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Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 25 April 1957, at 2 p.m.

President:

Mr. ASHA

(Syria)

1. Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration for 1955 [3e] (continued)
2. Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration for 1955 [3e] (continued)
3. Report of the Secretary-General on credentials [2]
4. Examination of petitions: 183th and 189th reports of the Standing Committee on Petitions [14]
5. Offers by Member States of the United Nations of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories [10]

Note:

The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.784 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION FOR 1955 (T/1300, 1304 and Add.1; T/PET.7/520; T/L.740) [Agenda item 3e] (continued)

General debate (continued)

Mr. JAIPAL (India): For the record I should like to make a small correction. Yesterday, in the course of his statement, the representative of Italy said that my delegation voted for the General Assembly resolution which set up the special mission to the Territory. Actually we voted against that resolution in the Fourth Committee and we abstained from voting at the plenary meeting.

Mr. BOURDILLON (United Kingdom): It has been observed that an examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration for the year 1955 is bound, in view of the subsequent developments, to take on a somewhat academic character. My delegation has nevertheless been very ready to study the annual report of the Administering Authority and to endeavour to draw therefrom some assessment of the progress of the Territory during that year. The comments which my delegation now wishes to offer will be related to fields other than the political field since we do not consider that the Council is in any position to make recommendations in that field at this time.

During 1955 the Trust Territory showed steady progress in the economic, social and educational fields taken as a whole. In a Territory which is almost exclusively dependent on its agricultural produce, as indeed so many African Territories are, complete economic stability is harder to achieve. It was of considerable importance to the Territory, therefore, that during the year under review the price of coffee and cocoa crops, both of exceptional importance to the future of the Territory's economy, fell. We have already observed the effect of this phenomenon in other Trust Territories. Nevertheless it is satisfactory to record that production of both these crops and cotton as well increased by a significant margin between 1954 and 1955. In this connexion, it is interesting to note from the annual report the measures taken to improve production of both cocoa and coffee by action through the Comptes de soutien, pending the full operation of the newly established stabilization funds. In both cases, the

(Mr. Bourdillon, United
Kingdom)

amount of money expended on roads within the plantations was of significant proportions and the expenditures by the Comptes de soutien in the cases of both coffee and cocoa increased materially as between the years 1954 and 1955. I am sure the Council will wish to note with satisfaction the measures which have been taken during the past year by the Administering Authority to increase the production of these two important export crops.

It will also be observed from the annual report that the total exports of the Territory increased in volume by some 4 million tons in 1955, although the value of this total regrettably fell by a fairly substantial margin.

Within the general economic sphere, it should be noted that the total metropolitan aid to the Territory under the heading Equipement rose by some 650 million francs over the year 1954, a fact which will no doubt be noted with some satisfaction by the Council.

Turning now to the other side of the economic life of the Territory, we find that broadly speaking the cost of living for the indigenous inhabitants has not increased over the past year and that the cost of some important items of diet has in fact decreased. Let us hope that this fortunate occurrence, which seems to be so rare in most countries of the world, can be maintained since with the continuing increase in the productive resources of the Territory the result can be a progressive increase in the real standard of living of the people.

So far as the development of industries is concerned, my delegation, whilst naturally subscribing to the view that a more balanced economy would be a desirable development in the life of the Territory, considers that for the time being the Administration is pursuing a wise course in concentrating its efforts on improvement in all fields of agricultural production where the possibilities are clear and well established, and indeed are being achieved in large measure.

(Mr. Bourdillon, United Kingdom)

In the social field, the year 1955 saw the continuing application of the important Labour Code, the introduction of which the Council had noted at an earlier session. This year the Council will no doubt wish to take cognizance of this undramatic but highly important activity in the basic social life of the Territory. A number of members of the Council during the questioning period have already drawn attention to the recent increase of wage rates throughout the field of employed labour.

Progress in the field of public health is perhaps most satisfactorily illustrated by the decrease in the incidence of a number of the major diseases in the Territory, particularly malaria, and the representative of France has already given us numerous details of the Administration's programme for the progressive elimination of this and other major maladies. It is also satisfactory to note that two more fully qualified African doctors were in the public health service in 1955 as compared with 1954.

In the educational field, we have heard the satisfactory assessment of progress which was given by the representative of UNESCO. Indeed, in all the important features of educational life, we can observe a steady upward trend, particularly in the north. It is particularly interesting to note a significant increase in the number of girls attending secondary schools for the year 1955-56 over the number for the year 1954-55. This increase can perhaps be attributed to a general advance in social awareness on the part of African society and may also derive in part from the increased economic prosperity of the Territory during recent years.

As I said at the beginning of these remarks, there can be discerned during the year 1955 a general and steady progress in the economic, social and educational fields taken as a whole. This must be regarded as the result of integrated action on the part of the Administering Authority generally to raise the standard of life in the Territory for the benefit of its people.

We should like, in conclusion, to pay a particular tribute to the representative of France for his lucid and detailed explanation of conditions in the Territory and for the care and patience with which he answered the many questions addressed to him on the Administering Authority's report for 1955.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The Trusteeship Council has been dealing for some months with new problems, the consequences of which are not yet clear to everybody. The old Administering Powers always attend here and are theoretically responsible for the evolution of their Territories. But the Territories themselves have changed in name and in character. Now one speaks of the Somali Government, of the autonomous Republic of Togoland and of the Trust State of the Cameroons. Some people have thought that the very notion of trusteeship was opposed to the notion of autochthonous responsible government and that autonomy, being the aim of the Trusteeship System, could not come before the trusteeship came to an end. We must agree, however, that logic has not been strong enough to fight against an equivocal position, for reasons which are known to all.

Whether there is good will or bad will on the part of the majorities does not matter; our task is made more difficult. To whom are we to address our criticism and our suggestions? Is it not reducing the authority of an African Government, which the United Nations called into being some years ago, to transmit these recommendations while that Government learns to rule by itself? Is it not contradictory to oblige the Administering Authority to intervene in affairs under Togolese jurisdiction, because they maintain trusteeship rights in a Territory which is now a republic? And how would the Togolese receive edicts when they themselves thought with some reason that they had obtained the free direction of their own affairs?

We must remember that the General Assembly, in its resolution of 23 January 1957, expressed satisfaction over the transfer of powers according to the new political Statute of the Territory, and congratulated the population of Togoland on the progress recently attained in all fields. The General Assembly was almost unanimous in acknowledging that this Statute was a step forward. The only question under dispute was that of the ending of the Trusteeship System.

However, if the United Nations accepts the Statute, it must accept it fully, including the transitional provision that establishes provisional trusteeship. The latter will be exercised through a right of veto by the French Minister of Overseas Affairs over Togolese laws and the right of veto by the High Commissioner over the decisions of the Council of Ministers. This right of veto can be used only within ten days of the second reading of the law or of promulgation of the decision. The Administering Authority can intervene in matters transferred to

Togolese authorities only for the purpose of preventing the taking of certain measures and not for imposing any measures, the latter not being now within its power. Therefore, in these matters, the United Nations deals with an Administering Authority that has no rights and is merely a letter-box.

It may happen, as one of my colleagues mentioned yesterday, that this situation is not in full agreement with the general provisions of the Trusteeship System, as some may envisage them. But who is responsible for this confusion? The General Assembly has expressed its satisfaction with the provisions of the Statute, after having studied it in detail for several weeks.

On the other hand, the same General Assembly has so far refused to state that the trusteeship has come to an end, notwithstanding the fact that the great majority of the inhabitants have expressed their views in favour of this. The representative of India has mentioned that the Charter speaks of the ending of trusteeship, but this is a very vague reference, and the case is considered differently by various Members of the Organization.

I would simply refer my colleague to the provisions of Article 76, which speaks of the progressive development of the peoples towards self-government "as may be appropriate to the particular circumstances of each territory and its peoples and the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned". What are those freely expressed wishes?

For the ending of trusteeship: 315,458 votes.

For the continuation of trusteeship: 22,320 votes.

We must conclude therefrom that the United Nations is in open conflict with the great majority of the population of the Territory.

Therefore, my delegation has considerable scruples in taking part in the general debate. Unfortunately, this is not all. The representative of France had stated at the 752nd meeting that the Government of the autonomous Republic of Togoland regretted that, because of the magnitude of its tasks, it could not at present send a special representative to New York. Courtesy and custom would demand that the debate be postponed till the next session of the Council, particularly in view of the fact that in the past the Council took great care that representatives of the indigenous population were included in the delegations of the Administering Powers. But now this is old history, and we have just heard the representative of France without any special representatives. It would seem that objective and full information is no longer the main essential for our debates.

Some members of the Council are in such a hurry to come to a conclusion that they are not even expecting to receive the document which alone could give them a precise view of the situation: that is to say, the report of the United Nations Commission established by the resolution of 23 January 1957. This Commission is to go to the Territory next month.

Has the Togolese Government in reality the rights of autonomy? Has it succeeded, in a few months, in creating or developing public services that will implement its various functions: finance, customs, economic affairs, trade and industry, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, public works, transport, mining, administrative regulations with regard to internal political affairs, social services, education, postal services, radio communications, press and information, customary law, general security? Have all these factors of public life been effectively transferred to the Togolese Government? This would have been interesting to know and to discuss.

(Mr. Smolderen, Belgium)

Instead of that, we are examining a two-year-old report according to routine and without any conviction, because we all know that the real problems lie elsewhere and that the recent developments in the Territory cannot be treated in a routine way.

My delegation has the most serious reservations about the procedure followed by the Council in this respect. I have already said -- and I must repeat today -- that this procedure is not to our honour. We shall be compared to a near-sighted person who, instead of looking at the tall and spacious building that has just been put up, goes to an old hut a few steps away to see whether there are still some mosquito larvae there.

Having said that, I would add that, for my part, I do not intend to take part in this game of making comments which can have only an academic and retrospective interest.

I shall make only one remark on the substance of the problem. It relates to the only fact which, in my delegation's opinion, should be noted at this stage. In his opening statement, the representative of France said that the new Statute of Togoland had already been the subject of a series of amendments. Some of these amendments transfer major powers to the Togolese Government. The Prime Minister will now have the power to dissolve the Legislative Assembly. He may also decide on the number of members of his Cabinet. The protection and exercise of public freedoms, as well as the police and general security forces, are now within the sole competence of the local authorities. Co-ordination between the administrative services of the French Republic and the administrative services of the Togolese Government will be carried out by officials whose powers will be defined jointly by the High Commissioner and the Prime Minister.

The decree amending the Statute was adopted hardly seven months after the original decree. The powers of the Togolese administration were enlarged while that administration was in the process of organization. What a stinging denial this recent development of the Statute is to all those who allowed themselves to doubt France's good faith.

It remains only for me to reserve my delegation's right to speak again on these questions, if necessary, at a subsequent session of the Council.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria) (interpretation from French): In our opinion, the Trusteeship Council's examination, during the present session, of the Administering Authority's annual report on Togoland under French administration and of the overall political, economic and social situation of the Territory is lacking neither in realism, nor in common sense nor in practical interest.

This examination is not lacking in realism because it can validly be based on the annual report itself, on the questionnaire and on the very important statement made by the qualified representative of the Togolese unification party -- that is, the opposition party. Thus, this examination can relate not only to the political situation of the Territory in 1955, but also to recent political developments. The above-mentioned documents contain in this respect very significant information and facts. These facts have not been contested by either the Administering Authority or the members of the Trusteeship Council. The truth which flows from the facts is striking. If ignoring this truth is to be described as a lack of realism, then it may be said that the delegations which have participated in the discussion have not been realistic. These delegations did not engage in speculation. They made judgements of value on existing political institutions, institutions which will be required to function in the near future and in a very specific way.

The Trusteeship Council's examination, furthermore, is not lacking in common sense, because the most elementary common sense teaches us to call a spade a spade. If we are criticized for saying unpleasant things, the reason is that the things themselves are unpleasant. We should be failing in our duty if we presented the facts in a different light.

The Trusteeship Council's examination, finally, is not lacking in practical interest because it has not covered only past history, but has included recent political developments in the Territory. Thus, it is not true that this examination can be of interest only in retrospect. The recent political developments contain the seeds of future developments. Basing ourselves on these premises and on these political institutions, we can tell approximately what the future holds. The Administering Authority may be certain that it will reap in this Territory what it has sown. It cannot hope to grow wheat if it has sown oats.

(Mr. Mufti, Syria)

If one adds to those considerations the fact that the Trusteeship Council's consideration of the annual report has taken place so far in accordance with the regular procedure, and if one adds the Council's obligations under the United Nations Charter, one has all the major reasons which lead my delegation to take part today in this general debate.

If one wished to use a metaphor to sum up the political situation of the Territory in the light of recent events, one could say -- without indulging in extreme language -- that the political history of the Territory began with defiance and has ended with a farce.

On the other hand, if one wished to make an overall judgement of the Administering Authority's political action in the Trust Territory, one could hold, without being accused of partiality, that this Authority has attempted to remove the Territory from the control of the United Nations before the Territory had really and effectively attained the objectives laid down in the United Nations Charter. We do not intend at this time to outline the recent political developments in the Territory. Certain facts, however, are significant and should always be kept in mind. We should like to refer to some of those facts.

First, it is useful to recall the following passage from the Trusteeship Council's report to the eleventh session of the General Assembly.

(Mr. Mufti, Syria)

"The Mission stated that, on its visit to Paris, it had had a long interview with the Minister for Overseas France, during which it had raised two questions relating to the existing association between Togoland and the French Union. In its first question, the Mission had sought elucidation of the French Government's attitude to the motion adopted on 4 July 1955 by the Territorial Assembly of Togoland. In reply, the Minister had said that, in his view, the motion was important and that it was the duty of the French Government to submit the terms of it to the French Parliament which, he said, would certainly give them sympathetic consideration. When, and only when, Parliament's views on the matter were known, would the Government state its position, which it had hitherto been unable to do. The Minister had pointed out that the motion of 4 July included two sets of requests. The first set of requests concerned the political development of the Territory. Those requests, with which Parliament and the French Government were competent to deal, had already been granted to a large extent or were in the process of being granted. The second set of requests directly concerned the termination of the Trusteeship System. In this respect, the Government obviously could not act alone, but would seek, within the framework of the Charter and in co-operation with the United Nations, and more particularly the Trusteeship Council, the appropriate means of solving the problem raised. He had said that it was difficult to specify at the present stage by what procedures, in what circumstances and at what date the solution would be found. One principle could, however, be laid down with certainty, namely, that the populations concerned would be consulted in such ways and with such guarantees as to leave no possibility of doubt or confusion. Although he could say nothing definite, the Minister had indicated that those consultations should be as direct as possible, so that there could be no dispute as to their authenticity. Some form of plebiscite would doubtless offer the best guarantees and give rise to the least friction, but other procedures, if they were found practicable, might also be proposed and studied." (General Assembly, official records: eleventh session, supplement No. 4, A/3170, page 229)

(Mr. Mufti, Syria)

Here we must note particularly the assurances given by France as regards the termination of the Trusteeship System. We should also note the word "plebiscite" which certainly was used by the French political leader mentioned. During the eighteenth session of the Trusteeship Council, the French delegation was not able to convince the Council that it should associate itself with the procedure which not only did not seem to offer the necessary safeguards, but also, moreover, which tied the partial reforms promised by the Statute to the termination of the Trusteeship System. However, the French delegation had declared that the Administering Authority would go ahead and implement the procedure that was contemplated. In fact, this procedure was carried out. It was called a referendum whereas it had all the characteristics of a plebiscite. We shall not enter into a detailed discussion of how the referendum of 28 October 1956 was carried out, but we must stress that if the referendum is considered to be a democratic means of consulting the population and if it is used in Switzerland, which is an advanced democratic country, the plebiscite, on the contrary, has created empires and dictatorships.

At the eleventh session of the General Assembly the attempt to put an end to the Trusteeship System was renewed but it failed.

It seems now that the Trusteeship System is no longer in immediate danger. However, other attempts are being made by the Administering Authority to create confusion in the minds of the members of the Council and to exploit the confused situation in the Territory.

Thus at the beginning of this session the French delegation tried to postpone to a later date the consideration of the situation in Togoland under French administration. This attempt did not succeed, and therefore the French delegation deprived this Council of the experience and assistance of a special representative. In addition to this, other attempts must be mentioned which attempted to delay the recommendations of the Council concerning the over-all situation in the Territory. All this was done with the knowledge that the report of the Commission of the General Assembly, which is cited as a major reason, would deal only with some specific aspects of that situation. We obviously attach much importance to this report, but it will be ready only in the

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distant future, and it will be limited by the terms of reference given to the Commission by the General Assembly. It thus seems that the opposition of the Administering Authority to the study by the Council of the political situation in the Territory has not completely disappeared. The assurances given yesterday by the representative of the Administering Authority has not fully dissipated our fears although they have alleviated them somewhat.

Hence it seems that we still face a continuing challenge. As for saying that the recent political developments ended by a farce, an objective study of the Statute, even as it is modified by the decree of 22 March 1957, confirms this amply. We shall not enter today into a detailed discussion of this matter. We had the opportunity to do so in the General Assembly. Other delegations, and also the representative of the unification party in Togoland, have also discussed this during this session of this Council.

When one calls a Trust Territory an autonomous republic while knowing that this Territory is neither a republic nor autonomous, then it is obviously a farce. The Trust Territory is not a republic, for it does not have any republican institutions as yet; it is not, in particular, a state whose people exercise sovereignty by means of their own elected representatives. It is not autonomous because it does not have any of the characteristics of autonomy; in particular, it does not have the freedom of governing itself by its own laws.

It is useless to repeat a thousand times that Togoland, through its present political institutions, is an autonomous republic. This will never convince us. It is possible that it will become one. It should become one in the very near future, but auto-suggestion in this field cannot produce the illusion of reality. People who love independence live with reality every day and cannot be contented with such illusions.

We shall disregard everything in this Statute that violates the principles of sovereignty, of the loyalty of citizens and everything that confuses powers and responsibilities and the integration of the Territory into the French Republic and other aspects of great importance. We shall deal only with two aspects which for us have an immediate and special importance.

(Mr. Mufti, Syria)

The first aspect deals with political freedoms and control over its use which is given to the so-called autonomous Government of Togoland by the decree of 22 March 1957. We have reasons to believe that this Government is not in a position at the present stage to ensure satisfactory control of the exercise of these freedoms. These reasons are partially based on the decree of 15 March 1957 which was published by the above-mentioned Government on the eve of an important public meeting held at Palimé. It also follows from the composition of the present Government and the circumstances in which it rose to power. We feel, therefore, that the Administering Authority, which assumes specific obligations under the Trusteeship Agreement, and which still has major responsibilities as regards the maintenance of public order and which in fact has the physical means necessary to ensure effective and impartial control of these public freedoms: this Administration should play a more clear-cut role in this vital matter. This role must obviously be in conformity with the objectives and in the frame work of which these liberties are introduced.

The second aspect which concerns us, concerns the introduction of political institutions provided by the Statute. If there has actually been popular consultation, nevertheless its implementation as regards the Statute is a responsibility of an organ which, in our opinion, does not give the necessary guarantees for the satisfactory carrying out of the provisions of this Statute. In other words, the Togolese Territorial Assembly, elected 12 June 1955 on the basis of limited suffrage and without the participation of opposition parties, does not seem to us to meet the necessary conditions of a body which is called upon to fulfil the functions of a Legislative Assembly.

If we recognize the equal importance of the statute and its implementation, then we must recognize the importance in this connexion of the dissolution of the present Territorial Assembly and the organization of general elections by means of direct universal suffrage.

(Mr. Mufti, Syria)

This important aspect of the matter has not escaped the attention of the General Assembly which, in its resolution adopted on 23 January 1957, recommended that:

"in addition to such further reforms as the authorities concerned may deem appropriate, the Legislative Assembly of the Territory should be constituted, as soon as possible, by election on the basis of universal adult suffrage."

(A/RES/455)

However, it is particularly alarming to note that more than three months have elapsed without the Administering Authority having shown any intention to comply with the recommendations of the General Assembly. The municipal elections in the Territory have been postponed indefinitely; and, finally, article 6 of the Statute as amended seems to run against new elections in the five years during which the existing Territorial Assembly will appear to be a legislative assembly. We feel that this is the initial and fundamental defect which must be removed in order to give the Statute a chance of developing satisfactorily in the future. In the light of the numerous considerations which have been referred to, the Administering Authority should avail itself of its prerogative under the Trusteeship Agreement and comply rapidly with the recommendations of the General Assembly.

We feel also that the Trusteeship Council would fulfil an important task if it adopted and endorsed these recommendations. This would in no way prejudice the efforts of the Commission of the General Assembly which will be preparing its report and will study the possibility of other reforms to be effected under the Statute. The General Assembly has already recognized that the powers transferred by the Administering Authority to the Territory of Togoland under the new Statute of the Territory constitutes an important step towards the aims set forth in Article 76 of the Charter and in the Trusteeship Agreement. We must also recognize this and we express our satisfaction to the Administering Authority in this connexion, but we must also emphasize that the harmonious development of the Territory in the future towards the aims in question cannot be satisfactorily carried on unless the exercise of public freedoms and the constitution of a fully representative legislative assembly before the implementation of the statute is rapidly ensured.

We do not wish to conclude our statement on the political situation without suggesting that the summary record of the meetings of the Council devoted to the consideration of this subject during the present session should be transmitted to the Commission appointed by the General Assembly to visit the Territory of Togoland under French administration.

As regards the economic and social fields, it does not seem that important changes calling for new recommendations have been recorded in these two fields during the year under review. The fundamental shortcomings of the Territory in these two fields have been repeatedly pointed out by our delegation as well as other members of the Council. It is, however, necessary to draw the attention

(Mr. Mufti, Syria)

of the Council particularly to the inherent weaknesses of the economic structure under the new Statute, a structure in which the fundamental responsibility for the economic and social life of the Territory is held by the Administering Authority. We should also draw attention to the low proportion of wage earners who have the benefit of collective contracts. We should also draw attention to the difficulty of implementing labour legislation in the absence of such contracts.

We must also draw attention to the shortcomings in the Administering Authority's struggle against two diseases which are scourges in the Territory, namely, malaria and tuberculosis, particularly in the rural regions, and it is necessary to make more sustained efforts, in close co-operation with the World Health Organization.

We feel, finally, that the specialized agencies of the United Nations, in making available their experience and knowledge to the Administering Authority and the Trusteeship Council, contribute enormously towards facilitating our task. We should therefore like to recommend to the Administering Authority that it follow the suggestions of these agencies.

We do not wish to conclude our brief statement without thanking the representative of France for the information which he was good enough to give us during the debate.

Mr. HAMILTON (Australia): My delegation is participating only with some reluctance in this general debate upon conditions in French Togoland in the year 1955. We consider it inadvisable to touch upon political developments in the Territory, when to draw conclusions on that subject -- in particular at this stage -- would, in our view, be to run the risk of prejudicing the findings of the special commission which is being sent to visit the Territory.

Circumstances also largely preclude the Council from taking into account all the developments in 1956 in the economic, social and educational fields. We are obliged to confine ourselves, therefore, very largely to developments in 1955 in fields apart from the political field and the observations made within this restricted field of study cannot, as the debate so far seems already to have evidenced, easily avoid an air of unreality.

My delegation wishes at the outset to express its satisfaction at the progress achieved by the Administering Authority and the population of the Territory in the year under review. The advances made in the consolidation of earlier progress which had been effected have established a firm basis upon which the further accelerated development in the Territory towards the attainment of the objectives of the Charter can be based.

The situation in the political field in 1955 was very largely covered in the 1956 report of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly and for that reason alone no further comment on political developments in that year would appear to be appropriate now. Since, moreover, these and subsequent developments will be the object of particular study by the special commission, I do not myself propose and I trust that the Council does not intend to attempt to draw conclusions upon these matters at this time. I should in passing, however, like to express the satisfaction of my delegation at the manner in which the Administering Authority has implemented its policy of introducing indigenous people into the territorial and local fundamental public service. The progress that has been made in that field gives confidence that the policy so successfully pursued by the Administering Authority in the past will be continued in the future.

We can scarcely expect agricultural production to increase every year and we may know that no great expansion appears to have taken place in the year under review in the production of food and export crops. Even so, I note with interest the considerable expansion of coffee cultivation in 1955 and I would express the hope that the Administering Authority's efforts to diversify agricultural production in the Territory will be continued and indeed intensified so that a solid economic basis will be created upon which a future self-governing or independent State may rest.

It is to be hoped that the Administering Authority will find it practicable to ensure that the disadvantages which flow from the recent substantial reduction in the export prices of coffee and cocoa will be minimized in their impact upon the producers of these crops.

(Mr. Hamilton, Australia)

My delegation welcomes the report of the Administering Authority that registration of land has proceeded in the year under review at a slightly accelerated pace; that appreciable progress was made in the field of forestry establishment and soil and water conservation, and that large additional investment in the communications of the Territory is contemplated.

In the social field the Administering Authority has, in recent years, reported great advances, particularly in respect of labour and health conditions. Conditions in both these fields are, of course, susceptible of more immediate and effective improvement than is, for example, the status of women, and my delegation notes that this progress has been continued in the year under review. We would express the hope that, notwithstanding the difficulties which make progress in improving the status of women necessarily slow, the efforts which have been directed to this end in the past will be continued.

In the educational field my delegation notes that an over-all expansion has taken place in the provision of schools and in the accommodation of pupils at both the primary and secondary levels. A total of approximately 63,000 children were attending primary and secondary educational institutions at the end of the period under review, and an additional sixty-seven were receiving higher education outside the Territory. Unquestionably, far more remains to be done, but the impressive expansion that has taken place in this field over recent years gives the Council cause, I believe, to congratulate the Administering Authority on its work, which has resulted, generally speaking, in the establishment of a firm foundation upon which future educational expansion will be enabled to take place at an accelerated pace. In planning for that further expansion, the Administering Authority will undoubtedly give careful consideration to the very helpful suggestions that have been made by UNESCO.

I should like to associate my delegation with other delegations in the Council in thanking the representative of France for the information which he has presented to the Council under unusually difficult conditions. My delegation can appreciate the difficulties which prevented the Administering Authority from dispatching a special representative direct from the Territory at this particular time when the resources of the Territory are strained to the utmost in implementing great changes in the Administration. Such a situation might well have influenced

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the Administering Authority to request the Council to postpone consideration of the annual report until a more convenient occasion arose later in the year; yet, in a spirit of co-operation, the French Government has requested no such postponement of discussion and has contributed to the very best of its available resources to the Council's discussion. My delegation warmly appreciates this co-operation.

Finally, I should say that it is, of course, a matter of assumption for my delegation that there is nowhere any intention to attempt to influence the views of the commission which is shortly to visit the Territory, nor any possibility that the commission's opinions will be prejudiced by anything said in the Council at the present stage.

U PAW HTIN (Burma): The question of the future of Togoland under French administration has become all the more important to the Trusteeship Council in inasmuch as it has been discussed at both the eleventh session of the General Assembly and the sixth special session of the Council a few months ago. The statement made by the petitioner, Mr. Olympio, President of the Comité de l'Unité Togolaise, and the subsequent information which he gave to the Council during the questioning period have projected into the Council a new light on the conditions in the Territory, especially in regard to the present status which the Trust Territory of French Togoland enjoys as a result of the introduction of a new Statute.

My delegation listened with the greatest interest to the statement of Mr. Olympio and wishes to express its appreciation of the information with which he has provided the Council and which has added to our understanding of the political conditions in the Territory now known as the Autonomous Republic of French Togoland.

My delegation cannot but regret the fact that the Administering Authority failed to provide a special representative in order to assist the Council in its examination of conditions in the Trust Territory. Nevertheless, the representative of France has indeed been helpful in giving to the Council the information which it required, and for this my delegation wishes to thank the representative of France.

(U Paw Htin, Burma)

Rapid changes have indeed taken place in the Trust Territory within so short a period of time. Following the introduction of the loi-cadre in June 1956, we observed the submission of a memorandum on 24 August of the same year, which led to the inauguration of the Autonomous Republic of Togoland, culminating subsequently in the referendum which has been the subject of so much controversy.

A Statute has been bestowed upon this Trust Territory, resulting in a change in the name of the Territory; but, whatever the new name, the Statute itself has clearly indicated that the Territory is neither autonomous nor a republic and this fact has been stated already by many delegations both in the General Assembly and in the Council. In so far as a new Statute has been given to the Territory, my delegation regards it as a step towards the ultimate achievement of self-government, and for this the Government of France is to be commended. If it was the intention of the Government of France to link the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement to the Statute itself, the Council and the General Assembly at its last session were correct in rejecting the request made by the Administering Authority at the sixth special session of the Trusteeship Council for the termination of such Agreement. Furthermore, this issue of the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement need scarcely arise again since the French delegation withdrew its request during the session of the General Assembly. On this particular question my delegation has already expressed its attitude, which is recorded in document A/C.4/SR.595. Therefore, it will not be necessary for me to reiterate our position.

The fact that a commission has been appointed to visit the Trust Territory can in no way influence the course of our discussion or our examination of conditions. My delegation looks forward to the projected visit of the commission to Togoland and feels that whatever information this fact-finding commission may obtain, while indeed valuable, will be only complementary to our discussion and the conclusions which we may reach at this present session. Perhaps we can review our opinions in the light of the information which the commission may bring back, but we should leave in suspense the judgement which may be given here as a result of the examination of conditions in the Territory.

The new Statute with its proposed amendments should, therefore, be examined in the light of additional information received during the present session. In order to determine the measure of self-government or autonomy which this so-called Republic enjoys, and to see to what extent the French Government has been able to introduce certain innovations into the Statute -- arising out of our discussion during the last session of the General Assembly and the special session of this Council -- the conditions in the Trust Territory must be examined.

We have been told that the Togoland Statute has been amended somewhat but that it has yet to be passed into law. However, the introduction of such amendments gives a certain satisfaction to my delegation since it is evident therefrom that France is responding to the constitutional needs of the Territory.

At this juncture I should like to make a few remarks on the articles of the Statute itself. Article 1 of the Statute is in itself a refutation of the claim that Togoland is an autonomous republic, since it was not the representatives of the people who had proclaimed such a status but the French Government itself. To achieve that end it will be necessary for sovereignty to be entrusted to the population so that Togoland should have full legislative, executive and judicial powers, which is not the case at the present time.

The articles in the fifth part of the Statute make clearly manifest the absence of self-government and underscore the invalidity of the very title given to the Trust Territory. In this connexion I cannot help but comment briefly on the very interesting statement made by Mr. Olympio regarding his views on articles 25 and 38 on 17 April last in regard to the future relationship of the Trust Territory with the French Republic. Article 25, given Togoland citizens free access to public office in the French Republic in the same conditions as French citizens, and article 38 which deals with the procedure for amending the Statute, do appear to point towards the integration of the Territory with the French Republic, despite the repeated assertions of the French Republic that the Trust Territory is not being integrated into the French Republic and that nothing which has been done by France has affected the Trusteeship Agreement.

These are a few passing remarks; I did not wish to go into the detail regarding the Statute at the present moment but perhaps my delegation will have an opportunity to do so when the necessary amendments have been fully incorporated in the Statute. However, the choice of either integration or union with France, in other words the future relationship of the Trust Territory with the metropolitan country, should be decided by the people themselves through their truly representative and elected body, on the basis of universal adult suffrage. Any attempt on the part of either a group or the Administering Authority to present the people with a fait accompli would be strongly opposed by my delegation. Furthermore, this question should be decided only after a full measure of independence and self-government has been enjoyed by the inhabitants.

With regard to the Legislative Assembly, I would only say that the present Assembly was elected for a specific purpose, namely, to find out the wishes of the people in regard to the continuation or termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. I have no desire to recall to the Council the misgivings expressed by the members of this body and of the General Assembly on this question of the referendum or the way in which it was conducted. It is customary at every stage of the political development of a State, Territory in this instance, to have a new law-making body elected before new reforms are introduced. In this instance, the Administering Authority has introduced the Statute for the Trust Territory. It is only appropriate that the new legislature, elected on a wide franchise, should be elected before the reforms are applied. With due respect to the Administering Authority, I must say that it cannot take shelter under the cloak of the Territorial Government. It is the wish of this Council and of the General Assembly that elections under universal adult suffrage be held and we shall welcome steps in that direction. Free and fair elections can only be held under conditions in which there is no restriction on civil liberties. In view of the Decree of 15 March 1957, it cannot be said that such restrictions do not exist. My delegation would therefore urge the revocation of that decree and the holding of elections on universal suffrage at the earliest possible opportunity.

The general situation in the Trust Territory is indeed favourable to the immediate holding of an election. The minority party or group has explicitly indicated its genuine intention and desire for such free and fair elections and has expressed its wish to participate through Mr. Olympio, the petitioner, who has himself appealed to the representative of France to hold such an election. My delegation therefore, as mentioned earlier, feels that there is undue delay in holding these elections. Before such elections could be held, however, my delegation would urge that measures should be taken to restore the confidence of the minority party, and to allow free exercise of its rights in the election. The fact that the French Cameroons, a Territory comparable to Togoland and having somewhat the same political situation, has already had elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage, makes it all the more necessary to hold such elections in French Togoland immediately.

(U Paw Htin, Burma)

Turning now to the economic field, although economic development of the Territory is subordinate to its political progress, economic viability and independence are indeed prerequisites to political advancement, and I need hardly mention this fact since it is obvious. The reforms introduced in the political field should therefore be kept in line with economic and social development, since the three aspects of the Territory contribute to its progress and the attainment of its independence.

We cannot but observe that the new Statute which has been promulgated does not entrust the people with the responsibility that emanates from the economy of the Territory. Matters pertaining to foreign trade, finance, foreign exchange and customs regulations are still left outside the jurisdiction of the Territorial Government. It is hoped that the Administering Authority will introduce measures to make the Territory self-sufficient and economically independent. No attempt should therefore be made to tie up the Territory's economy with any metropolitan country. Economic co-operation and inter-dependency between this Trust Territory and neighbouring territories in Africa should be the main tasks in the future economic programme.

My delegation is happy to note improvement in the economic conditions of the Territory itself, which has benefited greatly from the ten-year plan which would end in June of this year. We hope that in the next ten-year plan efforts will be made towards greater self-sufficiency and stability in the economy. Regarding industry, the pattern of the economy is largely one of the export of raw material, while the expansion of industry will depend on the consideration of the problem of production costs and prices more comparable with the finished products. While appreciating the efforts made by the Administration, my delegation hopes that there remains the possibility of further expanding industrial activity.

Coming to the social field, we are indeed pleased to note some improvement in the Territory, although the status of women is still deplorable, and the polygamy and bride-price system still flourishes in the Territory in spite of the efforts made by the Government to check it. Conditions in the prisons and in the rehabilitation centre should be attended to, and the Council's recommendation adopted at the previous session has yet to be fully implemented.

While commending the Administration for its efforts to improve public health, the Territory still lacks hospital facilities and maternity centres and further effort should be devoted to measures designed to reduce the high rate of infant mortality.

Lastly, I should like to touch briefly on the educational situation in the Territory. My delegation agrees with UNESCO that greater efforts should be made in the vocational field of education, especially in regard to agriculture. However, the most important aspect of educational development is in the field of secondary education. Not only should the Administering Authority promote both the quality and the quantity of teaching staff, it should also make every effort to improve the level of secondary education. Since we all know the importance of higher education, my delegation would like to urge the Administering Authority to take all necessary steps to give the widest publicity to the offers of scholarships made by Member Governments.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the representative of France for his assistance in this discussion.

The PRESIDENT: I would like now to recognize the representative of Italy in connexion with the procedural debate that took place yesterday.

Mr. GRILLO (Italy): Yesterday I raised a point of order because I thought that it was not in keeping with the Council's practice to allow a member to intervene in the general debate whenever he deems fit unless -- although I admit I am not experienced in procedure -- he speaks on a point of clarification or in the exercise of his right of reply.

The Syrian representative was allowed to intervene in the general debate immediately after my statement although he was not inscribed on the list. He made "some observations on the statement just made by the representative of Italy." (T/PV.783, p. 82) May I state again, as I did yesterday, most emphatically that I was not worried by the fact that the Syrian representative was expressing opinions contrary to mine. I could not have been worried because we practically always know who is going to say what on almost every issue and we are used to democratic proceedings. It was the timing of the Syrian representative's remarks which was in my opinion inconsistent with the traditions of the Council.

In my statement, I expressed the opinion -- and I think I had every right to do so -- on the utility of this debate on French Togoland. I said that any further discussion on French Togoland should take into account the indication of the General Assembly, namely, that it should take place in the light of the report of the Commission. I did not dispute the right of other representatives to express divergent opinions. I did not refer in the least to the position of the Syrian delegation on any particular point. I did not even mention the Syrian delegation, not even by implication.

The Syrian delegation immediately thereafter said in his intervention that this debate is useful, that it should not be postponed and that we should not wait for the report of the Commission. I do not dispute the right of the Syrian representative to uphold such views. My point is, as it was yesterday: Was he entitled to take the floor at that time simply because he so chose? Of course, he was supported by the Soviet representative.

You, Mr. President, said that I was not justified in raising such a point of order and you allowed the representative of Syria to continue with his remarks.

(Mr. Grillo, Italy)

I am certainly not going to appeal from your ruling as it was incorrectly reported to you. But allow me to recall the precedent of 27 June 1955 when a representative in the Council invoked rules 53 and 54 in support of his view that the representative of Australia was not speaking to a point of order in the general debate because that representative was commenting on the statement which had just been made by another representative -- the representative of India, I think. I shall quote from the verbatim record of 27 June 1955. Immediately after the Indian representative had made his statement, the representative I am referring to stated:

"The representative of Australia did not speak to a point of order, and if we are going to continue in this way, if the representatives of Administering Authorities cannot control themselves when they hear criticism, we shall get into unending altercations... Of course, I leave this to the judgement of the President, but I hope that he will agree with me that, in the interest of the proper course of our deliberations, it is necessary that answers should be given in turn. If the representative of Australia had had his name inscribed on the list of speakers, there would be no objection, but to my knowledge he had not done so." (T/PV.624, p. 64-65)

The President then thanked the representative of Syria for his very helpful observations. That representative was supported by another representative, who said:

"... I do feel that our procedure is disturbed when so rapid a reply is made... to the comments" by other representatives. (Ibid., p. 66)

Again, the President said:

"I think that, if a case of this kind should arise in the future, the Council's permission should be obtained for granting a representative the right to speak out of turn." (Ibid., p. 67)

The representative who then raised the point of order was the Syrian representative, and the representative who supported him was the Soviet representative. I have no further comments to make.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to make certain observations on the statement of the representative of Italy.

In the first place, I had no speakers inscribed on my list and I considered that that was the end of the general debate for yesterday. Secondly, there is an established right for members to reply to statements of other members. Thirdly, I ask the representative of Italy if he is challenging my ruling because I would like to put the question to the Council.

Mr. GRILLO (Italy): Mr. President, I noticed that you were speaking when I was making my brief statement so you did not hear what I said. I said:

"You, Mr. President, said that I was not justified in raising such a point of order and you allowed the representative of Syria to continue with his remarks. I am certainly not going to appeal from your ruling as it was incorrectly reported to you. But allow me to recall the precedent..."

(Supra)

The PRESIDENT: I am sorry to say that I did not fully grasp the intention of the representative. I ask him to be kind enough to tell me whether or not he is challenging my ruling. It is either yes or no. If he is not challenging my ruling, the incident is closed.

Mr. GRILLO (Italy): I will give you my answer to make the record clear. I will read my statement for the third time:

"I am... not going to appeal from your ruling as it was incorrectly reported to you." (Supra)

My answer is in the negative.

The PRESIDENT: I understand that the representative of Italy has not challenged my ruling. I consider the whole matter closed and I would like to turn to another item on our agenda.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria)(interpretation from French): My delegation would have been glad to consider the question closed yesterday. But since the question has been raised again, I wish to make the following clarifications.

First I wish to emphasize that no rule of our rules of procedure stands in the way of a member of the Council rising to speak if he wishes to speak in order to reply to the observations of another representative. That right should be granted to him. My delegation asked to be recognized in order to avail itself of the right of reply and to note certain observations of the representative of Italy which, in the view of my delegation, did not fit into the framework of the general debate. We did not make any motion and we did not interrupt the representative of Italy in order to raise a point of order. Therefore it is certain that the precedent pertaining to the point of order of the representative of Australia which was cited by the representative of Italy is not applicable to the situation. I did not raise a point of order; I merely exercised my right of reply.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, after your exhaustive and clear explanation, it was perhaps not really necessary to continue the discussion on this question. However, my delegation was surprised to hear the statement by the representative of Italy to the effect that he knows who will say what, and when, in this Council. That is odd. Perhaps the representative of Italy has some means of finding out the opinions of people, opinions which are not known to the Council. Perhaps he has a direct line to the heads of representatives present.

As regards the question which was touched upon by the representative of Italy, we might reply to him that he has spoken on a question which was not on our agenda. At the present time, that question is not under discussion. Yet everyone listened patiently to the representative of Italy, and nobody attempted to interrupt him or to deprive him of his right to express his thoughts. However, the representative of Italy himself grossly violated our procedure and tradition by interrupting the representative of Syria. It is odd that the representative of Italy, after all this, is now attempting to make certain accusations, to make certain allegations of violations of certain rights, whereas it was he who established an unprecedented example by interrupting a representative who was speaking. Moreover -- and I do not know whether that was a sign of courtesy -- he said that he knew in advance what anyone was going to say and he rejected in advance what someone was still planning to say. I do not know how customary that is in a civilized society; we experience it for the first time.

MR. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Mr. President, I think you made a splendid suggestion, namely, to deal with the next item on the agenda.

THE PRESIDENT: It has been my intention -- and I stated it very frankly -- that I would like to have the matter closed. Of course, as an impartial man, I would accord the floor to any representative at any time, but I am glad that the matter is closed. It is closed.

(The President)

This concludes our general debate on the Trust Territory of Togoland under French administration. I should like to inform the Council, in this connexion, that the representative of France will make his closing statement on Monday.

EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION FOR 1955 (T/1284, 1304, 1307; T/L.736 and Add.1, L.742) [Agenda item 3c] (continued)

Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti), Chairman of the Drafting Committee on the Cameroons under French Administration (interpretation from French): I should like to inform the Trusteeship Council of the progress made by the Drafting Committee on the Cameroons under French Administration.

The Committee has prepared draft conclusions and recommendations on three chapters: economic advancement, social advancement and educational advancement.

The question was raised in the Committee of how it should proceed with its work. At the meeting of the Council of 16 April, the representative of Guatemala had asked the Council to consider the desirability of the Drafting Committee considering the chapter on political advancement or whether that should be reserved for a later stage, that is, when more recent information concerning the statute for the Cameroons became available. During the exchange of views that occurred in this connexion, the representative of France, Mr. Bargues, told us that his Government intended to communicate to the Council information regarding the voting in the French Parliament on the statute for the Cameroons. However, since then, we have received no information from the representative of France in this respect. The question before us is, therefore, whether the Council is going to maintain its decision of 16 April, according to which the Drafting Committee would deal with those three chapters to which I have just referred, while awaiting a decision by the Council on the political question, in other words, whether the question of the political advancement is to be referred to the Drafting Committee. So it is a matter of whether the representative of France is now in a position to make his statement or inform the Council when it will receive this information.

Mr. BARGUES (France) (interpretation from French): As was recalled by the representative of Haiti in his capacity as Chairman of the Drafting Committee on the Cameroons under French Administration, I had informed the Committee at a previous meeting that the French Government intended to make an official communication of the text of the new statute for the Cameroons to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. I had said, however, that a certain period of time would intervene, because the statute was still before the French Parliament. In order to become final, the statute, after having been approved by the Parliament, would have to be promulgated in the Journal Officiel of the French Republic, on the one hand, and in the Journal Officiel of the Cameroons, on the other hand; then the statute would come into force. The Territorial Assembly would become a Legislative Assembly and it would have the powers of a legislative assembly, and a government would be constituted which would be voted into power by the Assembly.

I might say as of now that the statute has been approved by the French Parliament. The Council of the Republic has not made any amendments to the text approved by the National Assembly, and that text is now considered as adopted and it is now law. It has been promulgated in the Journal Officiel, a few days ago -- I do not have the precise date -- and it will be very soon promulgated in the Territory. However, the Territorial Assembly is at present in special session, and it seemed preferable to the members of that Assembly to finish the work of the present session, which will probably end on 10 May. The new Government would then be installed on 11th and assume its powers on 12th May.

(Mr. Bargues, France)

Thus, if we refer to the conditions which I pointed out during my previous statement, we see that it is only on the date I have mentioned that the French Government will officially be able to communicate the Statute to the United Nations. The Statute is in fact not final until the day when it enters into force.

However, in looking at the tentative timetable drawn up by the Secretariat, I note that this session should end on 8 May. It would therefore be too late if we waited to communicate the Statute until all the formalities had been completed. I am thus able to tell the Council that, before 8 May, I shall communicate this Statute in the name of my Government. Materially, it is impossible for me to do that before the end of the debate on Togoland.

A delay of only a few days is involved. I shall be able to make this communication sometime next week and to give the Council the text of the Statute. I repeat that, although the Statute may be regarded as final juridically speaking, it will actually be final only on the day when it enters into force.

As the Chairman of the Drafting Committee has said, that Committee has so far postponed the consideration of draft recommendations on political problems. I think that, in order not to delay its work, the Drafting Committee might now begin the consideration of political problems which do not directly relate to the Statute. There are several points -- perhaps there are not many, but we must not forget that this is already the end of the week -- which could be considered by the Committee before I am in a position to communicate the text of the Statute to the Council and to make the statement on behalf of my Government in this respect.

The PRESIDENT: In the light of the suggestion of the representative of France that the Drafting Committee should proceed with its consideration of political problems not directly related to the Statute, and in the hope that the French delegation will find it possible to make his communication to the Drafting Committee and the Council early next week, I ask the Council whether it would have any objection to this course.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I do not think that the Drafting Committee would wish to examine the Statute before the Council had seen it.

The PRESIDENT: I think that that is clear. I did mention the Drafting Committee first, but it is of course evident that the Council will have to see the Statute first. This is in line with what I said at a previous meeting. If there are no objections, I shall take it that the Council agrees to that procedure.

It was so decided.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CREDENTIALS (T/1309) [Agenda item 2]

The PRESIDENT: Are there any observations on the report of the Secretary-General on credentials?

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Only a representative appointed by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China could lawfully represent China in the Trusteeship Council. The Soviet Union delegation therefore proposes that the Trusteeship Council should not recognize the credentials of the individual who is unlawfully occupying the seat of China in the Trusteeship Council. We ask for a separate vote on the credentials of that individual.

Mr. KIANG (China): I am not at all surprised to hear that statement by the Soviet Union spokesman, since we all know that the preceding speaker represents a political regime which habitually uses upside-down language.

I wish only to tell the Council that the Government which I have the honour to represent here in this Council is the only Chinese Government freely and legitimately constituted. It is the only Government which can rightfully speak for the Chinese people in the United Nations.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): The report of the Secretary-General states that the credentials of all the representatives in the Trusteeship Council have been found to be in order. This Council should therefore logically vote on the report as a whole. In the view of the United States, it is unnecessary and inappropriate to vote separately on parts of the report on credentials. My delegation will therefore vote against the proposal that a separate vote should be taken on the credentials of each member.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): We should merely like to say that the exclusion of the People's Republic of China is a major anomaly which must be set right soon in the interests of this Organization.

U PAW HTIN (Burma): I need hardly reiterate my Government's position on this issue. So far as we are concerned, we recognize no other Chinese Government than that of the People's Republic of China.

Mr. BARGUES (France) (interpretation from French): I think that the powers of the Trusteeship Council in this respect are limited to deciding whether the credentials of certain representatives of Member States are in order. The Council would be exceeding its powers if, as the Soviet Union delegation proposes, it were to question the legality of the Governments of States represented in the United Nations.

The PRESIDENT: Members have heard the proposal of the United States representative. In effect, that representative has invoked rule 60 of the Trusteeship Council's rules of procedure, which reads:

"Parts of a report, draft resolution, other motion or amendment may be voted on separately at the request of a representative and subject to the will of the Trusteeship Council. The proposal shall then be voted on as a whole."

I shall therefore first put to the vote the Soviet Union proposal that the report on credentials should be put to the vote in parts.

The proposal was rejected by 10 votes to 4.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on the report of the Secretary-General on credentials (T/1309).

The report was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to explain my vote. The Soviet Union delegation abstained from the vote on the report of the Secretary-General on credentials because, under the heading "China", that document contains the names of the Chiang Kai-shek delegation, which represents no one but itself. As we have already stated, the only lawful representatives of China in all the organs of the United Nations would be representatives appointed by the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China.

Mr. KIANG (China): I want to protest very strongly against the language used by the Soviet spokesman in respect of the Head of my State. Since the Soviet Union wants to prolong this debate, then let me tell him the following. I want to remind the Council that the Soviet Union has been condemned by the General Assembly only recently for its defiance of repeated calls from the United Nations to desist from its aggression against Hungary, and for its persistent violations of the Charter. The Soviet Union is, to say the least, unfit for membership of the United Nations.

I need hardly say that it is an affront to this Council that the Soviet Union should seek to bring in the Chinese Communists who supported the subjugation of Hungary by brutal Soviet colonialism and imperialism.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria) (interpretation from French): My delegation voted in favour of the Soviet proposal because each delegation in this Council is entitled to ask for a separate vote.

Mr. LORANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, I regret very much that you did not stop the individual before the representative of Syria since he was speaking of things which are not being considered by this Council.

As regards the statement which we heard here, I shall say that the Soviet people and the Soviet delegation representatives show the greatest respect for the great Chinese people by failing to recognize and refusing to recognize the bankrupt group which represents no one. The Soviet Union thus expresses and emphasizes its respect and its love for the Chinese people.

As regards the attempts to inject here insinuations which have long been dispelled, we must say that those who represent no one can express no opinions.

Mr. KIANG (China): It is beneath my dignity as the representative of China to refute again what was said by the preceding speaker. As I said long ago, he represents a political regime which habitually uses upside-down language.

The PRESIDENT: I think it should be very clearly stated by the President that the Council should only discuss items on its agenda. I consider this matter closed.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): The matter is closed so far as my delegation is concerned, but I merely ask to speak in order to explain our failure to participate in the voting. We did not participate in the vote because we think that the will of the Council was exercised in such a manner as to prevent some of us from expressing our legitimate views. That may be, I concede, strictly in accordance with the rules of procedure but certainly not in the best interests of the working of the Council.

The meeting was suspended at 3.45 and resumed at 4.05 p.m.

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS: 188TH AND 189TH REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.750, L.751) Agenda item 47

The PRESIDENT: The 188th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.750) deals with petitions concerning the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration. The report contains in its annex nine draft resolutions proposed by the Committee. I shall put each of these draft resolutions to a separate vote.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 10 of the second section of the report, on page 8, there are two paragraphs from the original draft resolution considered by the Committee on Petitions, which read as follows:

"Expresses regret that seventeen indigenous persons were imprisoned for almost a year before having been acquitted by the Court;

"Requests the Administering Authority to see to it that such cases should not occur again in the future."

I would ask the President to put these two paragraphs to the vote.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I have an amendment to submit in this connexion. In the second paragraph of draft resolution II, I would like the words "Draws the attention of the petitioners to the observations of the Administering Authority" to be replaced by the words "Takes note of the observations of the Administering Authority."

In connexion with the remarks made by the representative of the Soviet Union, regret is being expressed at the fact that certain persons were detained for a year before being acquitted. In actual fact, these persons were accused of very serious offences and, as the Council is aware, the British system of criminal

(Mr. Smolderen, Belgium)

procedure is one of the best in the world. The United Kingdom is not a country where persons are sentenced and executed in three days.

With regard to the second paragraph mentioned by the Soviet representative, requesting the Administering Authority to see to it that such cases should not occur again in the future, I ask the Council how it can interfere with the administration of justice by making such requests.

The PRESIDENT: I shall put to a vote the amendment proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I shall now put to a vote the amendment proposed by the representative of Belgium, namely, to replace the words "Draws the attention" by the words "Takes note".

The Belgian amendment was adopted by 6 votes to 4, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution II as amended was adopted by 7 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution V was adopted unanimously.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): When draft resolution VI was considered in the Standing Committee on Petitions, I drew attention to the fact that in the Russian text the phrase used was "former prisoners of war". As the petition speaks of "ex-servicemen" I asked that a correction should be made, but in the present text we again find the words "former prisoners of war" rather than "ex-servicemen". Therefore, I wish to draw this matter again to the attention of the Secretariat in order that a correction may be made.

The PRESIDENT: The Secretariat will give its attention to the matter.
Draft resolution VI was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In connexion with draft resolution IX, I wish to draw attention to paragraph 10 on page 17 of the relevant section of the report. Here, again, the Secretariat has changed the original Russian text. Obviously, it should be reinstated in the form in which it was considered in the Committee. The paragraph reads as follows:

"2. Expresses the hope that the Administration of the Cameroons under British administration will make an inquiry into the substance of the complaint and will take necessary measures to bring assistance to the inhabitants of the Cameroons under French administration, who have been obliged to find refuge in the Cameroons under British administration."

(T/L.750, page 18)

I would ask that a vote be taken on this paragraph.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The Soviet Union proposal calls for certain observations.

In the first place, one may question whether these persons are actually refugees. As we know, in the two parts of the Cameroons under British and French administration, there is a continual movement of persons. There are people in the French Cameroons who have property in the British Cameroons and vice versa. These people, when moving about, are not refugees.

In the second place, we should be making a request of the British administration, which have never had a problem of this sort brought to its attention. The petition here was addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner Commissioner for Refugees by an unknown association and, according to page 17, the Administering Authority did not possess the necessary knowledge of the problem to enable it to pass judgement on the question whether these persons were actually refugees. It is, therefore, established that they are not necessarily political refugees.

The PRESIDENT: I shall put to a vote the proposal of the representative representative of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union proposal was rejected by 7 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I should like to draw the attention of the Council to paragraph 3 on page 2 of the report (T/L.750). In this paragraph the Committee recommends "that the Council decide that no special information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions I - IX". I shall put this recommendation to a vote.

The recommendation contained in paragraph 3 was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now take up the 189th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.751), dealing with petitions concerning the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration. The report contains in its annex five draft resolutions proposed by the Committee. We shall vote on each draft resolution separately.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): In connexion with draft resolution I, I propose that the words "Draws the attention of the petitioner to" be replaced by "Notes".

The amendment was adopted by 7 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.

Draft resolution I as amended was adopted by 7 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now vote on draft resolution II.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): In paragraph 8 of the relevant section of the report dealing with the petition in question, there is a proposal to the effect that the Council should invite the Administering Authority to take the necessary steps to satisfy the requests contained in the petition. May I ask that that be put to the vote as an amendment.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium)(interpretation from French): The members of the Council would be interested in knowing what are the requests contained in the petition. At page 5, paragraph 2, of this report, one can read that the petitioners submit, inter alia, the following requests:

"(a) abolition of the classification of land by the Water and Forestry Service;

(b) abolition of fines for felling stakes for the construction of huts;"

I would draw the attention of my colleagues who are members of the Drafting Committee on the French Cameroons to the fact that these are points on which the Council has always been very strict. The protection of forests and the classification of land are matters on which great stress has been laid by the Council. Therefore, if we were to satisfy the requests of the petitioners, we would run counter to the decisions of the Council itself.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I do not understand why the representative of Belgium drew the attention of members of the Council to paragraph 2. I think that all the members of the Council are able to read it for themselves. However, if attention is drawn to this paragraph, then the other requests should also be read. The petitioners request:

"(c) construction of feeder roads for produce;

(d) increase in the number of hospitals, clinics and schools;

(e) replacement of chiefs appointed by the Administration by elected chiefs;

(f) that cases before the courts should be expedited."

The Soviet amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.
Draft resolution II was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.
Draft resolution III was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.
Draft resolution IV was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): I was compelled to vote against draft resolution IV, because the petition was not fully considered in the Committee, and this is stated in the section of the report which describes the consideration of this petition by the Standing Committee on Petitions.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will now consider draft resolution V.

Mr. BENDRYSHV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): In the eighth paragraph of the relevant section of the report, there is a recommendation that the Administering Authority should take the necessary steps to see to it that the petitioner's family be granted assistance and that the petitioner's husband be provided with employment so that he may support his family. May I ask that this proposal should be put to the vote as an amendment.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I have often had occasion to point out to the Council that the Administering Authorities are not labour exchanges. There are excellent institutions in the Territory to enable persons to find work, particularly in the case of persons who have always worked for private firms. With regard to the husband of the petitioner in this case, I should like to refer the members of the Council to paragraph 2. The husband of the petitioner was dismissed from his post, with Messrs. King because he was convicted of the embezzlement of 40,000 francs. The individual concerned has actually admitted his guilt and himself offered his resignation. I really do not see, therefore, what the Administering Authority could do to put this man back in his previous post or to find him other work.

As to the situation of his family, of course it is true that it is not a very satisfactory condition. . . But this is a situation which is the result of conditions beyond our control. In fact, the petitioner has a plantation from which she derives income and she has four children working; she is therefore not in need. I cannot consequently support this amendment.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria)(interpretation from French): My delegation has not been convinced by the arguments contained in paragraph 2. We would ask for a separate vote on the two parts of the Soviet amendment. The first vote should be taken up to the word "assistance", and the second vote should be taken on the remainder.

The PRESIDENT: The Council will vote on the Soviet amendment in two parts. The first part of the amendment reads as follows:

"Recommends that the Administering Authority should take the necessary steps to see to it that the petitioner's family be granted assistance".

The first part of the amendment was rejected by 6 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now vote on the second part of the Soviet amendment with the inclusion of the word "Recommends".

The second part of the amendment was rejected by 6 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT: I draw the attention of the members of the Council to paragraph 3 on page 2 of the report. In that paragraph the Committee recommends that the Council decide that no specific information is required concerning the action taken on resolutions I-V.

The recommendation was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF THE UNITED NATIONS OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES [General Assembly Resolution 1063 (XI)] (A/RES/496; T/L.753) [Agenda item 10] (continued)

The PRESIDENT: It may be recalled that at its 775th meeting held on 12 April 1957 the Council asked the Secretariat to prepare a working paper outlining the present position with regard to the programme on scholarships, fellowships and internships under General Assembly resolutions 557 (VI) and 753 (VIII) in order to facilitate its consideration, as requested in General Assembly resolution 1063 (XI), of the way in which the scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States were being utilized. The working paper has been distributed to the members in document T/L.753.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): What I have to say is perhaps not very important at this stage. On reading this paper prepared by the Secretariat, it struck me that what we are really interested in is paragraph 2 of the General Assembly resolution, which requests the Council to find out how these various scholarships that have been offered are being utilized. The last paragraph of the Secretariat document shows that information regarding the utilization of these scholarships is not yet available so that it seems to me somewhat premature to consider this matter right now. I suggest that we might wait until all the various Member States to whom these communications were addressed by the Secretariat reply. Perhaps when those replies are available we will be in a position to know how in fact these scholarships are being used.

May I suggest that we put this item on the agenda of the next session of the Council. Meanwhile the Secretary-General will no doubt consider the desirability of sending a reminder in order to secure earlier replies.

The PRESIDENT: I believe the representative of India has made a good suggestion. All the information is not available. If I understand him correctly he proposes that this item be included in the agenda of our next session.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): As many other delegations, the Soviet delegation has repeatedly drawn attention to the very serious shortcomings in the matter of trained highly skilled specialists from among the indigenous inhabitants of the Trust Territories. These shortcomings were repeatedly noted in decisions adopted by the General Assembly.

Taking into account the unsatisfactory situation in respect of secondary and higher education and attributing great importance to this aspect of the development of Trust Territories, the General Assembly, in its resolutions, appealed to Member Governments to grant scholarships to indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories. At the same time it recommended that the Administering Authorities take the necessary steps so that the scholarships made available by Member Governments may be used by the indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories, and it urged that all possible co-operation be given to these indigenous inhabitants.

From previous reports and from the present report of the Secretariat, we know that many Governments have responded to the appeal of the General Assembly. They have offered a certain number of scholarships for the education of indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories. We also know from these same reports that advantage has not been taken of the majority of these scholarships; in particular of ten scholarships offered by the Soviet Union under very favourable terms for education were not utilized.

From the petitions received from inhabitants of Trust Territories which express the desire to take advantage of these scholarships, it is known that the Administering Authorities have not only not helped these indigenous inhabitants to take advantage of these scholarships offered by the Soviet Union, but they have prevented them from doing so. Thus the Administering Authorities are artificially impeding the fulfilment of the task of training highly skilled cadres in the Trust Territories.

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

From the report of the Secretariat we see that the Soviet Government is again offering ten scholarships to indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories. My delegation expresses the hope that the Administering Authorities will take steps to comply with paragraph 1 of the resolution adopted at the eleventh session of the Assembly and to assist indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories to take advantage of the scholarships.

As regards the report of the Secretary-General, my delegation must express its regret at the fact that it does not contain information concerning the way in which scholarships offered by Members of the United Nations to inhabitants of the Trust Territories are used. In connexion with the fact that the General Assembly has asked the Council to discuss the question of the utilization of scholarships, the Soviet delegation wishes to know whether the Administering Authorities or their delegations could not, in the course of the discussion of this question here, give the necessary information so that the Council would be able to discuss the question and make its recommendation. If, however, this turns out to be impossible for some reason, we will fully associate ourselves with the proposal of the representative of India that the question should remain on the agenda of the Council. In expressing such a desire, the Soviet delegation also feels that the Council must take all necessary steps in order that all resolutions of the General Assembly might be implemented.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): My delegation is agreeable to the procedure proposed by the representative of India, for the reason that certain important documents are still lacking. I note that the Council has no objections to this procedure, and I would suggest a similar procedure for the item on the agenda dealing with Togoland under French administration.

The PRESIDENT: Did I hear the representative of Belgium make two proposals simultaneously? I thought we were discussing the question of scholarships now. We are not discussing the question of Togoland. I should like to get some clarification from the representative of Belgium.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I wish to indicate that this was an interesting precedent which I shall invoke tomorrow or on Monday, as required.

The PRESIDENT: I take it that the representative of Belgium is now in accord with the proposal of the representative of India and that we are not talking about Togoland at this time.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria) (interpretation from French): My delegation feels that paragraph 5 under the heading "Applications" should be clarified by adding the following phrase to the second line between the words "applications" and "transmitted": "from students in Trust Territories".

Mr. COHEN (Under-Secretary, Department of Trusteeship): May I invite the attention of the Council to the fact that this is a report of the Secretary-General, and not a draft resolution or recommendation. I do not see how any change in the words which the Secretary-General used in this report could be now adopted by the Council.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria) (interpretation from French): Since the paragraph in question was not quite clear, my delegation merely felt that it should make this suggestion; it is not an amendment.

Mr. BARGUES (France) (interpretation from French): I do not wish to prolong the discussion of this matter in the Council. Both in the Fourth Committee and in the Council, I made known the position of the Government of France in connexion with this question of granting to students from Trust Territories scholarships offered by Member States of the United Nations.

I should like to dispute the allegations by the representative of the Soviet Union that France and other Administering Authorities had forbidden indigenous inhabitants to accept such scholarships. The truth is that indigenous inhabitants are attracted particularly by offers of scholarships made by the local committees for studies in France. That is one of the reasons why they have little interest in scholarships to other countries.

I have before me a brochure by UNESCO giving statistics of persons pursuing studies abroad in various Member countries of the United Nations. I note that the country receiving the largest number of foreign students is the United States, which has 31,000 foreign students. The next is France, with 16,000 foreign students; then the Argentine Republic; and then the United Kingdom. These are the figures contained in this official document published by UNESCO. These figures show quite clearly that, in proportion to its population, France is the country that is most attractive to foreign students.

The second point that I should like to raise is the following one. The main obstacle facing students in the Trust Territories, as regards these scholarships, is that they are required to know foreign languages. The only foreign language that has any currency in the Territory is English. Exceptions are the scholarships referred to in subparagraphs (j) and (m). The Government of Tunisia offers scholarships in French for studies in French, so that my remark does not apply there. With regard to the United States, the teaching there would be in English, and it would be easy to find students who could benefit from such scholarships and pursue their studies in the United States.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I wish to seek some clarification from the Under-Secretary. I think that he referred to this document T/L.753 as a report. It is, I think, a working paper prepared for the use of the Council, and I presume this is not the report that the Secretary-General envisages sending to the General Assembly.

Mr. COHEN (Under-Secretary, Department of Trusteeship): The representative of India is correct. As is stated in paragraph 9 of this working paper, the Secretary-General is awaiting receipt of answers to his communications to Member States, in order to be able to prepare the comprehensive report required by the General Assembly.

However, as this document is a working paper, I do not think that its contents, as far as drafting is concerned, are subject to modification. But I must say this: when the Secretary-General prepares the final report contemplated in paragraph 9, he will obviously bear in mind any observations which may have been made during this preliminary examination of this question at this meeting or which may be made at a following meeting of the Council.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): With reference to the explanation by the representative of France, I should like to make the following remark. The representative of France mentioned the large number of students studying in France. I should like to ask him whether many students from Trust Territories under French administration made use of fellowships offered by other Member States of the United Nations. I feel sure that he would not be able to say that there are very many students from Trust Territories under French administration who had the opportunity of making use of such fellowships. That is my first comment.

My second comment is as follows. We know of cases where students from the Cameroons who expressed a wish to make use of fellowships offered by the Government of the Soviet Union were not in a position to make use of them, because they were prevented from doing so by the Administering Authority.

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

As to the conditions laid down by various Member States for the use of fellowships, I must repeat that the Soviet Government gives extremely favourable conditions to citizens of Trust Territories wishing to obtain higher education. They are granted fellowships to cover all cultural requirements, food, lodging, and even summer vacations at summer resorts. Of course, travel from the Trust Territory in which they live to the Soviet Union and return is also fully paid for.

(Mr. Lebanov, USSR)

Notwithstanding the fact that such favourable conditions are not being made known to the inhabitants of the Trust Territories by the Administering Authorities, we nevertheless received a considerable number of requests from the indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories who expressed a desire to avail themselves of these scholarships. We have already received some requests from various inhabitants of Trust Territories for the ten scholarships the Soviet Government has offered and we hope that the Administering Authorities will not prevent the applicants from making use of them. That would be a most favourable answer to the General Assembly's appeal to the Administering Authorities.

Mr. BARGUES (France) (interpretation from French): It is true, as the representative of the Soviet Union has stated, that I have not mentioned the number of students from Trust Territories who are being educated abroad. I did not do so because that was not the purpose of my statement. All that I wanted to make clear was that students who are not French were particularly attracted by scholarships in France. In fact, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Argentina were the countries which proved most attractive to students wanting to study abroad. This proves that at least three of the Administering Authorities of Trust Territories are particularly attractive to prospective students. I would refer the representative of the Soviet Union to the UNESCO document from which I just quoted; it indicates the number of students from French Overseas Territories studying in countries other than France. There are a number of them, and he could find the information there. I have not given the number who are studying in the Soviet Union, because that information is not given in the document to which I referred.

U PAW HTEIN (Burma): It is not my intention to prolong the discussion of this item, since we have before us the proposal of the representative of India. As we have pointed out, it is indeed important to receive information in regard to the implementation of operative paragraph 2 of the General Assembly resolution A/RES/496, which has a bearing on

(Mr. Rolz Bennett, Guatemala)

of others in order to meet the requirements laid down by the General Assembly resolutions 557 (VI) and 753 (VIII). I have said this in order to express my support for the Indian proposal to adjourn the question until we have more information. I am well aware that the document to be prepared by the Secretariat will have to contain information from the interested Governments, and my delegation hopes that the latter, and the Administering Authorities of Trust Territories, will supply the necessary information so that the document can be prepared as soon as possible.

The PRESIDENT: We have before us the proposal of the representative of India and in the absence of objection I shall take it that the Council endorses it.

The proposal was adopted.

operative paragraph 1. In this respect, I should like to reserve the position of my delegation. As will be seen from the document, the Government of Burma has offered three scholarships, which include free tuition, book allowance and a maintenance grant. I regret to say that up to now those three scholarships have not been utilized by any of the Territories.

Mr. ROAL BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to make some comments on this important matter in connexion with document T/L.753 which has been prepared and submitted to us by the Secretariat. We all recall the discussion which took place in the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly during the eleventh session. It was then made clear that in order to discuss the question in a more complete and exhaustive manner it would be necessary to have certain information, including first the number of scholarships made available, second what countries had offered scholarships, and third what were the conditions attached to the granting of such scholarships to students from Trust Territories. It was also desired to know the procedure by which offers of scholarships would be made known to students in the Trust Territories. Furthermore, it was also important to know through what channels students would make application for these scholarships -- whether they would make application through the Administering Authority, directly to the offering State, or through the machinery of the United Nations. In connexion with the last point, my delegation stated during the General Assembly debates that it was necessary to establish whether these procedures would be such as to deal rapidly with applications from interested students.

Another very important point was to find out what scholarships had actually been given to applicants. Once it was known how many scholarships were available, it was also necessary to know how many applicants had received scholarships and had benefited from them, and if so in what way. Information on all these points was considered indispensable to enable a complete appraisal of the situation to be arrived at. My delegation considers that although document T/L.753 supplies a considerable amount of information on many of the points which I have just mentioned, there is still need for information on a number

PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT: As members of the Council are aware, the Council has fallen far behind its schedule for this session. This is not a reflection on the energy of members or on their promptness in attending meetings, both at 2 p.m. and at 10.30 a.m. For that energy and promptness, members deserve the highest commendation and gratitude of the President and the Secretariat.

In order to facilitate the Council's work, the Secretariat has prepared a tentative timetable for the remainder of the Council's nineteenth session. This tentative timetable is before members, and I am sure that they have had a chance to examine it. According to the timetable, we should be able to close the present session on Wednesday, 8 May. This will be possible only if the Drafting Committees of the Council complete their work in accordance with the timetable. I therefore appeal to the Chairmen and other members of the Drafting Committees to do everything in their power to finish their work in the time set down in the timetable. I know that it is sometimes very difficult to agree on many points, but I trust that agreement can be reached so that the Council's work will not be delayed. As members know, a very important Committee will begin to meet very shortly after the Council adjourns, and many representatives here must attend the meetings of that Committee, too.

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.785 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

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