

strengthen our nation's export earnings and balance of payments position without impairing the established and deserved reputation of the Eximbank as a sound lending institution operated on a businesslike basis.

We have noted the assurances of the President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank of the United States that the transactions to be financed under the new authority would be additional to those which can be supported under one of the Bank's regular direct loan, guarantee or insurance programs, applying the criteria now in force for those programs; that the new facility would not be allowed to make the Eximbank a soft loan agency; that usual repayment terms and standard interest rates will apply; and that most of the transactions would be financed by U.S. commercial banks under Eximbank's guarantee or by the exporter himself under an insurance policy provided by the Foreign Credit Insurance Association in conjunction with Eximbank.

It is respectfully requested that this communication in endorsement of H.R. 16162 be made a part of the hearings of your Committee.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT M. NORRIS, *President.*

BANKERS' ASSOCIATION FOR FOREIGN TRADE,
April 19, 1968.

Hon. WRIGHT PATMAN,
*House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE PATMAN: As in the past we are pleased to send you herewith the Statement of Principles and Recommendations adopted by this association at its annual meeting on April 5, 1968.

Your own views and comments on these matters are always of interest to our Association.

Very truly yours,

M. R. CROCKARD, *President.*

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BANKERS' ASSOCIATION
FOR FOREIGN TRADE

(Adopted at the Annual Meeting, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, April 3, 1968)

The members of the Bankers' Association for Foreign Trade at their annual meeting on April 3, 1968 hereby resolve to express themselves in favor of the following principles and policies and recommend them to the Directors and Officers of the Association for careful consideration and implementation during the coming year.

FOREIGN COMMERCE AND THE STRENGTH OF THE WORLD ECONOMY

The unprecedented expansion of world trade and investment in the past two decades has occurred in an environment of greater freedom for the international operations of private business. We are concerned about the serious problems and uncertainties which now threaten the continued growth of the world economy; uncertainties arising from conflicting national policies, the rising tide of protectionism by governments and business alike, and the increasingly more apparent weaknesses in the international monetary system.

In the following comments and recommendations, we limited ourselves to those measures which we believe will buttress the efforts of the United States and other countries to reaffirm and strengthen the forces of international co-operation on which the postwar prosperity has been based, and which are vital to a continuation of that prosperity.

THE U.S. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

We fully recognize the need for the United States to assure the continued integrity of the dollar in its role as the paramount currency for the finance of international trade and finance. Insofar as the continuing and increasing controls over international transactions embodied in the 1968 balance of payments program of the United States are necessary to this end, we shall continue to give them our support. At the same time, however, we must point out that if these