

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP
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14 MAR 1952

GENERAL

T/PET.11/208
14 December 1951

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ARABIC

PETITION FROM THE SOMALI YOUTH LEAGUE, BRANCH OF BENDER BEILA
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 Somali Youth League, Branch of Bender Beila 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.

25 October 1951

To: The United Nations Visiting Mission

From: The people of Bender Beila and the Somali Youth League

We, the inhabitants of Bender Beila, have addressed our complaint to the Administering Authority for Somaliland at Fodojari and especially at Bender Beila, asking for help.

We are seeking your protection because nothing has been done for us.

1. We would like you to know that, to this date, the Somali veterans have not been given their pensions.
2. Schooling has not been started as yet.
3. Hospitals have not been provided.
4. Relief, provided by the United Nations, has not reached the needy, for whom it was intended.
5. Soldiers have not written to their families in our town.
6. No action has been taken to repair roads or provide water or houses in the general interest.
7. Also, from the day the Administering Authority took over, till this date, 25 October 1951, nothing has been done regarding taxes, which have reached the price of a whole sheep.
8. The Administering Authority set up its own party and named its partisans to all public posts, and they rule at their convenience. The local authorities have financed this party to keep the S.Y.L., whose members are dispersed and helpless, in a state of confusion.

We have submitted all these facts and complaints to the Authority here, but they are disregarded.

Now we are begging your Excellencies to ease our hardship and give you our best wishes.