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COUNCIL



LIMITED

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Item 4 (c) of the agenda

CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY  
OF RUANDA-URUNDI

Report of the Drafting Committee

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

1. At its 361st meeting on 27 June 1951, the Trusteeship Council appointed a Drafting Committee composed of the representatives of Australia, Iraq, New Zealand and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to propose, on the basis of the discussions which had taken place in the Council, conclusions and recommendations on conditions in Ruanda-Urundi and to make recommendations concerning the chapter on that Territory for inclusion in the next report of the Council to the General Assembly.
2. The Drafting Committee held three meetings, at the first of which it elected Mr. R.A. Peachey (Australia) as its Chairman.
3. The Drafting Committee decided to recommend that the Secretariat working paper (T/L.173), as revised and amended to take into account additional relevant information (T/L.173/Corr.1) should be the basic text for the chapter on conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi.
4. In the light of the general discussion by the Council on conditions in the Territory, the Committee drafted a number of conclusions and recommendations which it considered as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole and has annexed them to the present report.
5. The Committee prepared a draft for inclusion in the report of the Council covering the work of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions on Ruanda-Urundi. The Drafting Committee re-arranged the report of the Standing Committee so as to re-draft the conclusions of the Standing Committee in the form of draft conclusions of the Trusteeship Council. The Committee draws the

attention of the Council to the question of deciding whether the information and conclusions will remain in the body of the Chapter on Ruanda-Urundi or be placed under a separate chapter of the report on Administrative Unions.

6. The Committee accordingly recommends to the Trusteeship Council that it adopt the working paper on conditions in Ruanda-Urundi (T/L.173, T/L.173/Corr.1) as the basic text for the chapter on that Territory for inclusion in the next report of the Council to the General Assembly, that it adopt the following conclusions and recommendations relating to conditions in Ruanda-Urundi and that it include those conclusions and recommendations at the end of the appropriate section or sub-section of the Chapter on Ruanda-Urundi for inclusion in the next report of the Council to the General Assembly. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics voted against the adoption of documents T/L.173 and T/L.173/Corr.1.

7. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics reserved his right to present in the Trusteeship Council conclusions and recommendations as amendments to those presented by the Drafting Committee.

#### DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

##### GENERAL

1. The Council, considering the difficult problems with which the Administering Authority is faced, is of the opinion that continued progress has been made in all fields, during the two years under review; and expresses the hope that progress will be more rapid in the future.

##### POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

##### 2. General

The Council, noting that among the fundamental problems in the Territory are the development of an organized electorate and representative political institutions at the local level, and the constitution of a representative central legislative body with real powers and responsibilities; noting with regret the failure of the electoral experiments at Usumbura and Rumonge; and noting with satisfaction the careful and elaborate preparations made by the Administering Authority for the 1951 elections in the Centre extra-coutumiers in Usumbura, expresses the hope that the obstacles which prevented earlier elections from being

/successful will

successful will be surmounted, and that the way will be paved for further elections in other Centres extra-coutumiers throughout the Territory.

3. Administrative unions

I. The Trusteeship Council, noting the Conclusions reached by the Committee on Administrative Unions that the Administering Authority should consider the desirability of reviewing the legal form of the administrative arrangements between Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo with a view to bringing it more fully into accord with the existing practices; realizing that, thus far, the Administering Authority has not had sufficient time to undertake the steps necessary for a full consideration of the subject raised by the Committee on Administrative Unions; expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will inform the Standing Committee with regard to any review of or action upon the legal form of the administrative union affecting Ruanda-Urundi.

II. (a) With respect to the safeguards enumerated in sub-paragraph 7 (a) of the Trusteeship Council's resolution 293 (VII), the Council notes that the annual reports on the Administration of Ruanda-Urundi for 1949 and 1950 contained separate financial, statistical and other data relating to the Trust Territory.

(b) With regard to the safeguards enumerated in sub-paragraph 7 (b) of the Trusteeship Council's resolution 293 (VII), the Council notes that neither the Committee on Administrative Unions nor the Trusteeship Council has expressed any doubts concerning the willingness of the Belgian Government to facilitate the access of Visiting Missions to such information on the administrative union of Ruanda-Urundi with the Belgian Congo as may be necessary to enable Visiting Missions to report fully on the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi.

(c) With regard to the safeguards enumerated in sub-paragraph 7 (c) of the Trusteeship Council's resolution 293 (VII), the Council notes that there exists no information which would suggest that the boundaries of the Territory have not been maintained; and

(d) With regard to the safeguards enumerated in sub-paragraph 7 (d) of the Trusteeship Council's resolution 293 (VII), the Council notes that according to the information contained in the annual reports for 1949 and 1950 the total revenue derived from the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi amounted to:

1948 (estimates)	1949 (estimates)	1950 (estimates)
200,458,000 frs.	232,062,000 frs.	276,919,000 frs.

and the total ordinary and extraordinary expenditure on the administrative welfare and development of the Trust Territory amounted to:

1948 (actual)	1949 (estimates)	1950 (estimates)
227,168,563.57 frs.	407,826,000 frs.	327,334,161.85 frs.

Therefore expenditure on the administration, welfare and development of Ruanda-Urundi for the last three years was not less than the total amount of public revenue derived from the Trust Territory.

4. Legislative and executive organs

The Council, noting that the Council of Vice Government General is still a consultative body, and considering that this organ might become a valuable medium for political education, recommends that the Administering Authority further explore the possibilities of developing the importance of this organ of Government and expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will soon be able to review the functions of this Council with a view to delegating to it some powers of legislation.

The Council, recalling that in 1949, the Administering Authority had appointed the Beml as ex-officio members of the Council of Vice Government General with African alternates, noting with satisfaction that in 1951 one more indigenous member and alternate have been appointed to this Council, recommends that the number of African members on this Council be further increased.

5. Administration

The Council, noting with approval the established policy of the Administering Authority to extend the responsibilities of the indigenous authorities, with the objective of gradually transferring to them responsibilities now discharged by the European Administrations, recommends that increased opportunities be provided for the advancement of qualified Africans into the higher ranks of the European administrative service, and that to this end the establishment of a training programme for African personnel be considered, including the possibility for specialized training abroad.

6. Indigenous political structure

The Council, noting with keen interest the proposed revision of the Ordinance

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on the indigenous political organization whereby: (a) electoral principles will be partially applied to the existing indigenous councils, (Conseils de Pays and Conseils de Chefferies) and to indigenous Councils to be established (Conseils de Territoire and Conseils de sous-Chefferies); (b) these Councils would to some extent exercise legislative powers; considers that such reforms hold great promise of transforming the indigenous feudal political institutions of the Territory into truly representative institutions; and expresses the hope that the next annual report will contain detailed information on the new system.

7. Judicial System

The Council notes with satisfaction the greater measure of separation of political from judicial powers established by the decree of 5 July 1948.

8. Miscellaneous

The Council commends the Administering Authority for having enabled the two Bani and eight chiefs and notables to visit Belgium in 1949 and 1950, expresses the hope that the practice will be maintained of inviting Chiefs to Belgium for periodic visits.

ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT.

9. General

The Council commends the Administering Authority for the measures it has adopted against famine.

The Council notes that the Administering Authority fully recognizes the dangers inherent in the fact that the economy of the Territory is based on only a few products.

The Council further notes with approval the steps taken by the Administering Authority during the two years under review to increase and diversify export production and to apply scientific methods to problems of conservation and expansion of production.

10. Agriculture

The Council commends the Administering Authority for having included two indigenous coffee growers in the management of the Office des Cafés Indigènes du Ruanda-Urundi, and expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will consider giving similar representation to cotton growers in the cotton organization.

11. Stock breeding

The Council, noting that the cattle question remains one of the most urgent and difficult problems of the Territory, and noting that the Administering Authority is giving serious attention to it, urges the Administering Authority to continue to consider this matter as a major economic and social issue, and to continue to study the problems of overstocking and of placing cattle raising on an economic basis.

12. Land and European settlement

The Council commends the Administering Authority for its decision to suspend the granting of concessions to non-indigenous agricultural settlers.

13. Mining

The Council, noting that the mining industry is making a valuable contribution to the budget of the Territory, requests the Administering Authority to include in its future annual reports fuller information on the proportion contributed by the mining industry to the total budget, and on the relation of this contribution to the profits of the mining companies.

14. Internal trade

The Council commends the Administering Authority for the steps it has taken to increase the participation of indigenous merchants and artisans in the commercial

activities of the Territory.

15. Ten-Year Plan

The Council expresses the hope that the Ten-Year Plan will soon be formulated and adopted, and that it will place special emphasis on increasing the participation of the indigenous inhabitants on a more responsible level, in the economic life of the Territory.

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

16. Overpopulation, emigration and movement of labour

The Council, considering that overpopulation and maldistribution of the population in the Territory is a problem of major importance, recalling its previous recommendation on the subject, expresses the hopes that the Administering Authority will continue to study the possibilities of migration from overcrowded areas into less heavily populated areas within Ruanda-Urundi or in neighbouring Territories.

17. Discrimination

The Council, noting with satisfaction that the Administering Authority has reviewed the legislation on fire-arms and has eliminated from it any aspect of racial discrimination; noting that the Administering Authority is at present considering a revision of the legislation on the penitentiary system and on alcoholic beverages, with a view to eliminating any aspect of racial discrimination; reiterates its previous recommendation, to the effect that the Administering Authority continue to review all legislation involving discrimination, namely legislation on residence and immigration.

18. Labour and manpower

The Council, noting the fact that wages are very low; noting further that an ordinance of 24 April 1951 has increased the minimum salary scale by 40 per cent; recalling its previous recommendation on the subject of wages; recommends that the Administering Authority continue to carry out studies of standards of living and wages of the indigenous population with a view to raising the social level of the population in these respects.

19. Co-operatives

The Council, noting with satisfaction that the Ten-Year Plan will give priority to the development of co-operative enterprises, expresses the hope that more co-operative enterprises will be established in the Territory.

20. Public Health

The Council, noting with satisfaction that during the two years under review, the number of hospitals, maternity centres and dispensaries has increased, and that more are under construction; noting further that there has been an increase in medical personnel, considering however that the medical services are still not commensurate with the needs of the population, reiterates its previous recommendation that public health services in the Trust Territory be further improved and expanded.

21. Penitentiary system and Corporal punishment

The Council noting that the use of corporal punishment has been further restricted in the Territory; noting that the Administering Authority is at present studying a reform of the penitentiary system; reiterates its previous recommendations on the subject and urges the Administering Authority to eliminate whipping entirely, as soon as possible.

22. Juvenile delinquency

The Council, noting that a new decree concerning the re-education of juvenile delinquents has recently been promulgated, expresses the hope that it will provide for the establishment of reformatory schools for juvenile delinquents and for the separation of children and adults in penal institutions.

23. Status of women

The Council, noting with satisfaction the opening of two social service centres, and noting the recent legislation the object of which is the protection of the family and of the status of women, recommends that the Administering Authority continue to take measures with a view to improving the status of women in the Territory.

EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

24. General

The Council commends the Administering Authority for the increase in budgetary allocations for education during the two years under review.

25. Primary education

The Council, noting with satisfaction that approximately 450,000 children or two-thirds of the school age children in the Territory attend schools; noting however that approximately 75 per cent of these children attend chapel schools or



simple reading schools which are neither subsidized nor inspected by government officials; requests the Administering Authority to provide in future annual reports further information on chapel schools and schools of simple reading, and recalling its previous recommendation on this subject, recommends that the Administering Authority establish secular official primary schools, providing for a full six-year course preparing the children for secondary education.

26. Secondary and higher education

The Council noting the plans of the Administering Authority for expansion of secondary education, and creation of a University centre in the Territory; expressing its continued concern over the small proportion of students qualified for education above the primary level; recommends that the Administering Authority further examine the possibility of granting scholarships for secondary and higher education and of enabling students to study overseas.

27. Teacher training

The Council, noting that the Teacher-Training programme still appears inadequate at this stage; urges the Administering Authority to place the greatest possible stress on this programme, not only at the primary level, but at the secondary and vocation level as well.

28. Education of girls

The Council, noting with interest the emphasis placed by the Administering Authority upon the education of girls, requests the Administering Authority to include detailed information on that subject in future annual reports.

29. Adult education

The Council, considering the importance of adult education; notes with satisfaction the increase in library facilities, the use of two mobile cinema units, and the imminent opening of a radio system as well as the measures contemplated in the Ten-Year Plan to combat illiteracy.

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