

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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Thirty-eighth session
Agenda item 13

DRAFT REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PERIOD COVERING 20 JUNE 1970 _____ JUNE 1971

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

PART I

ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL

A. Membership

1. The composition of the Trusteeship Council on 1 January 1971 was as follows:

Members administering Trust Territories

Australia

United States of America

Members mentioned by name in Article 23 of the Charter and not administering Trust Territories

China

France

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

B. Officers

2. Mr. David N. Lane (United Kingdom) and Mr. Christopher H. Phillips, (United States) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively, at the beginning of the thirty-eighth session on 25 May 1971. The Vice-President, in a letter dated 27 May 1971, requested to be relieved of his duties, and the Council, on 28 May, proceeded to the election of a new Vice-President in accordance with rule 24 of its rules of procedure. Mr. W. Tapley Bennett (United States) was elected Vice-President.

C. Sessions and meetings

3. The Council held the following meetings during the period covered by this report: thirty-eighth session (1371st to _____), 25 May to __ June 1971.

4. All meetings took place at United Nations Headquarters, New York.

D. Procedure

5. No change affecting procedure was made by the Council in the period under review.

E. Relations with the Security Council

6. In accordance with Article 83 of the Charter, with resolution 70 (1949), adopted by the Security Council at its 415th meeting on 7 March 1949, and with its own resolution 46 (IV) of 24 March 1949, the Trusteeship Council continued to perform those functions of the United Nations under the Trusteeship System relating to political, economic, social and educational matters in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and submitted a report thereon to the Security Council.^{1/}

F. Relations with the specialized agencies

7. Representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and

^{1/} Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-fifth year, Special Supplement No. 1 (S/).

Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the work of the Council as occasion required.

8. The World Health Organization submitted to the Council written observations on the annual reports of the Administering Authorities on the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and New Guinea (T/1719 and T/1720). The representative of WHO made statements concerning conditions in the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and New Guinea at the 1375th and 1381st meetings of the Council respectively.

9. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization submitted written observations on the annual report of the Administering Authority on the Trust Territory of New Guinea (T/1723). The representative of UNESCO made statements concerning conditions in the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and New Guinea at the 1376th and 1381st meetings respectively.

CHAPTER II

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

10. The Trusteeship Council had before it the annual reports of the Administering Authorities on the Trust Territories of New Guinea and the Pacific Islands.
11. The annual report of the Commonwealth of Australia on the Trust Territory of New Guinea covering the year ending 30 June 1970, was received by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 23 April 1971. Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report and a supplementary report to members of the Trusteeship Council were distributed in documents T.1715 and Add.1. Details of the Trusteeship Council's examination of the annual report of the United States of America on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands are contained in the report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council.^{2/}
12. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority during the examination of the annual report on the Trust Territory of New Guinea was Mr. Stanley John Pearsall. He was assisted by two special advisers, Mr. Tore Lokoloko and Mr. Yakob Talis, members of the House of Assembly of Papua-New Guinea. The report was examined by the Trusteeship Council at its 1377th to 1379th, 1381st, 1382nd, 1384th and _____ meetings.
13. At its 1384th meeting the Council appointed a drafting committee composed of China and the United States of America to propose, on the basis of discussion which had taken place in the Council, conclusions and recommendations on conditions in New Guinea and to make recommendations concerning the chapter on conditions in that Territory for inclusion in the Council's report to the General Assembly.
14. The Council considered the report of the drafting committee () at its _____ meeting.

/To be completed/

^{2/} Ibid.

CHAPTER III

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS

A. Examination of petitions

15. At its thirty-eighth session, the Trusteeship Council considered and examined: (a) one petition circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2 of its rules of procedure; and (b) three petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 1. The details of the communications and petitions considered and examined are given below, together with an indication of the action taken on them by the Council. The consideration and examination of communications and petitions relating to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands is dealt with in the Trusteeship Council's report to the Security Council.

B. Petitions concerning New Guinea

16. The petitions concerning New Guinea mentioned in the preceding paragraph, and the observations of the Administering Authority thereon were as follows: (a) A petition (T/PET.8/L.12) from Mrs. Jean Pigott concerning land questions in the East New Britain District. (b) A petition, T/PET.8/33, from Mr. Uwe Lilje who alleged the existence of racialism and discriminatory practices in the Territory and that the Australian Government was delaying self-government and independence indefinitely. The Administering Authority, in its written observations (T/OBS.8/21), drew attention to paragraph 438 of the report of the 1971 Visiting Mission which stated that the Mission found no discrimination on racial grounds in the Territory. The Administering Authority reiterated that its policy was to ensure the free exercise by the people of Papua New Guinea of their right to self-determination and that it was preparing them for self-government and independence consistent with their own freely expressed wishes. (c) A petition, T/PET.8/34, from the President of Mataungan Association, referred to remarks allegedly made by an officer of the police force and expressed the belief that the administration was inappropriately using the army and police forces. He requested the setting up of a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the matter. In its written observations, the Administering Authority stated that it exercised its responsibility for the maintenance of law and order in accordance with the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement and the Charter of

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the United Nations and that it encouraged respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The conduct of the police was regulated by law. The allegations were entirely without foundation and the Administering Authority saw no reason for an inquiry as requested by the petitioner. (d) A petition, T/PET.8/35, from Mr. Epineri Titimur, appealed to the United Nations for assistance in connexion with land claims being made by his people to plantations in the Gazelle Peninsula and other lands in Rabaul that had been taken away during the period 1818 to 1918. The petitioner also referred to questions on labourers' salaries, scholarships, banks, and other matters. In its written observations, (T/OBS.8/20), the Administering Authority stated that the plantations mentioned in the petition had been alienated during the German administration of New Guinea. The Territory Land Titles Commission had confirmed existing ownership titles, excepting for the Vuvu plantation, the ownership of which was still subject to appeal proceedings due for hearing shortly. Only in the case of the Nonga and Vunavutung plantations did the Tolai people lodge claims. It further stated that it was well aware of land shortage facing the Tolai people and it was doing what it could to ease the situation. The observations also covered the points raised by the petitioners concerning scholarships, labourers' salaries and banks.

17. The Council considered petition T/PET.8/L.12 at its 1382nd meeting and decided to take note of it.

18. The Council considered petitions T/PET.8/33 to T/PET.8/35 at the same meeting. It decided to draw the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority and to statements by members of the Council at the current session.

CHAPTER IV

VISITS TO THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

A. United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of New Guinea, 1971

19. At its thirty-seventh session, the Trusteeship Council considered the question of the dispatch of a periodic visiting mission to the Trust Territory of New Guinea in conjunction with its agenda item concerning General Assembly resolution 2590 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969, which, in paragraph 5, requested the Trusteeship Council to include non-members of the Council in its periodic visiting missions to the Trust Territory of New Guinea, in consultation with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence of Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Administering Authority and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. Consultations on the subject were held between the President of the Trusteeship Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee and following those consultations, the Council was informed on 19 June 1970 that after discussion the Special Committee had decided to authorize its Chairman to propose to the President of the Trusteeship Council the inclusion of Iraq and Sierra Leone in the Council's forthcoming periodic Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of New Guinea.

20. At its 1370th meeting on 19 June 1970, the Trusteeship Council decided to dispatch a periodic visiting mission to the Trust Territory of New Guinea at the beginning of 1971 and to invite the Governments of France, Iraq, Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to nominate members to compose the mission. At the same meeting, the Council adopted resolution 2154 (XXXVII) setting forth the terms of reference of the Visiting Mission. In this resolution, the Trusteeship Council recalled the request made to the Council by the General Assembly in paragraph 5 of its resolution 2590 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969; and noted that the consultations requested by the General Assembly had been carried out. The Council directed the Visiting Mission: (1) to investigate and report as fully as possible on the steps taken in the Trust Territory of New Guinea towards the realization of the objectives set forth in Article 76 b of the Charter of the United Nations, and to pay special attention to the question of the future of the Territory, in the light of the relevant Articles

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of the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement, bearing in mind the provisions of relevant Trusteeship Council and General Assembly resolutions, including Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960; (2) to give attention, as may be appropriate in the light of discussions in the Trusteeship Council and of resolutions adopted by it, to issues raised in connexion with the annual reports on the administration of the Trust Territory, in the petitions received by the Council concerning reports of the previous periodic visiting missions to the Territory and in the observations of the Administering Authority on those reports; (3) to receive petitions, without prejudice to its acting in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council, and to investigate on the spot such of the petitions received as, in its opinion, warrant special investigation. Finally, the Council requested the Visiting Mission to submit to the Council as soon as practicable a report on its visit to the Trust Territory of New Guinea containing its findings, with such observations, conclusions and recommendations as it might wish to make.

21. At the same meeting, the Council also decided that the nominations of members of the Visiting Mission to be submitted by the Governments of France, Iraq, Sierra Leone and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland would be automatically approved when received. Accordingly, the Mission was composed of Mr. Paul Blanc (France), Mr. Adnan Raouf (Iraq), Mr. Charles E. Wyse (Sierra Leone) and Sir Denis Allen (United Kingdom). The members of the Mission elected Sir Denis Allen (United Kingdom) as Chairman of the Mission.

22. The Trusteeship Council examined the report of the Visiting Mission (T/1717) in conjunction with the annual report of the Administering Authority (T/1715).

23. At its 1377th meeting on 2 June, the Council decided to invite the members of the Visiting Mission who were not also representatives on the Council (Mr. Adnan Raouf of Iraq and Mr. Charles Wyse of Sierra Leone) to take part, without right of vote, in the discussion of the report of the Visiting Mission. In the course of the discussion, Mr. Raouf and Mr. Wyse made statements.

24. At its.... meeting, the Trusteeship Council adopted resolution (XXXVIII) concerning the work of the Visiting Mission.

/to be completed/

B. United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust
Territory of New Guinea, 1972

/to be completed/

CHAPTER V

ATTAINMENT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT OR INDEPENDENCE BY THE TRUST
TERRITORIES AND THE SITUATION IN TRUST TERRITORIES WITH
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

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CHAPTER VI

OTHER QUESTIONS CONSIDERED BY THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

A. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories

25. The United Nations programme for scholarships for inhabitants of Trust Territories was initiated by General Assembly resolution 557 (VI) of 18 January 1952. Under the procedure approved by the Trusteeship Council for the administration of this programme, the Secretary-General was invited to submit to the Trusteeship Council at least once a year a report containing all appropriate details of the programme.

26. The report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Council at its thirty-eighth session (T/1726) covered the period from 1 June 1970 to 31 May 1971. It contained information on the use made of the scholarships and training facilities offered by ten Member States of the United Nations. According to information made available to the Secretary-General, no applications for scholarships offered by these Member States were received from either of the two remaining Trust Territories during the period under review.

27. At the meeting, the Council considered the report on the scholarships programme for inhabitants of Trust Territories (T/1726).

B. Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories

28. The annual report of the Secretary-General (T/1718) on the arrangements undertaken in co-operation with the Administering Authorities for distributing official records of the United Nations and disseminating information concerning the aims and activities of the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territories was submitted to the Council at its thirty-eighth session, in accordance with the provisions of Trusteeship Council resolution 36 (III) of 8 July 1948 and of General Assembly resolutions 754 (VIII) of 9 December 1953.

29. The report, covering the period from 1 June 1970 to 31 May 1971, set out the activities carried out by the Office of Public Information through its information centres in Washington, D.C. and Port Moresby in disseminating information on the

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United Nations. It contained information about the number and titles of United Nations publications, and films and radio programmes that had been distributed. It also indicated that the widest distribution had been given to a considerable number of publications prepared by the Office of Public Information, including pamphlets, brochures, press releases, etc.

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C. Co-operation with the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

30. By the terms of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and of paragraphs 2 and 3 of General Assembly resolution 2106 B (XX), the Trusteeship Council was requested to transmit to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination copies of the reports it received from the Administering Authorities, as well as copies of petitions it received and circulated which related to racial discrimination.

31. At its thirty-seventh session, the Trusteeship Council decided, inter alia, to transmit to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination the annual reports submitted to it by the Administering Authorities as soon as they were received.

32. At its thirty-eighth session, the Trusteeship Council had before it a communication from the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, as adopted by that Committee at its fifty-eighth meeting on 23 April 1971, in which the Council was requested to obtain from the Administering Authorities information on a number of matters relating to the principles and objectives of the above-mentioned Convention. This communication was circulated in document T/1722.

33. At its 1383rd meeting on 8 June 1971, the Trusteeship Council decided to invite the Administering Authorities to include in their annual reports information on the matters noted in the communication of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination mentioned above.

At its meeting on /to be completed/

PART II

CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA

/This part will include the chapter on conditions in New Guinea as it is finally adopted by the Trusteeship Council at its thirty-eighth session./
