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PETITIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY OF
SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Draft Report of the Standing Committee on Petitions

Chairman: Mr. Michel de Camaret (France)

Table of Contents

Note by the Secretariat: In order to avoid unnecessary duplication of material which has been already circulated in mimeographed form, the present draft report contains only the material to be added to that contained in the Secretariat working paper (T/C.2/L.232) and the draft resolutions. The original material should be considered as forming part of the draft, except where otherwise indicated.7

1. At its 365th, 366th and meetings on 4 June and 1956, the Standing Committee on Petitions, composed of the representatives of Belgium, Burma, China, France, the United Kingdom and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, examined the petitions concerning the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration which are listed in the preceding table of contents.
2. Mr. V. Zadotti participated in the examination as the special representative of the Administering Authority concerned.
3. The Standing Committee submits herewith to the Council its report on these petitions and recommends, in accordance with rule 90, paragraph 6, of the Council's rules of procedure, that the Council decide that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolution

- I. Petitions from the "Associazione ex-Militari Combattenti della Somalia" (T/PET.11/615, T/COM.11/L.238 and Add.1 and 2) and from Mr. Mohamed Warsama Mohamud and others (T/COM.11/L.237)
12. In a vaguely worded letter (T/COM.11/L.237) dated 28 October 1955 and addressed to the Advisory Council, Mr. Mohamed Warsama Mohamud (who also signed T/PET.11/592 and Add.1), and a number of other ex-servicemen express confidence that the Advisory Council will study with fairness and justice the questions of the rights of ex-servicemen. They maintain that administration continues to treat their claims, which they do not define, with indifference and lack of care.
13. The petitioners complain that the administration is trying to divide the ex-servicemen and is falsely alleging that they are a political party. The petitioners state that Mr. Abdullah Mohamed (author of T/PET.11/615, T/COM.11/L.238 etc. and Chairman of the "Associazione ex-Militari combattenti della Somalia") is working against their interests. They therefore do not recognize him as their leader.
14. On 17 May 1956, the Committee decided to apply the established procedure for the examination of petitions to this letter, which had been circulated in the first instance as a communication. [The observations of the Administering Authority on this petition are not yet available, but it appears that the substance has already been covered by other petitions on which the observations of the Administering Authority are available, as well as by the supplementary information (T/OBS.11/76), which the Administering Authority has furnished on the action taken on Trusteeship Council resolution 1289 (XVI) on previous petitions dealing with the claims of ex-servicemen.]
15. These petitions were examined and discussed at the 365th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.365 and).
16. The Egyptian member of the Advisory Council for Somaliland denied that there was any basis to the allegation contained in T/COM.11/L.238/Add.2 to the effect that the Advisory Council had not been impartial in its treatment of representatives of all political parties.
17. The special representative stated:
- (i) that approximately 31,000 ex-servicemen had received arrears in pay up to September 1947; that the three-year period which had been fixed for the submission of claims had now elapsed and that the question could not be reopened;

- (ii) that the administration was doing its utmost to accelerate the adoption of a pension scheme by the Italian Government on behalf of approximately 500 persons considered eligible for such a pension according to the findings of the Commission for Assistance to Somali ex-Servicemen, appointed by virtue of administrative decree No. 142 of 20 September 1954;
- (iii) that, pending the adoption of such legislation on pensions, the administration had thought it necessary to suggest to the leaders of the two ex-servicemen's associations the establishment, as an interim relief measure, of an agricultural co-operative and of a farm settlement. To date, no reply had been received to this offer by the administration;
- (iv) that assistance has been given meanwhile to many individual cases;
- (v) that the administration is always prepared to bring assistance to orphans of servicemen who died during the war, when details of their number and whereabouts are made known to it as well as to all other orphans in the Territory.

18. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution I, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

I. Petitions from the "Associazione ex-Militari Combattenti della Somali" (T/PET.11/615, T/COM.11/L.238 and Add.1 and 2) and from Mr. Mohamed Warsama Mohamud and others (T/COM.11/L.237)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petitions from the "Associazione ex-Militari Combattenti della Somalia" and from Mr. Mohamed Warsama Mohamud and others concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/615, T/COM.11/L.238 and Add.1 and 2, and T/COM.11/L.237, T/OBS.11/75 and 76 and T/L.)

1. Recalling its resolution 1289 (XVI);
2. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statements of its special representative, in particular that the period of three years fixed by the administration for the submission of claims for payment of arrears in pay has now elapsed and that the question cannot be reopened;
3. Notes with appreciation the manner in which the Administering Authority has brought assistance to needy ex-servicemen and realizes that the present state of economic development in the Territory and the heavy financial burden that would be involved do not permit the Administering Authority to envisage pensions for all ex-servicemen;
4. Expresses the hope, however, that the adoption of a pension scheme by the Italian Government for disabled Somali ex-servicemen will be accelerated;
5. Welcomes the interim relief measures suggested by the administration in the form of an agricultural co-operative and of a farm settlement, and strongly invites ex-servicemen in need of help to participate in such schemes;
6. Notes the Administering Authority's constant readiness to bring assistance to needy orphans in the Territory; and
7. Expresses the hope, further, that the Administering Authority will take the necessary steps to settle finally the problem of ex-servicemen.

II. Petition from the "Associazione appartenenti al Corpo di Polizia Somala in Congedo" (T/PET.11/592 and Add.1)

20. The petition was examined and discussed at the 365th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.365 and).

21. The special representative stated that the "Associazione appartenenti al Corpo di Polizia Somala in Congedo" represents only a small number of persons who were dismissed from the Police Force for disciplinary reasons. He added that the administration was quite satisfied with the job done by the carabinieri in Somaliland. The special representative also emphasized that the change of administration in the Territory did not involve any change in the personnel serving with the Police Force.

22. The special representative said that there was a special orphanage and school for children of ex-policemen in Mogadiscio.

23. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution II, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

II. Petition from the "Associazione appartenenti al Corpo di Polizia Somala in Congedo"
(T/PET.11/592 and Add.1)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from the "Associazione appartenenti al Corpo di Polizia Somala in Congedo" concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/592 and Add.1, T/OBS.11/77, T/L.)

1. Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its special representative, in particular (i) that the change of administration in the Territory did not involve any change in the personnel serving with the Police Force; and (ii) that there exists in Mogadiscio a special orphanage and school for children of ex-policemen;

2. Notes that the complaints are of a general nature and that no further action is called for.

III. Petition from Mr. Barre Omar and others (T/PET.11/550)

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 365th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.365 and).

6. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution III, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

III. Petition from Mr. Barre Omar and others (T/PET.11/550)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Barre Omar and others concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/550, T/OBS.11/65, T/L.)

Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular that the applications for assistance which were received from ex-servicemen in Afmado had to be rejected by the District Commissioner, on the basis of a report from the Commission, set up on 20 September 1954, to examine such applications.

IV. Petitions from Mr. Kaidi Sabrieh (T/PET.11/556) and Hajj Mohammed Jami Abd (T/PET.11/557)

6. These petitions were examined and discussed at the 366th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.366 and).

7. The special representative stated that, although the leaders of the two ex-servicemen's associations had been contacted, the identity of the petitioners could not be established.

8. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution IV, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

IV. Petitions from Mr. Kaidi Sabrieh (T/PET.11/556) and Hajj Mohammed Jami Abd (T/PET.11/557)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petitions from Mr. Kaidi Sabrieh and Hajj Mohammed Jami Abd concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/556 and 557, T/OBS.11/64 and Add.1, T/L.)

Decides that no further action is called for since it has not been possible for the Administering Authority to establish the identity of the two petitioners.

V. Petition from Mr. Giama Osman Ahmed (T/PET.11/579)

4. The petition was examined and discussed at the 366th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.366 and).
5. The special representative stated that, so far, there had been no request for assistance from the family of the petitioner. The Administration is prepared to offer the petitioner employment as a labourer.
6. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution V, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

V. Petition from Mr. Giama Osman Ahmed (T/PET.11/579)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Giama Osman Ahmed concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/579, T/OBS.11/70, T/L.).

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular that an offer of employment was made to him by the District Commissioner of Mogadiscio, and
2. Suggests to the petitioner that he may wish to take advantage of such an offer.

VI. Petition from Messrs. Hassan Mohamed Raghe, Mohamed Uardere Culmie and others (T/PET.11/650)

4. The petition was examined and discussed at the 366th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.366 and).

5. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution VI, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VI. Petition from Messrs. Hassan Mohamed Raghe, Mohamed Uardere Culmie and others (T/PET.11/650)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Messrs. Hassan Mohamed Raghe, Mohamed Uardere Culmie and others concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/650, T/OBS.11/75, T/L.)

Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority, in particular that arrangements have been made to instruct subordinate offices to provide better protection for watchmen against inclement weather during their tours of duty.

VII. Petition from Mr. Scekdon Nur Mohamud (T/PET.11/659)

3. The petition was examined and discussed at the 366th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.366 and).
4. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution VII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VII. Petition from Mr. Scekdon Nur Mohamud (T/PET.11/659)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Scekdon Nur Mohamud concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/659, T/OBS.11/74, T/L.)

1. Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority, and
2. Decides that no further action is called for since the petitioner was reintegrated into the army on 15 November 1955.

VIII. Petition from Mr. Mohamed Dakah Keillia (T/PET.11/662)

5. The petition was examined and discussed at the 366th and meetings of the Standing Committee (documents T/C.2/SR.366 and).
6. The special representative stated that, although the petitioner had no legal claim whatsoever to compensation, the Administration would consider with sympathy a request for assistance and would be prepared to try and find suitable work for him.
7. At its meeting, the Committee adopted by votes to with abstention draft resolution VIII, annexed to the present report, which it recommends that the Council adopt.

VIII. Petition from Mr. Mohamed Dakah Keillia (T/PET.11/662)

The Trusteeship Council,

Having examined the petition from Mr. Mohamed Dakah Keillia concerning Somaliland under Italian Administration in consultation with Italy as the Administering Authority concerned (T/PET.11/662, T/OBS.11/81, T/L.)

Draws the attention of the petitioner to the observations of the Administering Authority and to the statement of its special representative, in particular that the petitioner has no legal claim to compensation, but that the Administration would endeavour to provide him with ex-gratia assistance.
