

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



GENERAL

T/PET.11/154
5 November 1951

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ITALIAN

PETITION FROM MR. HAGI IBRAHIM AND OTHERS
CONCERNING SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 84 and supplementary rules F and L of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council, to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority of the Trust Territory of Somaliland, and to the Governments of Colombia, Egypt, and the Philippines as members of the Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 26 September 1951 from Mr. Hagi Ibrahim and others concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration.

This communication was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa.

51-56842

To the Trusteeship Visiting Mission,
Mogadiscio

Merca, 26 September 1951

We, the undersigned farmers, Hagi Ibrahim, Ali Mohamed Benadir, Shek Abdullah Malele, Sceek Omar Dere, Omar Mahad Bidle, Soliman Guled, and Sceek Omar, present the following claim in the hope of obtaining justice in the question stated below:

(1) As land-owners in Ungugi (District of Merca), we find it very difficult to work our land without farm machinery. In spite of the fact that there are many machines at the disposal of the farmers, we were at first asked to pay 60 shillings per hectare for their hire and more recently 120 shillings.

We therefore beg you to intervene in the matter, trusting that the improvement of the lands will bring benefit to all the Somali farmers.

(2) We also transmit to the Visiting Mission a letter from the Resident in answer to our petitions about some land illegally held by several European concessionaires. We solicit the prompt intervention of the Honourable Visiting Mission in order to administer justice. The points brought up by the concessionaires have no real ground and are therefore illegal. These lands claimed by the concessionaires are our property, because we inherited them from our grandfathers.

(3) We have no doubt that this statement will be favourably accepted. We heartily thank you and pay our homage.

Hagi Ibrahim
Ali Mohamed Benadir
Sceek Abdullahi Malele
Sceek Omar Dere
Omar Mahad Bidle
Solimani Guled

/RESIDENCE

RESIDENCE OF MERCA

Reg. Nr. 2987

Merca, 20 July 1951

Subject: Concession of land to Carlo and Wanda Acerbi for a banana plantation
TO: Mr. Ali Mohamed Benadir, Merca, and for the information of the
Commissary Office of the Benadir, Mogadiscio

With reference to your statement of 15 July, this is to inform you that the land whose legal ownership by its concessionaires is contested by you was legitimately granted to Mr. Carlo Acerbi and his wife Wanda Acerbi, the property having been transferred by Governor's Decree No. 16342, dated 10 November 1939.

The fact that this land has not been cultivated within the period of time prescribed in the accompanying act of concession does not invalidate the rights of the concessionaires, since the war and the successive British occupation interrupted the prescribed time-limit.

In the hope that your claim to that piece of land may finally come to an end, I have to inform you that a similar interpretation of the above-mentioned prescribed period of time has already been given by the AFIS in similar cases (for instance: Bassi and Ottaviani).

Finally I call your attention to the fact that, even were Mr. and Mrs. Acerbi to have lost any right they had to that land - a false and absurd hypothesis - the land would revert to the State. So even in this eventuality your claim to the land would be unfounded.

AD/AMK

A. Ducati,
Resident

/Reg. Nr. 3122

Reg. Nr. 3122

Merca, 29 July 1951

Subject: Concession of land to Mr. and Mrs. Carlo and Wanda Acerbi for
a banana plantation

To: Mr. Ali Mohamed Benadir, Merca
and for information to:
The Commissioner of Benadir, Mogadiscio

Reference is made to your statement of 22 July 1951.

I have nothing to add to my letter No. 2987 dated 20 July 1951.

If you consider that your rights have been prejudiced, you can
apply to the court.

AD/AMK

A. Ducati,
Resident

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