



UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



Distr.  
LIMITED

T/C.1/L.50  
3 January 1958

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
ADMINISTRATIVE UNIONS

RESULTS OF THE 1957 LONDON CONFERENCE ON THE NIGERIAN CONSTITUTION  
AND SUBSEQUENT IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS MAJOR DECISIONS

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

A. Introduction

1. In its report of 28 March 1957, the Standing Committee noted that a representative conference to review the provisions of the present constitutional arrangements introduced by the Nigeria (Constitution) Order in Council, 1954, which was originally scheduled to be held in London in 1956, was likely to take place later in 1957 (T/L.741, page 3).
2. It will be recalled that the 1954 Order in Council was based on the proposals made by a similar conference convened in 1953. The Order provided for a federal constitution in Nigeria with specific powers vested in the Federal Government, certain powers held concurrently by the Federal and the three Regional Governments (including that of the Northern Region with which the Northern Cameroons is administered), and residuary powers resting with the three Regional Governments. Provisions were also made that the Southern Cameroons obtained a "quasi-federal status" and that Lagos became federal territory.<sup>1/</sup>
3. The 1953 Conference agreed to hold another conference within three years for the purpose of reviewing this constitution and examining the question of self-government. It also accepted a declaration of policy that in 1956 the United Kingdom Government would grant full self-government to those regions desiring it in respect of all regional matters, with the reservation of safeguards for the exercise of its functions by the Federal Government.<sup>2/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Report by the Nigerian Constitutional Conference held in London in May and June 1957 (Cmd. 207), p. 5. For details regarding the 1954 Order in Council, see T/C.1/L.43.

<sup>2/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 5-6.

4. The proposed conference eventually met in London in May and June 1957. It was attended by ten delegates and five advisors from each region of the Federation and five delegates and three advisors from the Southern Cameroons, chosen by their respective governments "in such a manner as to ensure adequate representation of all shades of political opinion in the Federation".<sup>1/</sup>
5. The principal conclusions and recommendations of the 1957 Conference affecting the Trust Territory of the Cameroons are presented in the present paper. The first section contains information on the question of independence for the Federation of Nigeria. The future position of the Cameroons when Nigeria becomes independent is next described. The following section presents the proposed changes in regard to the structure of the Federal Government, and an account is then given of the recommendations for further constitutional development in the Northern Region and the Southern Cameroons. This account is followed by an outline of certain changes concerning the matters on which the Federal Government and the regional governments may legislate. References are also made to the decisions to establish special commissions to investigate certain other important matters and the procedure to be followed in considering matters outstanding from the present conference. Finally some constitutional developments since the closing of the conference are noted.

B. Question of independence for the Federation of Nigeria

6. The Conference arrived at no definite date on which the independence of the Federation of Nigeria would be attained. At the opening of the Conference, the three Regional Premiers and the Leader of Government Business in the Southern Cameroons had asked that the United Kingdom Government should undertake to grant independence to the Federation in 1959. In a series of statements made at the Conference the United Kingdom Secretary of State for the Colonies indicated that no such undertaking could be given, "although his Government stood as firmly as any one in Nigeria behind the proclaimed objective of full self-government for Nigeria within the British Commonwealth". He stated that the strain of regional self-government was yet to be taken and that it would be necessary, for the picture to become clearer, to await the reports of the minorities Commission to see whether any more States would be created, and also of the fiscal commission which would have much contentious business to settle (see paras. 35-38 below).

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<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, p. 5.

On the understanding, reached during the conference, that the new Nigerian Parliament to be elected in 1959-60 would debate a resolution asking her Majesty's Government to agree to full self-government within the British Commonwealth by a date in 1960, the Secretary of State stated that his Government would do its utmost to meet the resolution in a reasonable and practicable manner, but that it could not at the present stage give any undertaking that the date would be the same date as asked for in that resolution.<sup>1/</sup>

7. In expressing disappointment at this statement of the Secretary of State, the three Regional Premiers and the Leader of Government Business in the Southern Cameroons jointly declared that the year 1959 had been unanimously proposed by the people of Nigeria. They themselves had given consideration to a date in 1960 only because they appreciated that the solution to the various problems that must be disposed of before independence would take longer time than they had thought. Having gone thus far on the path of reason and realism, they had thought that the Secretary of State would accede to their united wishes. In the circumstances, they felt that they could do no more than take note of the Secretary of State's statement, while reserving the right to pursue the issue further with a view to impressing upon Her Majesty's Government the necessity for granting independence to the Federation of Nigeria not later than 2 April 1960.<sup>2/</sup>

C. Future position of the Cameroons when Nigeria becomes independent

8. The Secretary of State, after a series of separate discussions with the delegates from the Southern Cameroons, issued a statement of which the conference took note, concerning the future position of the Cameroons when Nigeria becomes independent.

9. Following is the text of this statement:

"Her Majesty's Government fully recognize their obligations to the Cameroons under the Trusteeship Agreement.

"One of these obligations has been and is to administer the territory as an integral part of Nigeria. This has of course been on the assumption that Nigeria was a dependent territory. When Nigeria becomes an independent country, this arrangement will no longer be possible so the Trusteeship Agreement will in any case have to be reviewed at that stage.

<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 24-26.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., p. 27.

"When Nigeria becomes independent one possibility would be that the Cameroons should remain part of it. This would involve the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and would require consultation with the United Nations. I can state quite categorically that there can be no question of obliging the Cameroons to remain part of an independent Nigeria contrary to her own wishes.

"Before Nigeria becomes independent the people of the North and South sectors of the Cameroons would have to say freely what their wishes were as to their own future. Among the options open to them would be to continue under the Trust Administration of the United Kingdom. I must in fairness add the warning that you would not thereby be given the golden key to the Bank of England! But many of the best friends of the Cameroons do not foresee a destiny more likely to promote her happiness and prosperity than in continued association with Nigeria.

"Her Majesty's Government will of course pay the very greatest regard to their views, whatever form they may take." 1/

10. During the Conference, the delegate from the Northern Cameroons stated that he wished to reaffirm the decision which the Northern Cameroons had taken in 1953 to remain part of the Northern Region.<sup>2/</sup>

D. Structure of the Federal Government

11. On the Federal level, the recommendations made by the Conference involved the immediate establishment of an office of Prime Minister of the Federation and an "all-Nigerian" (except for the presence of the Governor-General) Council of Ministers; and the establishment in 1959-1960 of a fully elected and enlarged House of Representatives and of a second new legislative house to be called the Senate. Apart from the specific changes agreed to by the Conference, the Governor-General's powers would remain unchanged until independence.<sup>3/</sup>

(a) Executive branch of the Federal Government

12. It was agreed that an office of Prime Minister of the Federation should be created; the Prime Minister would be appointed by the Governor-General as being the person who appeared to him to be able to command a majority in the House of Representatives. The Governor-General's powers would remain substantially unaltered until independence. He would retain his reserved executive and legislative powers;

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1/ Cmd. 207, p. 30.

2/ Ibid., p. 32.

3/ Ibid., pp. 15-19.



would continue to preside over the Council of Ministers; would, in particular, be responsible for defence and external affairs. But the present ex-officio members of the Council (the Chief Secretary, the Attorney-General and the Financial Secretary) would cease to be members. Otherwise, there would continue to be at least ten other members of the Council other than the Prime Minister, at least one of whom would continue to be drawn from the members of the House of Representatives elected in the Southern Cameroons.<sup>1/</sup>

(b) Composition of the House of Representatives

13. Apart from the withdrawal of the three ex-officio members from the House of Representatives it was understood among the delegations of the major political parties that the present House of Representatives should run its full course until the end of 1959. The House of Representatives established under the 1954 constitution consists, apart from the three ex-officio members now withdrawn, of a Speaker, 184 elected representative members and not more than six special members appointed by the Governor-General to represent interests not otherwise adequately represented. After the dissolution of the present house, the House of Representatives would be composed of 320 members, elected by universal adult suffrage except in the Northern Region where the vote would be restricted to adult males.<sup>2/</sup> The Secretary of State assumed that the federal elections might be held during the dry season of 1959/1960.

(c) Establishment of Senate

14. A second house, the Senate, would also be established, composed of twelve members from each region and from the Southern Cameroons nominated by the Governments concerned; four members from Lagos; four special members appointed by the Governor-General acting in his discretion; and the President of the Senate, if he were elected from outside it. The members of the Council of Ministers who were members of the House of Representatives would also sit in the Senate but would have no vote.<sup>3/</sup> The representation of the Southern Cameroons in the Senate would be reconsidered if new States were created as a result of the report of the Minorities Commission (see para. 33 below).<sup>4/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 17-19.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., pp. 16, 19 and 25; T/C.1/L.43, pp. 14 and 17-18.

<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., p. 15.

<sup>4/</sup> Ibid., p. 32.

E. Constitutional arrangements for the three Regions and the Southern Cameroons

(a) Western and Eastern Regions

15. As stated in paragraph 3 above, the United Kingdom had given in 1953 an undertaking that it would grant in 1956 full self-government to those regions desiring it in respect of all regional matters. The Secretary of State informed the present conference that he would take steps forthwith to implement this undertaking as requested by the Western and Eastern Regional Governments.<sup>1/</sup>

(b) Northern Region (including Northern Cameroons)

16. The Northern People's Congress delegates representing the Northern Region, of which the Northern Cameroons is administered as a part, did not propose to ask for self-government before 1959. The conference agreed that at that date self-government should be introduced in the Northern Region on the patterns agreed to for the Western and Eastern Regions, with any necessary modifications, and that in the meantime certain interim changes should be made in the Constitution of the Northern Region. The interim changes to be introduced would provide for an increase in executive responsibilities for the Northern Ministers, an expansion of regional legislative houses, and the establishment of a Council of chiefs and for each Province a Provincial administration.<sup>2/</sup>

17. The Conference recommended the following proposals for these changes:

- (i) Until 1959, when full self-government would be given to the Northern Region, the Governor and the Attorney-General would remain members of the Executive Council; otherwise, Northern Ministers would take over all portfolios and consequently the Civil Secretary and the Financial Secretary (at present the other two ex-officio members of the Council) would cease to be members. Besides the Governor and the Attorney-General, the Executive Council would consist of not less than twelve members of the House of Assembly, one of whom would be Premier, and not less than two or more than four members of the House of Chiefs.

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<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 6-14.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., pp. 11-12.

- (ii) In the next House of Assembly of the Northern Region, the number of elected representatives would be increased, but the provision that there should be special members would remain as requested by the Northern Region delegates. The House would consist of a President, the Attorney-General, 170 in place of 131 elected members, and five special members. The other legislative house, the House of Chiefs, would also be increased in size and would consist of all first-class chiefs, forty-seven in place of thirty-seven chiefs other than first-class chiefs selected from their own number under regulations made by the Governor-General, and an adviser on Muslim law. The Members of the Executive Council who are members of the House of Assembly would be able to attend meetings of the House of Chiefs but would have no power to vote. The President and Deputy President of the House of Chiefs would be appointed by the Governor in Council from among the Members of the House of Chiefs.
- (iii) There would be two other important innovations in the North. First, a Council of Chiefs would be established with power to approve the appointment, recognition, grading and deposition of chiefs and the removal from any part of the region to another of chiefs whether as chiefs or as members of Native Authorities. The council would be composed of the Governor, not less than two nor more than four chiefs from the Executive Council, the Premier and four other chiefs from among the Members of the House of Chiefs. Secondly, the Governor in Council would be empowered by Instrument under Public Seal to constitute for each province a provincial administration consisting of a provincial council and a provincial authority to perform such functions as might be specified in the Instrument. The chairman of the provincial authority would be a Regional Government official; he would be the chief executive officer of the authority and would be styled Provincial Administrator.<sup>1/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 11-12; T/C.1/L.43, pp. 19, 21 and 55-56.

(c) Southern Cameroons

18. The recommended changes in the Constitution of the Southern Cameroons included designation of a Premier, creation of an unofficial majority in the Executive Council, enlargement of the elected membership of the House of Assembly and establishment of a House of Chiefs.<sup>1/</sup>
19. The term "Quasi-Federal Territory", used to describe this part of the Trust Territory under the 1954 Constitution, would be dropped and the Territory would be known as the Southern Cameroons.<sup>2/</sup>
20. In view of the Governor-General's position as the principal representative of Her Majesty in the Federation and his special responsibilities in relation to the United Kingdom Government's obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement, the Governor-General would remain responsible for matters within the competence of the Southern Cameroons Government. In discharging those responsibilities, he would be styled High Commissioner for the Southern Cameroons. The Commissioner of the Cameroons would remain responsible to the High Commissioner.<sup>3/</sup>
21. The Commissioner of the Cameroons would remain President of the Southern Cameroons Executive Council and there would continue to be three ex-officio members. The number of unofficial members would, however, be increased from four to five thereby creating an unofficial majority, of whom one would be styled Premier and the others Ministers. The High Commissioner would be able to increase the number of Ministers following a recommendation from the Commissioner after consultation with the Executive Council. Ministers would be appointed by the Commissioner on the recommendation of the Premier.<sup>4/</sup>
22. Under the proposed constitutional arrangements, the present Executive Council would become the principal instrument of policy. However, the Commissioner of the Cameroons would have reserved executive powers similar to those of Regional Governors under the 1954 Constitution, with the addition that he would be required to comply with any directions given him by the High Commissioner (the Governor-General of the Federation of Nigeria - see para. 20 above) in the interests of the Federation or because of the United Kingdom Government's responsibilities under the Trusteeship Agreement.<sup>5/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 31-32.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., pp. 5 and 31.

<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., p. 31.

<sup>4/</sup> Ibid., T/C.1/L.43, p. 60.

<sup>5/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 31-32.



23. The elected membership of the Southern Cameroons House of Assembly would be increased from thirteen to twenty-six. The three ex-officio members would remain and there would continue to be provision for two special members to represent interests or communities not otherwise adequately represented. There would, however, be no Native Authority members as at present. The Commissioner would be empowered, after consultation with the Premier, to appoint a Speaker, either from within or without the House, who would normally preside. The Commissioner would continue to preside until a Speaker was appointed.<sup>1/</sup>

24. In addition to the House of Assembly, a House of Chiefs would be established consisting of approximately twenty members, but in any event of not less than three members from each division. The Commissioner, after enquiry and consultation with those concerned, would determine the number of members and their method of selection and would establish the House of Chiefs as soon as practicable. Its functions would be to consider and, by resolution, to advise on any question referred to it by the Commissioner or any matter introduced by a member. The House would consider proposed legislation and other important matters of policy, and its resolutions would be laid on the table of the House of Assembly when it would be open to the Government or any member of that House to take them up. Members of the Executive Council would be entitled to attend the House of Chiefs, but not to vote. The life of the House of Chiefs would be coterminous with that of the House of Assembly and, at least initially, the Commissioner would preside.<sup>2/</sup>

F. Division of legislative functions between the Federal and Regional Governments

25. Certain changes were recommended by the conference in the assignment of matters on legislative lists defining the legislative competence of the Federal Government and the regional Governments respectively. The 1954 Constitution contains two legislative lists: the exclusive list and the concurrent list. The former sets out all matters for which the Federal Government alone is responsible, while the latter includes those matters on which either the Federal or the Regional Governments can legislate. Matters appearing on neither list and termed "residual"

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<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, p. 31; T/C.1/L.43, p. 26.

<sup>2/</sup> Cmd. 207, p. 31.

rest with the regions. The legislative authority of the Southern Cameroons House of Assembly is similar to that of the regions and the House may consequently legislate on matters on the concurrent list and on residual matters.<sup>1/</sup>

26. Matters appearing on the exclusive legislative list under the 1954 Constitution include the accounts and public debt of the Federation; borrowing of monies outside Nigeria; banks and banking; currency, customs and excise duties; exchange control; taxes on income and profits except on Africans; aviation; maritime shipping and navigation; railways; trunk roads; posts, telegraphs and telephones; mines and minerals; the public service of the Federation; defence and such external relations as may be entrusted to the Federation by the United Kingdom Government; certain higher educational institutions; police; and matters concerning aliens, citizenship, deportation and immigration and emigration.<sup>2/</sup>

27. The main items appearing on the concurrent list include commercial and industrial monopolies, combines and trusts, electricity, gas and water power; higher education except in the institutions listed in the exclusive list; industrial development; scientific and industrial research; labour; prisons and the maintenance of public safety and order.<sup>3/</sup>

28. One of the more important changes recommended by the 1957 Conference concerned banks and banking. While the Federal Government would continue to have exclusive responsibility for central banking matters and exclusive powers of legislation and supervision, the regional governments would be permitted to own or participate in commercial banks.<sup>4/</sup>

29. After lengthy discussion on the item "police, including bureaux of intelligence and investigation", appearing on the present exclusive list, the conference approved a number of principles governing the organization, control, operation and development of the police force in Nigeria. It recognized that the Federal and Regional Governments would always have a concurrent responsibility for law and order throughout the Federation and that after independence the ultimate responsibility for this, at present vested in the Secretary of State,

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1/ Cmd. 207, p. 5; T/C.1/L.43, pp. 33-34.

2/ T/C.1/L.43, pp. 99-101.

3/ Ibid., pp. 101-102.

4/ Cmd. 207, p. 19.

would be inherited by the Federal Government. It further agreed that, in the meantime, this item should be transferred from the exclusive to the concurrent legislative list with the proviso that the legislature of any region should not enact any law in pursuance of this item unless the Secretary of State had, after consultation with all the Nigerian Governments, decided that regions should set up their own forces.<sup>1/</sup>

30. In the discussion on the items "electricity" and "gas", at present appearing on the concurrent list, the Conference agreed that constitutional provision should be made for either the Federal or the regional governments and the Southern Cameroons Government to legislate (other than on natural gas) but that the Federal legislature should not prohibit or restrict the establishment of regional agencies or regulate the production, distribution or supply of electricity or gas.<sup>2/</sup>

31. It was agreed that industrial development should remain on the concurrent list and assurance was given that the Federal Government would do nothing to handicap a regional industrial undertaking and would encourage all industrial development, both regional and federal, and use to the best advantage the resources of the country.<sup>3/</sup>

32. It was decided to add certain matters to the exclusive list such as marriage and matrimonial causes other than marriage and divorce under Muslim or other customary law; insurance other than insurance undertaken by a regional government; and certain technical matters. The census was transferred to the concurrent list. To the list of professions, qualifications for which are a concurrent matter auditors and accountants would be added. A central film censorship board and regional boards were also recommended. Insurance would be deleted from the concurrent list.<sup>4/</sup>

#### G. Establishment of special commissions

33. The Conference recommended that certain other important matters should be the object of investigations by special commissions which should be established. An electoral delimitation commission would be charged with making recommendations

<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 19-20 and 23-24.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., p. 21.

<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., pp. 21-22.

<sup>4/</sup> Ibid., pp. 19, 20 and 22.

for the division of the Federation into 320 electoral districts; a permanent electoral Commission would be established to prepare the Federal electoral register, conduct Federal elections and make periodic review of constituency boundaries after each census; and an Electoral Committee would draft electoral regulations for the Federation.<sup>1/</sup> A Minorities Commission would be appointed to enquire into the "fears of minorities in any part of Nigeria" with the possible outcome of the creation of new states.<sup>2/</sup> A Commission would be set up to enquire into the functions of the Central Marketing Board and to recommend what changes, if any, should be made in the present arrangements.<sup>3/</sup>

#### Fiscal Commission

34. The Conference also recommended the appointment of a Fiscal Commission to carry out a financial review. The Nigeria (Constitution) Order in Council, 1954, provides that each Region of Nigeria, including the Northern Region, should be paid by the Federal Government a specified percentage of the proceeds of certain taxes and duties which the Federal Government alone is empowered to levy, in addition to other sources of revenue derived by it from within that Region. The Southern Cameroons Government should receive from the Federal Government a sum equal to an annual surplus of revenue attributable to the Southern Cameroons over expenditure incurred by the Federation in respect of that Territory.<sup>4/</sup>

35. The Fiscal Commission would be required by its terms of reference to make recommendations both of a short-term nature and for long-term policy. As a matter of urgency it would be required to determine, pending the submission of its final report, the extent (if any) to which, as an interim measure, the provisions of the 1954 Constitution for the allocation of revenue should be varied so as to reflect more accurately the principles to which they were designed to give

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<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, pp. 16-17.

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid., pp. 13-14.

<sup>3/</sup> Ibid., p. 33.

<sup>4/</sup> T/C.1/L.43, pp. 70-74. The level of the constitutional grant from the Federal Government has not in itself provided sufficiently stable revenues for the Southern Cameroons. Therefore the Federal Government, by means of a resolution passed by the Federal House of Representatives in April 1955, has agreed that if the sum payable to the Southern Cameroons, together with any share of the profit of the Cameroons Development Corporation, amounted to less than £580,000 in each of the three financial years ending in 1958, the Federal Government would advance the difference. The difference totalling £480,000, as shown in the 1956-57 Estimates, was to be financed by the Federal Government (Annual Report for 1956, pp. 38 and 166).



effect.<sup>1/</sup> The provisions were based on the importance of ensuring that the total revenue available to Nigeria were allocated in such a way that the principle of derivation was followed to the fullest degree compatible with meeting the reasonable needs of the Centre and of each Region.<sup>2/</sup>

36. The Commission would also be required to undertake a more general examination of the present fiscal arrangement and would be asked first to review the present division of powers to levy taxation and the present system of allocation of the revenue. In doing so, the Commission would be asked to keep in mind the desirability of securing that the maximum possible proportion of the income of the Regional Governments should be within the exclusive power of those Governments to levy and collect and, where the independent revenues are insufficient and while bearing in mind the Federal Government's own needs, of allocating further Federal revenue to the various Governments not only for their immediate needs but also for their expansion. These allocations, it may be noted, would be made, not as previously on the principle of derivation, but on that of best serving "the overall interests of the Federation as a whole". The Commission would be asked to make the examination in the light of the experience of the system to date and the allocations of functions between the Governments in the Federation as agreed at the 1957 Conference.<sup>3/</sup>

37. The Commission would be asked, secondly, to consider what fiscal arrangements would be most appropriate for the Southern Cameroons including whether the Territory should be treated as a region for the purposes of revenue allocation. It would also be asked to advise on the extent to which additional financial assistance might be required to meet the immediate needs of that Territory and to provide for a reasonable degree of expansion, and to indicate the form which the assistance should take.<sup>4/</sup>

38. Finally, the Commission would be required to consider the adequacy of present arrangements for co-ordination of loan policies, governmental borrowings and capital issues, having regard to the decision to set up a Nigerian central bank and a Nigerian currency at an early date.<sup>5/</sup>

<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, p. 29.

<sup>2/</sup> Report of the Fiscal Commissioner on the Financial Effects of the Proposed New Constitutional Arrangements, December, 1953, (Cmd. 9026), p. 3.

<sup>3/</sup> Cmd. 207, p. 28.

<sup>4/</sup> Idem.

<sup>5/</sup> Ibid., p. 29.

## H. Future procedure

39. Since, as a result of the recommendations, a number of commissions and similar bodies would be set up and since certain items of business had been left unfinished, the Conference agreed that it would be desirable for the Governor-General to convene an ad hoc meeting in Lagos to consider the reports of the committees set up to consider proposals for an electoral law for the Federation and to enquire into the functions of the Central Marketing Board. The Conference also agreed in principle that a resumed conference should take place to consider the reports of the Minorities Commission and the Fiscal Commission, and other matters then outstanding from the present Conference.<sup>1/</sup>

## I. Implementation of recommendations of the Constitutional Conference

### (a) Council of Ministers of the Federation

40. The amendments to the Nigeria (Constitution) Order in Council, 1954, relating to the Council of Ministers of the Federation, based on the recommendations of the 1957 Constitutional Conference, came into effect on 30 August 1957.<sup>2/</sup> On that date, the existing Council was dissolved and Alhaji Abubakar Tafawa Balewa, a former Minister of Transport and a member of the majority Northern Peoples' Congress (NPC) in the House of Representatives, was appointed the first Prime Minister of the Federation. Subsequently he formed an "all-Nigerian" (except for the presence of the Governor-General) Council of Ministers. The Minister representing the Southern Cameroons is Mr. Victor E. Mukete.<sup>3/</sup>

### (b) Legislative powers

41. The Nigeria (Constitution) (Amendment No. 2) Order in Council, 1957, contains provisions implementing the decisions reached at the London Conference

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<sup>1/</sup> Cmd. 207, p. 33.

<sup>2/</sup> Nigeria (Constitution) (Amendment No. 2) Order in Council, 1957; Nigeria (Offices of Governor-General and Governors) (Amendment) Order in Council, 1957; Additional Instructions to the Governor-General. These constitutional instruments are published in Supplement to the Federation of Nigeria Official Gazette Extraordinary No. 48, Vol. 44, 30 August 1957.

<sup>3/</sup> Federation of Nigeria Official Gazette Extraordinary No. 49, Vol. 44, 2 September 1957.

concerning powers of the legislatures of the Federation, the three Regions and the Southern Cameroons.<sup>1/</sup>

(c) Other reforms affecting the Trust Territory

42. The Nigeria (Constitution) (Amendment No. 2) Order in Council, 1957, amends the 1954 Constitution with a view to implementing the recommendation of the Constitutional Conference that the Executive Council of the Northern Region should consist of the Governor, the Attorney-General, not less than twelve members of the House of Assembly, one of whom should be Premier and not less than two nor more than four members of the House of Chiefs.<sup>2/</sup> It was announced on 6 September 1957 that the Governor of the Northern Region had charged members of the new Executive Council with ministerial responsibilities, among whom are Abba M. Habib, a Northern Cameroonian who was formerly Minister for Northern Cameroons Affairs and Works and now becomes Minister of Trade and Industry; and Abdullahi dan Buram Jada, Minister of Animal Health and Forestry and Minister for Northern Cameroons Affairs.<sup>3/</sup>

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<sup>1/</sup> Supplement to the Federation of Nigeria Official Gazette Extraordinary No. 48, Vol. 44, 30 August 1957.

<sup>2/</sup> Idem.

<sup>3/</sup> Northern Region of Nigeria Gazette Extraordinary No. 45, Vol. 6, 7 September 1957.