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Sixth Session

Item 5 of the Agenda

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS

Seventh Report of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions

Chairman: Mr. R.A. Peachey (Australia)

1. The ad hoc Committee on Petitions, established by the Trusteeship Council at the fourteenth meeting of its sixth session, and composed of the representatives of Australia, China, the Dominican Republic, New Zealand, the Philippines and the United States of America, examined during its fourteenth, seventeenth, twenty-fourth, twenty-fifth and thirtieth meetings on 15, 21, 24, 28 March and 1 April 1950, the following petitions referred to it by the Council:

- (1) Petition from Mr. Jean Nguea Nyoungou concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/47)
- (2) Petition from Mr. Ernest Eyom concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/48)
- (3) Petition from Messrs. Lea Ellong, Mongwan Ndemba and Ekallé Pidi concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/51)
- (4) Petition from the Notables Doualas concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/67)
- (5) Petition from Mr. Yeuma Abbe Mouhamadou concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/57)

- (6) Petition from Mr. Skouljukos concerning the Cameroons under French Administration (T/PET.5/69)
- (7) Petition from Mr. Nsangou Moussa concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/31)
- (8) Petition from Union des Syndicats de la Confédération Générale du Travail - Force Ouvrière concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/50)
- (9) Petition from Comité Central de l'Union des Populations du Cameroun de M'Balmayo concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/55)
- (10) Petition from Comité Central de l'Union des Populations du Cameroun de M'Balmayo concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/58)
- (11) Petition from the Délégation de la Solidarité Babimbi concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/70)
- (12) Petition from Messrs. Frederic Makanda and Gilbert Bilong concerning the Cameroons under French Administration. (T/PET.5/49)
- (13) Petition from Collectivité de Bominakengue Akwa, Douala concerning the Cameroons under French Administration (T/PET.5/59)
- (14) Petition from the Fon of Bali and Bali Native Authority concerning the Cameroons under British Administration. (T/PET.4/43)
- (15) Petition from Mr. R.N. Ayuk concerning the Cameroons under British Administration. (T/PET.4/49)
- (16) Petition from the Domestic Servants Union, Bamenda concerning the Cameroons under British Administration. (T/PET.4/55)

2. Mr. Hanrott and Brigadier Gibbons, in the case of the petitions concerning the Cameroons under British administration, and Mr. H. Laurentie and Mr. Watier, in the case of the petitions concerning the Cameroons under French administration, participated in the examination as the representatives and the special representatives of the respective Administering Authorities.

3. The ad hoc Committee submits herewith to the Council its report on these petitions.

1. PETITION FROM J. NGUA NYOUNGOU CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS  
UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION. (T/PET.5/47)

A. Summary of Petition

The petitioner protests against the expropriation of his lands, which the French Government has classified as part of the State Property of the Territory.

He asserts that these lands are the natural heritage of his ancestors and that their enclosure has been confirmed by the Chief Land Registrar. He also states that following his repeated protests, the Mayor-Administrator of Douala offered him a lump-sum compensation of 700,000 francs, which he refused.

He requests the United Nations to intercede with the Government of the Territory so that he may be granted satisfaction.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. After explaining in detail the history of the land dispute in question, the special representative stated that the petitioner, having refused to accept the arbitration of both the Administration and the Representative Assembly, could settle his claim only in court.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution I.

2. PETITION FROM E. EYOUN CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH  
ADMINISTRATION. (T/PET.5/48)

A. Summary of Petition

The petitioner asserts that he was sentenced in April 1949 to a fine of 20,000 francs, which he paid, and was further forbidden to carry on his occupation as forwarding agent, and that in July 1949 the Administrative Council raised the fine to 300,000 francs.

He considers this additional punishment excessive, especially as he is now without any means of supporting his family.

He appeals to the United Nations to intercede on his behalf.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. He stated that the petitioner had committed a customs offence by exporting 4,500 kilograms of coffee with a false customs declaration. In such cases, the offender might either be prosecuted before the courts or pay a transactional fine to the customs services, the amount being established by agreement. In the petitioner's case the transactional fine of 20,000 francs paid had been considered too low by the Head of the Customs Service who had reported to that effect to the Administrative Council. The Council had then raised the fine to 300,000 francs. If the petitioner refused to pay he had the alternative of taking his case to court.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

It was decided to postpone consideration of this petition until the next Session of the Trusteeship Council pending further information on the details of the petitioner's case and on the legal procedure involved.

3. PETITION FROM MESSRS. LEA ELLONG, MONGWAN NDEMBA AND EKALL PIDI CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION. (T/PET.5/51)
4. PETITION FROM THE NOTABLES DOUALAS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/PET.5/67)

A. Summary of Petitions

1. The petitioners assert that the Douala court sentenced them on 31 July 1941 to two years' imprisonment and three years' enforced residence for anti-French propaganda and activities liable to disturb public order, and that those sentences were arbitrary, the investigation having failed to establish any proof. Exhausted by five years of unspeakable misery, they returned to their homes, to find their hearths extinguished and their property in ruins. They

request that compensation be accorded them. (T/PET.5/51)

2. The petitioners declare that they were arrested in 1941 for anti-French activities and pro-German propoganda and that although acquitted by the civil court they were interned until 1945. After four terrible years in the internment camp in the North Cameroons the survivors returned home broken and exhausted.

They point out that in Metropolitan France substantial reparation is made to the victims of unlawful imprisonment and ask that justice should be done and compensation granted. (T/PET.5/67)

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on these petitions in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. He stated that all the petitioners complained of their failure to obtain compensation from the courts for their arrest in 1941 for pro-German anti-French propoganda.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

It was generally agreed that the petitions came under Rule 81 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council and were therefore inadmissible.

5. PETITION FROM YERIMA ABBO MOUHAMADOU CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION. (T/PET.5/57)

A. Summary of Petitions

The petitioner, in enforced residence at Doua, submits the following two requests:

1. Being the only Foulbe living among the Bayas, he wishes to return to Meiganga, among his own people.
2. His wife being dead, he asks the Lamido to give him another woman to look after his children - a right to which he is entitled, as a prince.

He requests the intervention of the United Nations in order to secure satisfaction.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this question in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. Observations were also submitted by the local Administration in an annex attached to the petition. The Administration stated that the petitioner was an old offender having been sentenced three times by the judicial authorities and that the population of Meiganga regarded him as undesirable. The special representative explained that the Administration could not agree to the demand of the petitioner that the Lamido should give him a woman to look after his children, since it did not recognise the existence of tied servants.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution II.

6. PETITION FROM MR. N. SKOULOUKOS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS  
UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/PET.5/69)

A. Summary of the petition

The petitioner states that he has incurred losses on a commission to operate government transports and had been fined 188,300 francs for delays in transportation. He claims a sum of money totalling 2,000,000 francs C.F.A. to cover the refunding of the money he has paid in fines (188,200 francs), the payment of the sum accorded him by the "Commission de revision de Marchés" (allegedly 200,000 francs), and "the exchange difference between 1937 and 1949 increased by the legal interest".

B. Observations by the Administering Authority

No observations were submitted by the Administering Authority on this petition. The special representative explained that the affair referred to was very complicated and one of long standing. He had requested a full report which, however, he had not yet received. He asked therefore that consideration of the petition be deferred until the next session of the Trusteeship Council.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

It was generally agreed, in view of the request of the special representative, to defer consideration of this petition until the next session of the Trusteeship Council. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

7. PETITION FROM NSANGOU MOUSSA CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS  
UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/PET.5/31)

A. Summary of the petition

The petitioner accuses Mr. La Chambre, the officer commanding the Gendarmerie Brigade at Fouban, of violating French law by showing preference to his African friends who give him bribes, of passing arbitrary sentences and of engaging in smuggling. He also accuses Mr. La Chambre and Mr. Chapoux of abandoning French law for national custom.

B. Summary of observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. He stated that the signatory of the petition was an illiterate young man, who had denied authorship of the petition and that the allegations made against the Commander of the Gendarmerie Brigade at Fouban, Mr. La Chambre were completely unfounded.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution III.

8. PETITION FROM THE CONFEDERATION GENERALE DU TRAVAIL-  
FORCE OUVRIERE CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH  
ADMINISTRATION, (T/PET.5/50)

A. Summary of the Petition

The petitioners declare that the Force Ouvrière, originating from the split in the C.G.T., pursues purely trades union aims whereas the activities of the C.G.T. are mainly political, and criticize the local authorities for the neutral position they adopted when the split occurred and for favouring the C.G.T.

They go on to complain of the anti-trades union attitude of the Administration, in particular its refusal to help the Force Ouvrière, the dictates that it imposes on the joint commissions, and its unwillingness to communicate cost of living statistics.

They request the Administration not to confuse trades union activity with political activity, to realise that the object of the Force Ouvrière is to protect and educate the working masses, and to treat the Force Ouvrière at least on a footing of equality with C.G.T.

B. Summary of the Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. He explained that in 1945 the Administration wishing to encourage the Trade Union movement, had placed a house at Douala at the disposal of the local Trade Unions, which were then united to the Confédération Générale du Travail. No difficulties had arisen until 1947 when the Trade Union Conference had divided into the Confédération Générale du Travail - Force Ouvrière and the Confederation of Christian Workers (C.F.T.C.). The C.G.T. had retained the Trade Union House at Douala and the Administration had refrained from intervening in order to avoid disturbances. It had been agreed to put a new house at the disposal of the Force Ouvrière and the Confederation of Christian Workers respectively, but owing to the budgetary position, this had not yet been accomplished.



C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution IV.

9. PETITION FROM THE COMITE CENTRAL DE L'UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN, M'BALMAYO CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION. (T/PET.5/55)

A. Summary of the Petition

The petitioners assert that the members of the community of Mbartsoz-Owontsog have been fighting since 1947 against the expropriation of a piece of land 4,500 hectares in area which constitutes their sole patrimony. The local administration has scheduled this land as a forest reserve and forbidden the customary owners to use it for plantations or food crops. A population of more than 2,000 is thereby reduced to destitution.

They request the intervention of the United Nations in a matter which is of more than local importance.

B. Observations by the Administering Authority

No observations were submitted by the Administering Authority on this petition.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution V.

10. PETITION FROM THE COMITE CENTRAL DE L'UNION DES POPULATIONS DU CAMEROUN DE M'BALMAYO CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION. (T/PET.5/58)

A. Summary of the Petition

The petitioners denounce the actions of the chef supérieur Foe and the chef de groupement Ollama in the subdivision of M'Balmayo.

They quote a case of compulsory labour ordered by Foe and several instances of arbitrary requisition of sheep by Foe and Ollama.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. He stated that the measures complained of conformed to indigenous custom. Clearing of village paths had always been the common task of the community. Similarly, when villages were ordered by the Chief to bring livestock for sale in town, no particular compulsion was involved, the stock being sold in open market. Since 1949, the community in question had supplied only 70 young goats to the town market, clearly making only a very moderate contribution to the provisioning of that district. The petitioners were obviously dissatisfied with their supreme Chief, but such dissatisfaction among minorities was to be found in every community.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.24.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution VI.

11. PETITION FROM THE "SOLIDARITE BABIMBI" CONCERNING  
THE CHIEFHOONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/PST.5/70)

A. Summary of the Petition

After inviting the United Nations Visiting Mission to pay a visit to Babimbi to see for themselves the neglected state of this locality, the petitioners request the abolition of the "grands chefs" established by the French administration.

Then they complain of unjust opposition to the activities of their association, the Solidarité Babimbi.

Finally, they state that an application submitted to the administration for the purchase of a truck has been refused without due reason, and request the intervention of the United Nations.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its special representative to the ad hoc Committee at its twenty-fourth meeting. He stated that the complaint that the Babimbi district had been neglected was not well founded. It was isolated, but recently three new schools had been opened and there was a Post, Telegraph and Telephone Office, a Radio Service and it was planned to build a new road there. As regarded the abolition of the "grands chefs", this was a typical case of conflict between the more evolved Africa and the traditional Africa. Eventually, the office of supreme chief would be abolished, but not at the present time when it was desired only by a minority.

The Babimbi Co-operative Society had been refused further loans until it presented accurate accounts of expenditure of previous loans and it would be given an advance enabling it to purchase the lorry for which it appealed.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fourth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 24 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained

in document T/L.C.20/SR.24.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution VII.

12. PETITION FROM F. MAKINDI AND G. BILONG CONCERNING THE  
CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/PET.5/49)

A. Summary of the petition

The petitioners solicit the intervention of the United Nations to enable the Sub-division of Babimki to enjoy the advantages of social, moral and economic development.

They state that for more than thirty years that region has been the theatre of oppression and exploitation, for example under the "tyrannical rule" of Mr. Mangain Félix, Colonial Administrator, ex-Chief of the Sub-division of Babimki.

B. Summary of observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its representative to the ad hoc Committee at its thirtieth meeting. Having pointed out that the signatories did not give their address, the representative stated that the situation of Babimbi had already been dealt with in connection with the petition from Solidarité Babimbi (T/PET.5/70). The Administering Authority then explained that the slow development of Babimbi was due to its geographical position, that recently the Administration had opened three schools and a P.T.T. Office in the sub-division and that it was planned to build a new road into the area. These measures would no doubt foster the economic development of Babimbi. As regards the complaint against Mr. Mayain, it was stated that the latter had retired several years ago.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the thirtieth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 1 April 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in

document T/AC.20/SR.30.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution VIII.

13. PETITION FROM THE COLLECTIVITE DE BONNIKENGUE-  
AKWA-DOUALA CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER  
FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/PET.5/59)

A. Summary of the petition

The petitioners request the restitution of the "Congo" and "Poudrière" quarters which belong to them by customary right and which are now occupied by another indigenous community, under the authority of Mr. Paraise. They state that as a result of this occupation they are now deprived of living space.

B. Summary of observations by the Administering Authority

The Administering Authority submitted its observations on this petition in the form of an oral statement made by its representative to the ad hoc Committee at its thirtieth meeting. It was stated that the petition referred to a land dispute between two parties, one enjoying the right of occupancy and the other claiming the traditional right of ownership. The administration has tried to determine the respective right of the parties concerned in consultation with the Ngondo (the traditional Assembly of people), but the latter has so far failed to reach a conclusion of this very complicated affair.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the thirtieth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 1 April 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.30.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution IX.

14. PETITION FROM THE FOM OF BALI AND BALI NATIVE AUTHORITY  
CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION  
(T/PET.4/43)

A. Summary of the Petition

The Bali people are inclined to believe that they are being politically "under minded" (undermined ?) by the neighbouring areas of the Bandera Province. They need stronger protection from the government in every matter.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The written observations by the Administering Authority on this petition are contained in document T/499. It was stated that the complaints of the Bali people were occasioned by the number of land claims raised against them by their neighbours. Since administrative officers were constantly advising complainants in such matters to take their grievances to the competent courts, the Bali had the feeling that the Administration regarded all claims against them unduly sympathetically. There was however, no reason for this feeling.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the seventeenth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 21 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/A.C.20/SR.17.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution X.

15. PETITION FROM Mr. R.N. AYUK CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS  
UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION (T/PET.4/49)

A. Summary of the Petition

The petitioner opened the first school in Sumbe, Mamfe, in 1947. It has 98 pupils, and the government refuses to elevate it to Standard III level in spite of the protests of the people. The government favours the Basel Mission school, which is three miles away, has fewer pupils and has lost the confidence of the community because it is a European school and his is African -- the only private school in the Cameroons.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The written observations by the Administering Authority are contained in document T/511. It is stated that a senior primary school at Sembe is considered as inappropriate to the system of central and Feeder schools in the locality, since having regard to existing educational facilities within reasonable distance of Mayang, it would be uneconomic educationally for Mayang to develop into a senior primary school. Therefore, Mr. Ayuk's application was refused, but his attention was drawn to his statutory right, under Section 22 (I) of the Education Ordinance to appeal formally against this decision to the regional Board of Education:

It is further stated that Mr. Ayuk is availing himself of this right, his appeal at present having been returned to him for certain corrections in form and address to be made. Should his appeal be unsuccessful, a further avenue of appeal, to the Central Board of Education, is open to him.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the twenty-fifth meeting of the ad hoc Committee on 28 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/A.C.20/SR.25.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution XI.

16. PETITION FROM THE DOMESTIC SERVANTS' UNION, BAMBURA  
CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION  
(T/PET.4/55)

A. Summary of the Petition

Wages paid to domestic servants in the Cameroons are too low; they cannot feed and maintain their families and still have money to pay for the education of their children. They have no fixed hours of work, no overtime provisions, no holiday leave and no increments in salary. Their accommodation is poor and they are not provided with uniforms. They ask for a fixed starting wage and an annual increase.

B. Summary of Observations by the Administering Authority

The written observations by the Administering Authority on this petition are contained in document T/461. The special representative made a supplementary statement at the fourteenth meeting of the ad hoc Committee.

It was stated that the contract between an employer and his domestic servant was considered by the Administering Authority to be a matter for the parties concerned. For this reason and in order not to affect the good relationship which generally existed between them, the adoption and enforcement of a code of wages and conditions was not considered advisable.

C. Action taken by the ad hoc Committee

This petition was examined and discussed at the fourteenth and the twenty-fifth meetings of the ad hoc Committee on 15 and 28 March 1950. The relevant discussion is contained in document T/AC.20/SR.14 and T/AC.20/SR.25.

At its thirtieth meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution which is reproduced below as resolution XII.



RESOLUTION I

Petition from Mr. Jean Ngueta Nyoungou  
(T/PET.5/47)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session, the petition from Mr. Jean Ngueta Nyoungou (T/PET.5/47) in consultation with France as the administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative.

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Decides to inform the petitioner that in the opinion of the Council the dispute referred to in his petition could be settled in the competent courts;
- (2) Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will facilitate its being brought before the courts;
- (3) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioner of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION II

Petition from Mr. Yerima Abbo Mouhamadou  
(T/PET.5/57)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from Mr. Yevima Abbo Mouhamadou (T/PET.5/57) in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition .

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Decides that no action by the Council is called for on this petition
- (2) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioner of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION III

Petition from Mr. Nsangou Moussa  
(T/PET.5/31)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure.

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from Mr. Nsangou Moussa (T/PET.5/31) in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition,

the Trusteeship Council

- (1) Decides that no action by the Council is called for on this petition
- (2) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioner of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Petition from the Confédération générale du Travail - Force ouvrière  
(T/PET.5/50)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session, the petition from the Confédération générale du Travail - Force ouvrière (T/PET.5/50)

in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative,

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition,

Having noted the statement of the Administering Authority that it had agreed to put new Trade-Union Houses at the disposal of the Force Ouvrière and the Confederation of Christian Workers respectively, as soon as the budgetary position would permit

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Recommends that the Administering Authority continue to take steps to ensure that all forms of trade-unionism be allowed to develop freely;
- (2) Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will take all possible steps to accommodate the trade unionism in the area with regard to their building requirements
- (3) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION V

Petition from the Union des Populations du Cameroun de M<sup>l</sup>Balmeyo (T/PET.5/55)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from the Union des Populations du Cameroun de M<sup>l</sup>Balmeyo (T/PET,5/55) in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative,

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Expresses the hope that in the classification of forest reserves, the Administering Authority will ensure that no injustice is done to the Mbartsog-Owontsog Community

(2) Draws

the attention of the petitioners to the resolution on land and forests adopted by the Trusteeship Council at its Sixth Session, the text of which reads as follows:

"The Council, taking note of the report of the Visiting Mission, of numerous petitions, and of the statements of the Administering Authority, requests the Administering Authority to define in a more precise manner the conception of "vacant and ownerless lands", (terres vacantes et sans maître) and requests it to take account, in the new legislation which it proposes to enact, of the traditional rights of all kinds which the indigenous communities may exercise over the lands on the one hand, and of the future economic requirements of the Territory on the other hand.

The Council, in respect of the classification of forests, requests the Administering Authority to take into account the same principles, namely, safeguarding the rights of communities and the economic advancement of the Territory.

The Council further requests the Administering Authority to recruit a sufficient number of surveyors in order to accelerate the procedures open to indigenous inhabitants for recognition of their land rights.

The Council, in connection with the granting of land concessions for agricultural purposes, requests the Administering Authority to give preference, as a matter of principle, to settlement projects undertaken by indigenous inhabitants themselves.

The Council, with regard to the granting of forest concessions, requests the Administering Authority to be guided by consideration of the economic benefits accruing to the Territory, without neglecting the traditional communal rights of the indigenous inhabitants."

- (3) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION VI

Petition from the Union des Populations du Cameroun de M'Balmayo (T/PET.5/58)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from the Union des Populations du Cameroun de M'Balmayo (T/PET.5/58) in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative

Having taken note of the statement of the Special Representative that the measures complained of in the petition conform to the indigenous customs,

The Trusteeship Council

(1) Decides to refer to the Administering Authority the charges regarding the arbitrary requisitioning of sheep

(2) Draws the attention of the petitioners to the resolution on forced labour adopted by the Trusteeship Council at its Sixth Session, the text of which reads as follows:

"The Council, noting the petitions complaining that forced labour still exists in the Territory, and the assurances of the Administering Authority that such practices are not condoned by it, suggests that the administrative officers concerned guard against any practices which may be construed by the people as meaning that forced labour has not been eradicated from the Territory."

(3) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION VII

Petition from Délégation de la Solidarité  
Babimbi (T/PET.5/70)

Acting under Article 87(b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from the Délégation de la Solidarité Babimbi (T/PET.5/70) in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Watier as special representative,

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition,

Having noted the statement of the Administering Authority that the slow development of the Babimbi community is mainly due to its isolated position, that the Administration has recently opened three schools and a Post Telegram and Telephone Office in the

Sub-division, and that it is planned to build a new road into the area,

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Invites the Administering Authority to continue its efforts to develop this area,
- (2) Decides that with regard to the purchase of a lorry, no action by the Council is called for,
- (3) Draws the attention of the petitioners to the resolution on general political advancement adopted by the Trusteeship Council at its Sixth Session, the text of which reads as follows:

"The Council notes with approval the practice of the Administering Authority in regard to traditional indigenous institutions, which accords due respect to these institutions without permitting their existence to hinder the development of more modern and progressive forms of government."

- (4) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION VIII

Petition from Messrs. Frederic Makanda and Gilbert Bilong  
(T/PET.5/49)

Acting under Article 87 (b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session, the petition from Messrs. Frederic Makanda and Gilbert Bilong (T/PET.5/49) in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Laurentie as special representative,

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition

Having noted the statement of the Administering Authority that the slow development of the Bambimbi community is mainly due to its isolated

position, that the Administering Authority has recently opened three schools and a Post, Telegram and Telephone Office in the sub-division, and that it is planned to build a new road into the area, and

Having noted that the official mentioned in the petition is no longer in service

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Invites the Administering Authority to continue its efforts with regard to the development of this sub-division
- (2) Decides to inform the petitioners that the request for submission of a personal file concerning an official of the Territory is outside the competence of the Council and that therefore no action by the Council is called for on this part of the petition
- (3) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION IX

Petition from Collectivité de Bonamikengue-Akwa-Douala  
(T/PET.5/59)

Acting under Article 87 (b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from Collectivité de Bonamikengue-Akwa-Douala (T/PET.5/59), in consultation with France as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Mr. Laurentie as special representative,

Having taken note of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition,

Having noted the statement of the Administering Authority that the dispute set forth in the petition had been referred to the Ngonda, the traditional



Assembly of people and that the latter had so far failed to reach a conclusion on this question

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will do everything in its power to hasten the achievement of a satisfactory solution
- (2) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION X

Petition from the Fon of Bali and Bali Native Authority  
(T/PET.4/43)

Acting under Article 87 (b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session, the petition from Fon of Bali and Bali Native Authority (T/PET.4/43) in consultation with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Brigadier Gibbons as special representative,

Having taken note of the oral statement of the special representative on this petition,

Having noted the assurance of the Administering Authority that no discrimination among various tribal groups is allowed by the local Administration,

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Expresses the hope that in dealing with different tribal groups the Administering Authority will continue its policy of equal treatment,
- (2) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.

RESOLUTION XI

Petition from Mr. R. N. Ayuk (T/PET.4/49)

Acting under Article 87 (b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from Mr. R.N.Ayuk (T/PET.4/49) in consultation with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Brigadier Gibbons as special representative,

Having taken note of the observations of the Administering Authority (T/511) as well as of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition

Having noted the statement of the Administering Authority that the petitioner is availing himself of his statutory right under Section 22 (1) of the Education Ordinance to appeal formally against the decision complained of to the Regional Board of Education and that should his appeal be unsuccessful a further avenue of appeal, to the Central Board of Education, is open to him

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Decides that no action by the Council is called for on this petition
- (2) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioner of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council

RESOLUTION XII

Petition from the Domestic Servants' Union, Bamenda concerning the Cameroons under British Administration (T/PET.4/55)

Acting under Article 87 (b) of the Charter and in accordance with its rules of procedure,

Having accepted and examined, at its Sixth Session the petition from the Domestic Servants' Union, Bamenda (T/PET.4/55) in consultation with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as the Administering Authority concerned, which designated Brigadier Gibbons as special representative,

Having taken note of the observations of the United Nations Visiting Mission to West Africa on labour conditions and standards of living (T/461, pp. 103-105).

Having taken note of the observations of the Administering Authority concerned (T/486, paras, 57-62 and T/506) as well as of the oral statement of the Special Representative on this petition

The Trusteeship Council

- (1) Decides to inform the petitioners that the question of labour conditions and standards of living has been and will be examined in connection with its examination of the annual reports of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Territory,
- (2) Draws the attention of the petitioners to the resolution on wages and standard of living adopted by the Council at its Sixth Session, the text of which reads as follows:

"The Council urges the Administering Authority to intensify its efforts to increase real wages and to raise the standard of living of the indigenous inhabitants of the Territory."

- (3) Invites the Secretary-General to inform the Administering Authority and the petitioners of this resolution in accordance with rule 93 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council.