

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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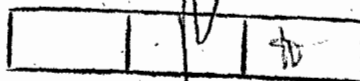
GENERAL

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GENERAL PROCEDURE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Letter dated 28 May 1952 from the Director-General of the
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural
Organization to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to refer to Points 4 and 11 of the Agenda of the Eleventh Session of the Trusteeship Council regarding the examination of Annual Reports from Trust Territories and the general procedure of the Council.

In the latter connexion I have been instructed by the Executive Board of UNESCO to draw the attention of the Council to the following comments and suggestions placed before it by a special Committee of its members which had met in February 1952, to examine the draft of UNESCO's observations on the Annual Reports for the Trust Territories in the Pacific, before their submission to the Trusteeship Council at its Tenth Session. These comments and suggestions, which were endorsed by the Executive Board, are as follows:

1. The Committee draws attention to the difficulties caused by the late receipt from the United Nations of the reports which are to be commented on by UNESCO. Little time is left for their study by the Director-General and even less for consideration by the Board or its Committees of the proposed comments. The Committee endorses the Director-General's proposal to ask Administering Authorities to provide UNESCO directly with copies of their reports, so eliminating some delay. But it also believes that UNESCO should point out to the Trusteeship Council the difficulties experienced by UNESCO in making the comments requested by the Council, unless the necessary documents are received in due time.

2. It would be useful for the Secretariat, with the agreement of the Trusteeship Council, to enter into contact with the Administering Authorities, particularly to obtain information on obscure points in the reports. At present it is only possible to raise such points in UNESCO's written comments so that an answer may be given by the representative of the Administering Authorities at the meeting of the Trusteeship Council. It would be preferable for UNESCO to be able to obtain the answers so that account could be taken of them, in the comments, either of the current year or of the following year.

3. In the same connexion the Committee considers that the value of UNESCO's comments would be greatly increased if UNESCO could examine on the spot the educational and social problems mentioned in the reports, should the Trusteeship Council consider it desirable.

I should be grateful if you would be so good as to cause these suggestions to be laid before the Trusteeship Council.

(Signed) Jaime TORRES BODET
