the chairman is unable to attend, or is incompetent, another shall be appointed by the ministry.

4. The rules for the Labour Court in Chapter 2 and Chapter 5, and Sections 41—44 of the Labour Disputes Act, shall be enforced where applicable. Wage committee members representing neither employees nor employers shall fulfil the conditions laid down in Section 10, sub-section 3, of the Labour Disputes Act, and shall not be incompetent according to the rules laid down in Section 13 of the same Act.

5. The costs of wage committees in pursuance of this Act shall be borne by the Treasury in accordance with rulings laid down by the Crown.

6. This Act shall come into force on January 1, 1953.

For disputes in process of negotiation, or already placed before wage committees by the above date, the rulings laid down by the Act of June 23, 1950, respecting a provisional supplement to the Act of 5th May 1927, respecting Labour Disputes shall remain in force.