

UNITED NATIONS  
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COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL  
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ENGLISH

Twenty-first Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 30 January 1958, at 11 a.m.

<u>Temporary President:</u>	Mr. HOOD	(Australia)
<u>President:</u>	Mr. ARENALLES CATALAN	(Guatemala)

1. Opening of the twenty-first session
2. Adoption of the agenda
3. Report of the Secretary-General on credentials
4. Election of the President and the Vice-President
5. Programme of work

Note:

The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.848 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

## OPENING OF THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: I declare open the twenty-first regular session of the Trusteeship Council.

## AGENDA ITEM 1

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA (T/1347 and Add.1)

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) (interpretation from French): We see in the provisional agenda the question of Togoland under French administration. As everyone here knows, there is a resolution of the General Assembly on this matter, which is in the process of being implemented. Consequently, it does not seem that a prolonged discussion, at least, of this question can be held under the present circumstances in view of the application of this resolution. This does not mean that we refuse to discuss any item here. I am simply remarking on the length of time provided for the examination of this item. It seems that a little too much time has been given to this in view of the present circumstances.

I have no other observations to make on the provisional agenda.

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The remarks of the representative of France are noted. This matter, of course, will be dealt with by the Council in due course.

Mr. ZADOTTI (Italy): I notice that in point 11 of the provisional agenda, mention is made of the resolution passed by the General Assembly (1206 (XII)) with respect to the economic advancement of Somaliland under Italian administration. I know it is the practice of the Council to bring forward all resolutions that have been approved by the Assembly irrespective of whether they have to be discussed. But I assume that it is the intention of the Council to discuss this item in conjunction with the annual report during the summer session. Therefore, I raise this point because I want to point out that it is the opinion of the Administering Authority that this matter should be discussed in conjunction with the annual report during the summer session.

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: Do I understand that the representative of Italy is proposing certain action in connexion with this item? Or are his remarks just to be noted in the record?

Mr. ZADOTTI (Italy): I just want to place on record what we have to say about this item.

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: As there are no further observations, I take it that the agenda of the session is adopted, due regard being taken of the remarks of the representatives of France and Italy.

The agenda was adopted.

#### AGENDA ITEM 2

#### REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CREDENTIALS

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The Secretary-General has not received the credentials of all the representatives on the Council. As soon as these are received, he will submit a report on this matter to the Council in accordance with rule 14.

#### AGENDA ITEM 3

#### ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE VICE-PRESIDENT

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The next business over which I have the honour to preside is the election by secret ballot of the incoming President. We shall do this in accordance the Council's decision of the past year varying the date of the election of the President.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT: The result of the ballot is as follows: fourteen votes have been cast. Thirteen votes have been recorded in favour of Mr. Arenales Catalan, and there is one blank ballot paper. I declare Mr. Arenales Catalan elected as President of the Trusteeship Council.

(The Temporary President)

Before I invite Mr. Arenales Catalan to take his seat, may I take my leave of the Council with the utmost thanks for the co-operation I have received in this office. I extend to Mr. Arenales Catalan my own personal congratulations and warmest wishes for his success, which is, of course, assured as he is so well known to all of us. I invite him to take his place in the Chair.

Mr. Arenales Catalan took the Chair.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I am deeply grateful for the honour and the tribute of confidence which have been paid to me in electing me President of the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations. I am aware that this is a tribute paid to Guatemala because of Guatemala's unshakeable and traditional devotion to the highest principles of the Charter governing the Trusteeship Council and its mission with regard to those peoples which are still dependent. I also accept it as a tribute from Governments and delegations because of the co-operation and good faith which Guatemala has always tried to offer in all loyalty and enthusiasm.

I assume this position well aware of the serious responsibility which is entrusted to me. In the fulfilment of this task I shall attempt to follow in the footsteps of those Presidents who have served in the past with such distinction. In particular, I shall try to emulate the impartiality with which my predecessor, Mr. Hood of Australia, presided during our previous session. I know that I express the feelings of all members of the Council when I tell Mr. Hood how sincerely grateful we are for the splendid manner in which he presided over our deliberations and how grateful we are for the spirit of cordial co-operation with which he imbued our meetings. His time as President of the Council was one of great satisfaction to us and, I am sure, to his delegation and his country.

In beginning this 21st session of the Trusteeship Council, I should like to say that I am sure that we shall continue the efforts made by the conscience of that community of nations which originated the mandate system in the League of Nations and which was once again affirmed at San Francisco in the form of a new system whose purpose was to assist peacefully and in an evolutionary manner the attainment of the dearest aspiration of dependent peoples, namely, to be masters of their own destiny. The Charter of the United Nations has indeed crystallized this new system, and the noble effort of the members of the Trusteeship Council through some ten consecutive years represents a contribution on a very high technical level which, with the co-operation of the Administering Authorities, which are directly responsible for the sacred trust which they have undertaken, will bring the peoples of these Territories to the attainment of the principle

(The President)

purposes of the Trusteeship System, namely, the achievement of the capacity and the opportunity for self-government. In fact, this affirmation already has a basis in reality; for Togoland under United Kingdom administration -- with which the Council was formerly concerned since it was one of the Trust Territories -- now enjoys independence in its sister Republic of Ghana. A further achievement on the same lines can be foreseen: Somaliland under Italian administration will be independent in 1960. Nevertheless, this Council must continue to observe the various stages of Somaliland's progress towards independence.

Basing myself as I do in the faith which we all have in the principles underlying the Trusteeship System, and upon our unshakeable determination to continue to make that system viable, I feel sure that the other Territories, with which we are today concerned, will follow the same path until such time as the very existence of the Trusteeship Council may no longer be necessary, unless, with equally good faith and in recognition of the merits of the Trusteeship System, other territories may be placed under Trusteeship in order to proceed towards the peaceful attainment of the fulfilment of their destiny.

Finally, I should like to say that I know that I can count on the good will and co-operation of the members of the Council and the Secretariat, which is to such a great degree responsible for our technical achievements in the Council. I wish also to have available to me the intellectual co-operation and wealth of experience in which representatives on the Council surpass me, in order that, during this session, one further step may be taken in the direction of technical perfection, in further progress in procedural matters and, indeed, in the revitalization of the technical committees which we have created, leading in general to greater enthusiasm and more devoted efforts, so that not only the Council itself, but the whole Trusteeship System which depends upon it, may be worthy of the noble mission entrusted to it.

In this hope and in all confidence, I repeat my deep gratitude and the assurance that I shall endeavour to carry out, with sincere devotion, the mission which has been entrusted to me.



(The President)

The next item on the agenda is the election of the Vice-President, which will take place by secret ballot.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The result of the voting is as follows: of the fourteen ballots, thirteen were cast in favour of Mr. Claeys-Bouuaert, representative of Belgium, and one was left blank. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Council, I should like to congratulate Mr. Claeys-Bouuaert upon his election to the post of Vice-President and to tell him how certain I am that his co-operation in the Bureau of the Council will be of the greatest advantage to the Council and will greatly facilitate the work of the President. I invite him to come forward and take his seat as Vice-President.

Mr. CLAEYS-BOUUAERT (Belgium), Vice-President (interpretation from French): Mr. President, I should like to thank you for your kind words and I should also like to thank my colleagues for their vote of confidence. Of course, I take it as a mark of confidence in my country, a permanent member of this Council. In my new functions, I hope to continue to give that co-operation which the Belgian delegation has always given, so as to help render effective the trusteeship system, which has already marked considerable progress for the world.

#### PROGRAMME OF WORK

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As members of the Council know, a mimeographed document, dated 17 December 1957 and containing a tentative time-table for this session, has been distributed. If I hear no comment on this time-table, I will take it that it is provisionally accepted.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As can be seen from the tentative time-table which has just been provisionally approved, mornings have been reserved for Committee work, and meetings of the Council will be held in the afternoon. During the course of our work, it may sometimes be necessary for the Council to sit in the morning, but normally our meetings will be in the afternoon.

(The President)

In accordance with previous practice, we will meet from two o'clock to six each afternoon, except on those days when there is also a morning meeting, in which case we might change the opening time of the afternoon meeting.

Our next meeting will be held tomorrow at 2 p.m. You may be sure that the President will be here punctually, and perhaps a few moments ahead of time.

With regard to the agenda for tomorrow's meeting, I would suggest that we include the following points: classification of petitions; report of the Trusteeship Council; attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories; effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories; and the opening statements on conditions in Ruanda-Urundi.



(The President)

However, there are two further items which could, perhaps, be discussed by the Council. The first is the petition for an oral hearing in respect of a petition submitted in writing, as requested by Mr. Paul Ngondjeu, of the French Cameroons. The document is T/PET.5/1095 and Add.1 to 3. The other item which the Council might take into consideration is the inclusion in the agenda of General Assembly resolution 1211 (XII) concerning the situation in the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration and the Cameroons under French administration. These matters might be discussed jointly and debated further in the Council.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria) (interpretation from French): In view of the considerable importance of the matters to be discussed tomorrow, my delegation feels that this distribution of work should be considered as purely tentative since the items in question might very well involve lengthy discussions which would exceed the time limit that the President has proposed.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Does the representative of Syria understand that I am suggesting this draft agenda for our next meeting on the understanding precisely that it may carry on into future meetings? If there are no further comments or objections, those are the items which will appear on our agenda tomorrow.

The meeting rose at 11.40 a.m.