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PETITION FROM THE INTERNATIONAL ABOLITIONIST FEDERATION CONCERNING ALL  
TRUST TERRITORIES EXCEPT SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION  
(T/PET.GENERAL/21)

Observations of the New Zealand Government as Administering Authority  
for the Trust Territory of Western Samoa

The New Zealand authorities have considered the communication of 12 June 1952 from the International Abolitionist Federation, addressed to the President and Members of the Trusteeship Council, on the subject of the traffic in persons and the exploitation of the prostitution of others, and have the following observations to make in respect of Western Samoa.

The petitioners will be aware that in the Trusteeship Agreement for the territory of Western Samoa, New Zealand, as administering authority, has undertaken to apply the provisions of any international conventions and recommendations as drawn up by the United Nations or its specialized agencies which are, in the opinion of the administering authority, appropriate to the needs and conditions of the Trust Territory.

Since the practices dealt with in the international instruments cited in the petition are unknown in the territory, it is not thought necessary or desirable to recommend to the Samoan authorities that they should make any legislative provision for their control additional to that already contained in the Samoa Act.

The Government of New Zealand recognizes its responsibility to safeguard the inhabitants of Western Samoa from these practices, however, and may be relied on to draw the attention of the Samoan Government to the desirability of further preventive legislation should the need arise.

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