

UNITED NATIONS



TRUSTEESHIP
INDEX UNIT
COUNCIL

MAST

29 FEB 1952



INTO

GENERAL

T/PET.11/110
1 November 1951

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ITALIAN

PETITION FROM THE "HISBIA, DIGHIL and MIRIFLE"; MOGADISCIO
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 25 September 1951 from the "Hisbia, Dighil and Mirifle", Mogadiscio 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.

HISBIA, DIGHIL and MIRIFLE
MOGADISCIO

25 September 1951

From the Hisbia, Dighil and Mirifle to the United Nations Visiting Mission

The ranks of our party come from the oldest and most industrious stock of the Somali people and the majority dwell along the two great rivers of Somaliland.

Economically, therefore, we represent the productive population of our country.

Our party served in the CONFERENZA DELLA SOMALIA, withdrawing when, with the coming of the AFIS, we realized that this coalition of parties existed in name only and with the sole purpose of advancing two or three leaders who otherwise would have been unable to attain popular acclaim.

While we appreciate the efforts that the AFIS is making in several fields -- particularly in education and security -- we cannot do other than submit our criticisms to the United Nations, because, with a generous policy of equalitarianism, the AFIS has allowed full play to certain political opposition groups. At the root of these organizations are foreign interests and therefore these organizations are blind to Somali interests and cannot modify their stand. They cannot be won over because they are formed of persons who, while they agitate for extreme nationalism, are totally unproductive because of their belief that work is the inheritance of slaves and freed men. These people do not, therefore, understand the essence of our problems, the basis of which is not political but substantially economic. The AFIS leaves these people free to operate even though they harm the very associations which wanted Italy to return to Somaliland and which on the basis of their past experience expected strict justice, welfare, work and peace.

We ask that the AFIS should forget its political anxieties, which are caused by its yielding to headstrong opposition which should be ignored, and dedicate itself to the cares of the working people and to the political associations which are ready to offer positive collaboration.

/We beg

We beg the United Nations to advise the AFIS to follow a policy of:
Less political concern, which is of little constructive value;
Less fear of opposition prejudiced by, and connected with,
foreign interests and therefore, we repeat, unbending;
Less concern about displeasing an unyielding foe while neglecting
dependable friends;

More material and moral help for the real Somali people, who
deserve that name for their productiveness and good faith;

More benevolence towards those who have deserved it through
the faith they placed in Italy's return as an Administering Power
and who will therefore give their enthusiastic support in forming
that nucleus which in such a short time must become the structure
of a free and independent State;

More respect for the pro-Italian parties, which are now being
neglected for fear of showing non-existent favouritism, with the
result that the essential atmosphere of constructive collaboration
is ruined.

In particular, it would be advisable for the AFIS to give more
consideration to our requests for:

Human rights, especially "equal pay for equal work" for the
Somali military and civilian personnel;

More education, in order to help in the rapid development of a
ruling class in the territory;

Attainment in the shortest possible time of the election of
democratic Councils;

Greater and more complete hospital facilities;

Aid to the Somali trading classes by granting them privileges as
against foreign traders;

Establishment of agricultural credit;

Improvement of animal husbandry through the import of cattle
from other territories;

/Digging

Digging of wells, especially in areas where they are most needed;

Prohibition of persons of different races from holding offices of responsibility in territories where Dighils and Mirifles make up the large majority of the inhabitants.

THE DIRECTIVE COMMITTEE

Issak Boscir Ibrahim, Secretary-General	s/
Abucur Maio Uilio, Vice Secretary	s/
Iman Mohamed, Chairman of the Committee	s/
Iuzuf Ismail, Member	s/
Iusuf Abdio "	s/
Mohamed Ali "	s/
Maddei Cusou "	s/
Hassan Omar "	s/
Kalif Maie Daib "	s/ (in Arabic)
Abdi Maalim Kero "	s/
.....	
Mursal Mohamed, Inspector-General	s/
Ali Ibrahim, Inspector	s/
Hussein Ahmed Ali, President of the Party	s/
Geilani Malak, Vice-President	s/
Mano Ibrahim Chief of the Elai Tribe	s/ (in Arabic)
Mallim Alio " " " Luai "	s/ "
Mallim Ibrahim " " " Harau "	s/ "
Scek Mohamed Osman " " " Beghedi "	s/ "
Abdulcadir Miro " " " Bravano "	s/
Scek Mohamed Abdi " " " Ghenledi"	s/
Abdulle Availe " " " Magnassa"	s/
Aou Mohamed Dinle " " " Dighil "	(fingerprint)