



LIMITED

T/COM.7/L.3
14 July 1952

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: FRENCH

COMMUNICATION FROM MR. MENSAN AITHSON CONCERNING
TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with rule 24 and supplementary rule F of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council and in accordance with paragraphs 9 and 10 of the Report of the Committee on Examination of Petitions (T/L.243 and Corr.1) approved by the Trusteeship Council at its 397th meeting, on 13 March 1952, the Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Trusteeship Council and to the Government of Italy as the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Somaliland, a communication dated 10 June 1952 from Mr. Mensan Aithson concerning the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration.

J U V E N T O

COMITE NATIONAL

DEPARTEMENT DE

L'ORGANISATION NATIONALE

23 Rue de l'Alsace-Lorraine, 23

(Togoland-Afr.Occ.) LOME

No. 12/CE/D/DG

Lome, 10 June 1952

Our Reference:

Your Reference:

Subject: Transmission of letter

The National Secretary

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit to you letter No. 10/CE/D/DG addressed directly to the United Nations^{1/} and Nos. 11/CE/D/DG and 57/CI/D/DG which are forwarded for information.

Juvento rests assured that its grievances will receive a just and speedy response from your Organization.

In the service of Togoland, Africa and world peace, we have the honour to be etc.

(Signed) illegible

Mensan AITHSON

Received at United Nations Headquarters on 17 June 1952

1/ Secretariat's Note: See T/PET.6&7/3

To the Secretary-General of the
United Nations

FLUSHING MEADOW
(New York, U.S.A.)

/J U V E N T O

J U V E N T O

COMITE NATIONAL

DEPARTEMENT DE L'ORGANISATION NATIONALE

23, rue de l'Alsace-Lorraine, 23
(Togoland-Afr.Occ.) LOME

No. 11/CE/D/DG

Lome, 9 June 1952

Your Reference:

Our Reference:

Subject: JOINT COUNCIL

Sir,

The Commissaire de la Republique, in his letter No. 49/AD/AP of 20 May 1952, informs us that the Department orders that the elections to the Joint Council shall take place through the Territorial Assembly on the one hand and through the conseils de circonscription on the other. The Department must, however, be aware, as we are, of the resolutions adopted on the subject by the United Nations General Assembly at its last session in Paris. In addition, unless Commissaires de la Republique are entitled to act in the Trust Territories without consulting or informing the Ministry, we assume that the Government of Eastern Togoland has communicated to the Department the file of the correspondence exchanged between certain local groups and itself on the subject of the Joint Council.

For these reasons, we have the honour to write to you, asking you to inform us:

1. Of the exact meaning of the San Francisco Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement signed by France, in so far it concerns, in particular, the administration of Eastern Togoland and the views of its people;
2. Of the exact weight given in French policy, to the proceedings of the United Nations under the terms of the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement;
3. Of the reason for the Department's instructions as cited in letter No. 49/AD/AP from the Commissaire de la Republique, IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT THE OUTGOING COMMISSAIRE HAD ASKED CERTAIN LOCAL GROUPS FOR THEIR SUGGESTIONS.

/For our

For our part:

1. We request the Administering Powers to fulfil their mission in Togoland by treating the Togolandese like human beings and INDIGENOUS INHABITANTS IN THEIR OWN COUNTRY.
2. We strongly protest against the dilatory and arbitrary measures taken by the Administering Powers with regard to the Joint Council
3. We refuse to recognize the Council and its work so long as the suggestions of the Togolandese have not prevailed in its formation.

In the service of Togoland, Africa, and world peace, we have the honour to be etc.

The National Secretary

(signed) illegible

Mensan AITHSON

The National President

(signed)

Ben APALOO

To the Minister for Overseas France

Paris

/J U V E N T O

J U V E N T O

Lome, 8 June 1952

COMITE NATIONAL

DEPARTEMENT DE L'ORGANISATION NATIONALE

23, rue de l'Alsace-Lorraine, 23
(Togoland-Afr.Occ.) LOME

No. 57/CI/D/DG

Your reference: Your communication
No. AD/AP of 20 May 1952 to the
Territorial Assembly

Our Reference:

Subject: Joint Council

Sir,

In its resolution dated 18 January 1952, adopted by a large majority at its last session at the Palais de Chaillot in Paris, the United Nations General Assembly advocated that the Administrrating Authorities should consult the political parties and other local groups, on procedures for the elections to the JOINT COUNCIL.

By letter of 23 February, your predecessor Mr. Yves DIGO, in conformity with the United Nations resolution, had consulted certain local groups on the matter. It is true that on that occasion the Commissaire de la Republique had forgotten the JUVENTO, but when we drew his attention to the omission, in our letter of 27 February, he asked us to communicate our suggestions to him. In reply JUVENTO suggested inter alia, universal suffrage and the designation of an equal number of representatives for the two parts of Togoland. In short, we considered that in principle he had, at least to some extent, conformed to the United Nations recommendation and we were patiently awaiting the outcome of the consultations when, Mr. Digo having left without announcing any decision, your letter No.49/AD/AP to the Assembly came, with its unexpected conditions.

We therefore have the honour to write to you to enquire:

1. whether the files left by your predecessor do not contain any trace of a file of correspondence of the people of Togoland with the Government on the subject of the Joint Council.
2. if they do not, whether you do not agree with us that Mr. Digo did not deserve the confidence of the people of Togoland.
3. if they do, whether the recommendations of the United Nations and the opinions of the people of Togoland carry no weight with the Administering Powers.

/We strongly

We strongly protest against the situation and declare that we shall never recognize the Joint Council or its proceedings, so long as the suggestions of the Togoland people have not prevailed in its election.

Lastly, we remain firmly convinced, as events have proved and the future will continue to prove, that anything instituted in this country without consulting or in opposition to the views of the indigenous youth, will inevitably end in failure and destruction.

In the service of Togoland, Africa and world peace, we have the honour to be etc.

NATIONAL SECRETARY

(signed) Illegible

Mensan AITHSON

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

(signed) Illegible

Ben APALOO

To Monsieur PECHOUX, Governor of Overseas France
Commissaire de la Republique au Togoland Oriental

LOME
