



UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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ENGLISH

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Twenty-first Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE EIGHT HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-FOURTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 14 March 1958, at 2.30 p.m.

Mr. ARENALES CATALAN

(Guatemala)

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Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.834 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

AGENDA ITEM 5

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS: 204th TO 209th REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.817 to 822)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Before submitting the draft resolutions which figure as annexes to these documents to the Council for consideration, I will call upon the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Petitions, Mr. Jaipal of India, to introduce these reports.

Mr. JAIPAL (India), Chairman of the Standing Committee on Petitions: There is very little that I need say by way of introducing these four or five reports.

However, there is one point which I should like to refer to before voting on the various resolutions begins. As Chairman of the Standing Committee on Petitions, I should like to inform the members of the Council that there are in these reports some petitions concerning both the Cameroons which have not been examined by the Standing Committee on Petitions either because of the absence of written observations of the Administering Authority concerned or because of the inability of the special representatives to participate in their examination. The situation thus created is sufficiently important to be brought to the notice of this Council.

However, as there are other unexamined petitions, which have yet to be brought to the notice of the Council, I should like to suggest as the representative of India that the Council defer taking a decision or even discussing the situation until the final disposals report of the Standing Committee on Petitions is received by the Council. That report will show the total number of petitions that have not been examined for these special reasons.

(Mr. Jaipal, India)

When the Council has that final disposals report before it, it will have an opportunity to discuss this new situation and to decide how best to cope with it. I would therefore move formally that the petitions which have not been examined by the Standing Committee on Petitions for these special reasons should be postponed until the final disposals report is available to the Trusteeship Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council has heard the introduction of these reports as made by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Petitions. The Council has also heard the formal proposal made by him as representative of India to the effect that the Council should postpone consideration of those petitions which the Committee did not examine until such time as the Council shall have received the final disposals report from the Standing Committee on Petitions. If there is no objection to the proposal submitted by the representative of India, I will take it that it is acceptable to the Council.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council will now proceed to consider the various reports of the Standing Committee on Petitions and the draft resolutions annexed thereto. We will first take up the 204th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions contained in document T/L.817. This report contains in its annex eleven draft resolutions proposed by the Committee, upon which the Council will now vote.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution V was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.

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

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In the petition on which draft resolution VIII was based, there is a complaint that land has been alienated to a European, Mr. Collinet, from the indigenous inhabitants of the village in spite of their protests, which were expressed in March 1955.

With regard to this matter I ask for a separate vote on the two paragraphs to be found in section VIII, paragraph 4 of the report, which reads as follows:

"2. Notes that land amounting to almost 186 hectares was given to Mr. Collinet in 1955 in spite of the protests of the inhabitants of Edjom to whom the land belongs;

"3. Proposes that the Administering Authority take the necessary measures to return to the inhabitants of Edjom the alienated land and to pay them compensation for the damages caused." (T/L.817, p.12)

I draw the attention of the Secretariat to the fact that in the first paragraph no attention has been paid to the amendments which were introduced when the text was examined. The text says, "to whom the land belongs". This has not been considered here. I believe it occurs only in the Russian text.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): This comment of the Soviet representative will be noted. It is simply a question of the Russian text. The Secretariat has taken note of this and will make the necessary correction.

In the request of the representative of the Soviet Union, he used the words, "separate vote". I believe that what he actually meant to say was that he was reintroducing the amendment but did not require a separate vote on each of its two paragraphs.

I see that the representative of the Soviet Union agrees.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I ask for a separate vote on each of the two proposed paragraphs.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The representative of India has asked for a separate vote on each of the two paragraphs, which are to be found in section VIII, paragraph 4 on page 12 of the document.

The first paragraph of the Soviet Union amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

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

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 7 votes to 2, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The vote of my delegation against this draft resolution is to be explained by the fact that the proposals which I submitted earlier were not accepted. They were designed to meet the request made by the petitioners.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution X was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution XI was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The recommendation contained in paragraph 3, page 2, of document T/L.817 was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now consider document T/L.818 containing the 205th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions. We shall proceed to vote on the draft resolutions contained in the annex. Draft resolution I refers to petitions from the Djoum Committee of the Union des Populations du Cameroun and from Mr. Ntamack Mbock.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In connexion with Section I, paragraph 9, we see that the Council is asked to note that the indigenous inhabitants who were used on the construction of the airfield have not received any salary and, in connexion with this, the attention of the Administering Authority is drawn to the necessity of ensuring that these workers receive adequate compensation for their work. It seems to me that no additional explanation is required regarding this text; I think that it speaks for itself.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The representative of the Soviet Union has reintroduced the amendments referred to in paragraph 9 on page 4. I shall put these amendments to a vote, one of which is designated as number 2 and the other as number 3.

The amendments were rejected by 7 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

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

Draft resolution II was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In connexion with Section IV, paragraph 9, I would request a vote on the proposal which is contained in that paragraph, namely, that the Administering Authority should safeguard more strictly the rights of the indigenous inhabitants to the land. It seems to me that this proposal may need some clarification. In this petition we are dealing with a situation where land which had been cultivated by the petitioner and his father was then transferred to a former French officer, in spite of the protest of the petitioner. The rights of the petitioner were not recognized, on the pretext that he was not a native of that particular region, but a native of Bamiléké. However, as we know, Bamiléké is also an inalienable part of the Trust Territory and the petitioner is a native of the Trust Territory. There is no doubt that once he had begun to cultivate the land, he had the legitimate right to use it.

Thus, there was a violation of the right of that indigenous inhabitant to the land, and I would ask that a vote be taken on the text in the paragraph to which I have referred.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I am no longer a member of the Standing Committee on Petitions, but I should like to point out to the Council that the petitions which we have to consider are specific petitions and that specific petitions call for specific resolutions -- that is, resolutions which deal with the case before us. I could understand that such a conclusion might have been drawn by the representative of the Soviet Union during the discussion of the Territory as a whole, but I find it difficult to see what such a proposal has to do here with respect to the complaint of a petitioner. That is a general conclusion which is completely out of place with respect to a specific petitioner, and I am unable to support that proposal.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The representative of the Soviet Union has formally presented an amendment to draft resolution IV. That amendment appears on page 8, paragraph 9, of the document before us and begins with the words "Proposes to the Administering Authority". I shall put the amendment to a vote.

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

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

Draft resolution V was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

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

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): In connexion with Section VIII, paragraph 8, I would request that a vote be taken on the proposal contained in that paragraph. In this proposal the Council is asked to recommend to the Administering Authority that it take further steps to investigate the petitioner's complaint with regard to the burning of her four huts and that, if need be, it will assist the petitioner's family. The point is that during the discussion of this petition,

it was not possible even to determine whether those four huts had been burned or whether they continued to exist at the present time; nor was it possible to determine whether or not the petitioner was without means of subsistence. In this connexion it is recommended to the Administering Authority that it carry out a further investigation and, in the event that the petitioner's complaint were to be borne out, assistance would be given to her and her family.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall put to a vote the amendment as proposed by the representative of the Soviet Union and contained in paragraph 8 on page 16 of the document before us.

The amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 6, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 8 votes to 1 with 5 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): My delegation has voted against draft resolution VIII since the Council has not adopted the amendment which would have recommended a further investigation of the petitioner's complaint and, therefore, it has not been possible to determine all the circumstances behind the complaint.

Furthermore, in paragraph 2 of the draft resolution the attention of the petitioner, Mrs. Batind, is drawn to the fact that on two occasions "she has failed to comply with the requests of the local administrative authority to appear before it to explain her case". Indirectly -- if not directly -- this paragraph contains an expression of disapproval of the petitioner's action in failing to answer the summons of the local administrative authority. The Trusteeship Council, however, has no knowledge of why the petitioner failed to appear.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now ask the Trusteeship Council to consider draft resolution IX.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): The petition dealt with in draft resolution IX concerns a person who was injured while working for a company, has lost his ability to work and has received no disability pension.

In this connexion, my delegation proposes an amendment to the draft resolution. The text of this amendment may be found in paragraph 6 of section IX on page 18 of document T/L.818. It reads:

"Proposes to the Administering Authority that it take the necessary steps to ensure that the company in whose employ the petitioner had become disabled grant the petitioner the necessary means for his livelihood".

The Soviet Union amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 2, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): In paragraph 7 of section IX on page 18 of document T/L.818, there appears the text of a proposal which was rejected by the Standing Committee on Petitions by a tie vote. This proposal reads:

"Requests the Administering Authority to continue its efforts to assist the petitioner to find suitable employment".

I now move that text as an amendment to draft resolution IX.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now put the Indian amendment to the vote.

There were 7 votes in favour and 7 against.

After a brief recess in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, a second vote was taken.

The Indian amendment was adopted by 7 votes to 6.

Draft resolution IX, as amended, was adopted by 5 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to make the following remarks concerning draft resolution X. This petition deals with a question which has already been considered by the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly. It was the subject of a resolution adopted by the General Assembly. The question is that of the Administering Authority's alienation of land belonging to the Ngoa-Ekelle Community and of that Community's resettlement elsewhere. As is known, the General Assembly's resolution contained a number of recommendations addressed to the Administering Authority, and the Trusteeship Council was requested to keep the General Assembly informed in respect of the question.

The complaint in the petition dealt with in draft resolution X was addressed to the Visiting Mission. Since the Visiting Mission was not able to investigate the situation of the Ngoa-Ekelle Community on the scene, it would be appropriate for the Trusteeship Council to draw attention to this fact and to request the next Visiting Mission to this Territory to visit the area concerned.

(Mr. Bendryshev, USSR)

My delegation therefore wishes to move an amendment to draft resolution X. We propose that the text of this amendment should read as follows -- this somewhat changes the text to be found in paragraph 19 of section X on page 25 of document T/L.818:

"Recommends that the next Visiting Mission to the Territory should take this petition into consideration and visit the area concerned".

The Soviet Union amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 6, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution X was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My delegation voted against draft resolution X inasmuch as the simple recommendation to the effect that the Visiting Mission should study the complaint of the community in question and investigate the situation on the spot was not adopted. This is an important question which was the subject of a General Assembly resolution. The Council has received a special request in connexion with it and my delegation considers it important that the true situation should be determined in view of the continuance of the complaint submitted by the community.

The recommendation contained in paragraph 3, page 2, of document T/L.818 was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council will now take up the 206th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions contained in document T/L.819. We shall proceed as we did in the case of the previous reports.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The petitions (T/PET.5/871 and T/PET.5/872) referred to in draft resolution IV contain serious complaints against Chief Mfoul 'Aleme which were sent to the Visiting Mission by a group of persons who were subjected to forced labour on the plantations of this Chief. Since this is an important question further detailed consideration of the complaints is called for, and my delegation therefore proposes the adoption of the text which is to be found in paragraph 21 on pages 9 and 10 of document T/L.819. I would ask the President to put this to the vote.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I would request the President to put each of the three paragraphs of the USSR text to the vote separately.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): In response to the request of the representative of India the Council will now vote separately on the three paragraphs proposed by the USSR delegation. They are to be found on pages 9 and 10 of the report, and are numbered 3, 4 and 5.

Paragraph 3 was rejected by 7 votes to 6, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 4 was rejected by 7 votes to 3, with 4 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 was rejected by 7 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution IV was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.

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

Draft resolution VI was adopted unanimously.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

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

Draft resolution XIII was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The recommendation contained in paragraph 3, on page 2 of document T/L.189 was adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council will now consider the 207th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions, document T/L.820.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): My delegation voted against this draft resolution because the substance of the complaints raised in the petition was not considered by the Standing Committee on Petitions.

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

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution IX was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution X was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

Draft resolution XIII was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

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

Draft resolution XV was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Before the Council votes on the recommendation appearing on page 2, paragraph 3 of this report, I must give the clarification that the reference to the numbers of the resolutions at the very end of paragraph 3 will be corrected so as to bring it into conformity with the facts. We will now vote on the recommendation contained on page 2, paragraph 3.

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

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): Mr. President, when you tell the Council that account will be taken of the facts for the final drafting of paragraph 3, I should like to leave the field clear for the petitions on which the Administering Authorities did not feel it necessary to submit observations. This does not mean, in my view, that additional recommendations are due for these three petitions. I think we have left the question open for subsequent discussion, and giving my approval to a new drafting of this paragraph 3, I intend to maintain complete freedom of action as regards the other petitions in question. It should not be concluded that additional recommendations are necessary for those three petitions but that the question merely has not been settled. I should like to make that clear for the record.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The statement made by the representative of Belgium will be included in the record.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) (interpretation from French): In order not to prolong the work of the Council I did not wish to open a discussion on the arguments submitted by our colleague from the Soviet Union to justify his amendments; these were already replied to during the discussion in the Standing Committee on Petitions. Of course, it goes without saying that I make every reservation on the value of the arguments presented here, and I should like the record to include this statement.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The statement of the representative of France will be included in the record.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I think it is unnecessary to say that my comment applies to the preceding report where the same change was to be introduced.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council will now take up the 208th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions contained in document T/L.821. We shall now vote on the resolutions which are to be found in the annex of this document.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. KELLY (Australia): With reference to the resolution just adopted, might I inquire through you, Mr. President, from the Secretariat, how the Council proposes to draw the attention of the petitioner to the conclusion that has been reached?

Mr. WIESCHHOFF (Secretary): In past cases, and I presume in this case, we will be addressing the communication to the signer of the petition.

Mr. KELLY (Australia): My difficulty, if I can be a little more explicit, is this: Has the petitioner a legal existence at the present time and can it be addressed?

Mr. JAIPAL (India): If I may say so, the legal existence or otherwise of the petitioner is not really in question. I think reference to rule 93 of our rules of procedure is quite relevant. That rule reads:

"The Secretary-General shall inform the Administering Authorities and the petitioners concerned of the actions taken by the Trusteeship Council on each petition".

(Mr. Jaipal, India)

Unless this rule is amended, the Secretary-General has no option but to post these decisions to the address given in the original petitions. That is the sense in which we interpret rule 93 in regard to this petition.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As there are no further comments, the Council will now vote on draft resolution III.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

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

Draft resolution V was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Draft resolution VI was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

Draft resolution VII was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 8 abstentions.

Draft resolution VIII was adopted by 5 votes to none, with 9 abstentions.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium)(interpretation from French): With regard to draft resolution IX, I feel some hesitation in voting for paragraph 2. My delegation has some misgivings concerning the competence of the Standing Committee on Petitions to make recommendations concerning the terms of reference of the Visiting Mission. This is the first point which is subject to discussion, but there are some others which I would like to bring out.

The point which deals with the competence and terms of reference of the Visiting Mission is on the agenda of the Trusteeship Council but has not yet been considered by us. Hence it seems to me to be difficult to assume any commitments on this score. Moreover, if the Trusteeship Council were to decide to give such terms of reference to the Visiting Mission, it would do so in imperative terms and not in such vague wording as "Expresses the hope", "Takes into account", and so on. Lastly, and this seems to be much more serious, we are misleading the petitioner by giving him information which may be inaccurate. If when we discuss the terms of reference of the Visiting Mission we decide otherwise, in that case we will have made a rather vague promise to the petitioner which we would be incapable of keeping.

It seems to me that such a paragraph is irrelevant and premature in the draft resolution. That is why I would like to propose an amendment here which I have had distributed for the convenience of the members of the Council. It goes without saying that the French text is the only original text. If I had it distributed in English, it was only for the convenience of my colleagues. We would replace paragraph 2 of the operative part of the draft resolution with the following text:

"Expresses the hope that the harmonious development of political life in the Territory may continue in a democratic atmosphere of freedom of opinion and respect for public order."

I believe that in this way I have based myself on the very terms of the Trusteeship Agreement, which is the binding law on the matter, and I do not think that the paragraph I have proposed to the Council to replace paragraph 2 can give rise to any controversy.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I have listened to the representative of Belgium with a great deal of interest. I am afraid I cannot agree with him that the draft resolution proposed by the Standing Committee on Petitions in any sense misleads anyone, not even the forthcoming Visiting Mission. I have an amendment to propose to the amendment submitted by the representative of Belgium. I have no quarrel with the terms of his proposal. I would prefer to see that as an addition. Therefore, I would like to amend it by replacing the words "Replace paragraph 2 by the words" with the words "Add after paragraph 2" the text proposed by the representative of Belgium.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): We have just heard the oral proposal made by the representative of Belgium. My delegation does not have that text. In order to study the substance of such a proposal time would be required in order to read it and understand it, not to speak of the fact that we would have to come to a definite opinion on that text so as to vote wisely on it if it were put to the vote.

In this connexion, in view of rule 57 of the rules of procedure, I would ask the Council not to consider this proposal now but to give us the possibility at least to study it by having it in writing.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I am not opposed to that request, which appears to me to be legitimate. But in that case I would ask the Secretariat to be good enough to publish my amendment in the usual form so that it may be circulated to the members of the Council. I would remind the representative of India -- whom I thank for the comment he has made on my amendment -- that the essence of my amendment is to replace paragraph 2 of the operative part with a new text, and not to add a new text to the existing paragraph 2.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I am aware of that intention, but my intention is that it should be added, and I would be grateful therefore if my amendment to the Belgian amendment could also be circulated.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If there is no objection, we will postpone the consideration of draft resolution IX and vote on it at a later meeting. The amendments submitted by the delegations of Belgium and India will be circulated as Council documents.

It was so decided.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): While we have postponed consideration of draft resolution IX, and although I would make no formal proposal, I wish to call the attention of members of the Council to the fact that there is a proposal in section IX of the report so that they may be familiar with it before the continuation of the consideration of the question at the next meeting when we consider the draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The representative of the Soviet Union, of course, will have every right to present that amendment or other amendments at the meeting when we consider the draft resolution.

Draft resolution X was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): My delegation abstained on the draft resolution inasmuch as the Council has already taken a decision at this session on the basis of a recommendation of the Committee on Classification of Petitions to the effect that the established procedure should be applied to this petition.

Draft resolution XI was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): At this meeting, the Council will not consider the general recommendation to be found on page 3, paragraph 3 of this document. We will wait until we have taken a decision on draft resolution IX, the consideration of which we have postponed to a later meeting.

The Council will now consider the 209th report of the Standing Committee on Petitions appearing in document T/L.822. We shall vote on the draft resolutions contained in the annex to that document.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The recommendation in paragraph 3, page 2, of document T/L.822 was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

AGENDA ITEM 11

ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT OF SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION (GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1206 (XII))

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): In resolution 1206 (XII) the General Assembly took note of the report of the Trusteeship Council to the effect that the Administering Authority, in consultation with the Government of Somalia, will continue to assess all requirements for a viable, independent Somalia, explore all possible ways of meeting the requirements indicated by these assessments and submit a report thereon to the Council at its twenty-second session. Further, it requested the Trusteeship Council to continue its study of this question, in consultation with the Administering Authority and the Government of Somalia, and, in particular, to explore further the possibilities suggested by the Council and to report thereon for the consideration of the General Assembly at its thirteenth session.

Mr. ZADOTTI (Italy): As you will recollect, when we discussed our agenda, my delegation made a very short statement in which it was pointed out, in connexion with resolution 1206 (XII) of the General Assembly, that we hoped that the Council would decide to consider this item in conjunction with the annual report at the twenty-second session of the Council during the summer.

(Mr. Zadotti, Italy)

The problem of economic assistance to Somaliland is now being considered by both the Italian and Somalia Governments with all the attention it deserves. At this stage, however, we think it will be somewhat premature to take it up. We hope that the Council will have no objection to postponing consideration of this item to the summer session when we will be considering the annual report and the report of the Visiting Mission to the Territory.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If there is no objection, I will take it that the Council agrees to postpone this item to its twenty-second session when it can consider this in connexion with the report of the Administering Authority for the Territory.

I see that there is no objection.

It was so decided.

The meeting was suspended at 4.05 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 13

RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRUST TERRITORIES (GENERAL ASSEMBLY
RESOLUTION 1208 (XII)); (T/1367)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): According to resolution 1208 (XII), the General Assembly decided:

"... in order to facilitate the eventual study by the General Assembly of problems of land tenure, land utilization and land alienation in the Trust Territories, to invite the appropriate specialized agencies, particularly the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Labour Organisation to submit to the Trusteeship Council their observations and suggestions concerning these problems;"
(Resolution 1208 (XII))

The Assembly also recommended to the Trusteeship Council:

"... that it ensure, through the Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories or by such other means as it deems appropriate, the early submission of its study of the prevailing policies, laws and practices relating to land tenure, land utilization and land alienation in Trust Territories ..." (Ibid)

The Assembly further requested the Trusteeship Council:

"... to include the results of this study in its next report to the General Assembly." (Ibid)

These recommendations have been drawn to the attention of the respective specialized agencies. Up to the present time, WHO has submitted a written reply, which appears in document T/1367, stating that, with the possible exception of environmental sanitation, the problems to which the resolution relates do not come within the technical field of that agency.

In connexion with this matter, the representatives of ILO and FAO have asked for the floor and, with the consent of the Council, I shall call on the representative of ILO.

Mr. METALL (International Labour Organisation) (interpretation from French): When the contents of resolution 1208 (XII) of the General Assembly, dealing with rural economic development of the Trust Territories, were communicated to the Director-General of ILO, we did not fail to get in touch with FAO in order that we might consider together the best means of carrying out the wishes expressed by the Assembly. The resolution deals with the land system, including the use and alienation of land.

With respect to the use of land, it appears to us that this question is essentially one of agricultural technique and thus belongs within the scope of FAO. On the other hand, ILO is directly interested in the system of land tenure and the alienation of land, as well as in the more general problem of rural economic development in the Trust Territories.

That is why the ILO co-operated in the study submitted earlier to the Committee on Rural Economic Development, by furnishing documentation and consulting with the relevant Departments of the FAO which drew up the report.

The ILO is interested in land tenure and land alienation because the systems in force have an effect on the standard of living and the employment security of the populations concerned. It has adopted a certain number of international instruments related to questions of this type -- in particular, the convention on social policy in non-metropolitan territories, the recommendation on minimum standards for social policies in dependent territories, and the convention on aboriginal and tribal populations. Any observations, therefore, which the ILO might make on the problems of land utilization, land tenure and land alienation in the Trust Territories would take those instruments into consideration, and would take account of the various resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on the subject of agrarian reform. These observations would be designed essentially to enable the Committee on Rural Economic Development and the Trusteeship Council to determine whether the action taken in the Territories concerned leads to the attainment of the standards laid down in the documents which I have just mentioned, taking full account of all the political, social and economic conditions in the Territories.

Thus, what we should like to have the Committee on Rural Economic Development consider are the social problems involved in land tenure, land utilization and land alienation in the Trust Territories. In this respect, we intend to suggest to the Committee that it should consider a number of questions. I do not believe it is necessary to list these questions here, since the ILO is represented in the Committee on Rural Economic Development. I would merely give two examples of questions which we have in mind: Should the stabilization of wage earners at their place of employment be regarded as a desirable objective of social policy? If so, what changes should be made in the agrarian domain to combat the unfavourable social repercussions of this policy?

Another question which we intend to draw to the Committee's attention is that of determining whether experience has shown that certain forms of pilot projects of agricultural development are better than others -- in particular, those which take into account, in one way or another, the co-operative principle. I am thinking here of the conclusions of the Inter-African Conference on Co-operative Societies, which met at Ibadan in 1954 under the auspices of the Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara. These conclusions would indicate that, in order to increase agricultural production, we should rely not so much on collective farming but on the supplying of agricultural services and equipment through centralized co-operatives, thereby making possible the individual cultivation of land.

That is the type of question which the ILO intends to discuss with the appropriate Departments of the FAO in order to be able to reply jointly with the FAO to the General Assembly's request.

Mr. ORR (Food and Agriculture Organization): My Director-General has instructed me to inform the Council of the steps he is proposing to take in response to the request contained in General Assembly resolution 1208(XII) entitled "Rural economic development of the Trust Territories". This resolution was adopted by the General Assembly shortly after the adjournment of the FAO Conference which had approved a programme of work and a budget for the years 1958 and 1959. Thus, while the Director-General's policy is to co-operate as closely as possible with the United Nations, including the Trusteeship Council and other United Nations bodies, the resources at his disposal for this particular undertaking were necessary somewhat limited. Careful consideration has been given so far, however, to how such resources as are available can be utilized in such a way as to make the maximum contribution to the objectives of the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council.

As a result of this consideration it is planned that a person with an extensive knowledge of land problems will personally visit certain of the Trust Territories in Africa. Africa has been selected because of the impossibility of covering all of the Trust Territories and because it is felt that the problems to be studied are relatively of greatest importance on that continent. His terms of reference would be to concentrate primarily on land tenure conditions and land alienation, and particularly on the impact of those on land and water use and agricultural development. Certain other factors, including agricultural credit and marketing systems, would also be taken into account.

A report based on these field studies and on such other information as is available to the FAO would be prepared and, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1208 (XII), submitted to this Council. I am not in a position to say now just when the report would become available, but in view of the considerable work involved it is clear that it could not be available for the Council's consideration earlier than at its twenty-third session. The Council, however, might wish to make arrangements for the report to go immediately to the Committee on Rural Economic Development in order to have the comments of that Committee when the report comes before the Council itself. If the Council or any of its members would like to comment on the Director-General's plan as I have outlined it, I would be most happy to transmit such comments to him.

(Mr. Orr, Food and Agriculture
Organization)

I should like to take this opportunity to inform the Council that the Conference of the FAO at its most recent session in November 1957 approved the establishment of an FAO regional office for Africa. The Director-General already has already taken preliminary steps towards the establishment of this office, and a meeting is planned within the next month or so to provide for a more thorough exchange of views between interested Governments than was possible at the Conference. The office will be in charge of a regional representative who will be the personal representative of the Director-General in the region, and will include a number of technical officers in its staff. The establishment of this office will enable the FAO to maintain closer contacts than in the past with Member Governments in the region and with other organizations working in the region. It should also facilitate the co-operation of the FAO with this Council so far as the African Trust Territories are concerned.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council takes note of the statements made by the representatives of ILO and the FAO. Are there any further comments with regard to this problem?

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I would only like to say something very brief in my capacity as Chairman of the Rural Economic Development Committee of the Council. I have listened with great interest and great appreciation to the remarks made by the representatives of the ILO and the FAO. During the present session of the Council we have held some meetings of the Rural Economic Development Committee, and we have had the benefit of the participation and advice of these representatives of the specialized agencies. We hope that it will be possible to submit a report on this subject in relation to the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi which can be put before this Council during the present session -- but I emphasize that this is a hope. We hope also that it will be possible thereafter to take in hand and submit other reports on other Territories which can be considered at later sessions.

(Sir Andrew Cohen, United Kingdom)

The report of the FAO which the representative of that body has just mentioned will, of course, obviously be of the utmost value to this Council, if I may venture to say so, and also to the Rural Economic Development Committee when it is presented, and we shall hope to take this into full account when we are considering the various Territories. The representative of FAO, for reasons which I can very well understand, has made it clear that this report could not be submitted until after the next session of the Council. We have, however, felt that we should, in view of the terms of the General Assembly resolution, proceed with the work of this Committee as we are now doing.

If we are in a position to submit a report as I hope next week I shall want then to say a little more about the whole procedure, but I thought that at this stage I should make these brief remarks. I should like to finish by expressing my appreciation, as Chairman of the Committee, of the co-operation which I have had from the other members of the Committee, from the representatives of the specialized agencies and from the representative of Belgium, and also the very valuable co-operation which I have had from the Secretariat.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The General Assembly has repeatedly expressed its concern at the state of rural economic development in the Trust Territories, including its concern with the general principles and practices with respect to land utilization and land alienation. In its resolution 1208 (XII) the Assembly recommended to the Trusteeship Council

"that it ensure, through the Committee on Rural Economic Development ... the early submission of its study of the prevailing policies, laws and practices relating to land tenure, land utilization and land alienation in Trust Territories".

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

At previous sessions of the Trusteeship Council attention was drawn to the slowness of the work of the Committee on Rural Economic Development. Once again at its present session the Council must note the absence of any study or recommendations, which have been expected from the Committee for many years. However, the situation in a number of Trust Territories is such that it is impossible to tolerate any procrastination in the Committee's work. Many irregular practices in land utilization and continuing land alienation occur in a number of Territories, and this has also been noted at the present session. All this draws attention once more to the urgent need to carry out the careful study which was called for by the General Assembly's resolution. It is impossible any longer to tolerate the procrastination which has characterized the Committee's work.

Of course, we take note of the statement of the Chairman of the Committee to the effect that an appropriate report on Ruanda-Urundi will be submitted in the course of the next few weeks. At the same time we suppose that the Committee will explore every possibility of submitting studies on the other Territories, and also of submitting in the near future the recommendations which have been called for by the General Assembly's resolution, so that the members of the Council may be able to study them and discuss them constructively at the forthcoming twenty-second session. It goes without saying that the Committee's report should contain detailed information concerning the existing practice of land alienation and recommendations for the cessation of such practices and for the return of land to the indigenous population. The fact that the Committee will be able to prepare a report on Ruanda-Urundi indicates that it possesses the necessary resources to comply with the General Assembly's resolution and we hope that it will be able to do so in good time.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If there are no further comments on this matter, and in the absence of specific recommendations regarding other means which the Council might deem appropriate within the terms of resolution 1208 (XII), the President would suggest that the Council adopt the other alternative contained in that resolution, to the effect that we should refer the resolution itself to the Committee on Rural Economic Development.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The Belgian delegation had the opportunity to state its point of view concerning the methods of work which the General Assembly is imposing on the Trusteeship Council in the Fourth Committee, and I shall therefore confine myself to repeating briefly here the reservations which we expressed while casting our vote in favour of resolution 1208 (XII). The work of the Trusteeship Council is organized on a geographical basis, and this in pursuance of Articles 87 and 88 of the Charter. Article 87 does not speak of the separate consideration of particular questions, but speaks of the consideration of reports submitted by the Administering Authority of each Territory. Article 88 specifies that those reports will contain information in response to a questionnaire, and it is the Trusteeship Council which formulates that questionnaire. In the mind of my delegation, it is therefore within the framework of the normal consideration of the situation in each Territory that important problems which attract the attention of the General Assembly should be discussed. The work of the Committee set up some time ago by the Trusteeship Council to consider these problems should be carried on in the normal framework of the consideration of the situation in each Territory.

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Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I hope that we shall be able, in effect, to do at any rate a lot of what the representative of the Soviet Union wants us to do, that is to speed up the work. But let us not speed it up in such a way that we move from comparative inaction to such a rush that we cannot do the work seriously. We have heard the representative of FAO say that it will take some time to study these matters, and nothing will be gained by trying to do it precipitately. Also, I agree very much with what the representative of Belgium has said. We must so organize the work of this Committee, in my judgement, so as to fit in to the general method of work of the Council. I should like to reserve any other remarks until the time comes when, as I hope, we can present to the Council at this session a first report, when I should like to say something rather more carefully thought out regarding the Committee's method of working. At the moment I would like to say nothing more.

Mr. KELLY (Australia): The course of the discussion so far leads me to make one or two observations for the benefit of my colleagues on the Council. I should hope that no insistence on the production of early reports relating to land tenure, land utilization and land alienation should have the result of singling out any one of the three matters upon which the Assembly placed emphasis to the exclusion of the others. The delegation of Australia regards land tenure, land utilization and land alienation as three inextricably associated subjects. In this connexion I would also recall the observation of the representative of Australia, made several days ago, to the effect that the problems of the transformation of indigenous land tenure may involve issues of far greater importance than those associated with land alienation in Trust Territories. Again, I would deprecate any undue haste which might lead to an unnecessary political emphasis on any one of those three associated topics, land tenure, land utilization and land alienation.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to ask the President to clarify the following point. Does the adoption of his proposal mean that the question will not have been discussed as to substance at the present session and that it will be the subject of special discussion at the twenty-second session of the Council? Is that the proper way to understand the President's proposal?

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The representative of the USSR has exactly understood the meaning of the suggestion from the Chair. Indeed, in accordance with the terms of resolution 1208 we would transfer this subject to the Committee on Rural Economic Development and the Council would have ample opportunity to discuss the matter on receiving the report from the Committee on Rural Economic Development. If there is no objection to this procedure, I shall take it that it is adopted.

The President's proposal was adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 14

OFFERS BY MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES [GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 1209 (XII)]

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The General Assembly, in resolution 1209 (XII), addressed three important recommendations to the Administering Authorities, to the Secretary-General and to the Trusteeship Council.

In the first place, the General Assembly reaffirms its resolution 1063 (XI) and once again it invited the Administering Authorities to take all the necessary measures to ensure that scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States might be utilized by inhabitants of the Trust Territories, and to render every assistance possible to those persons who might have applied for or have been granted scholarships or fellowships.

In the second place, the General Assembly in that resolution requested the Secretary-General to give such assistance as might be possible and as might be sought by the Members concerned and by the applicants, within the framework of the procedures laid down by the Trusteeship Council. Also it requested the Secretary-General to include in his future reports to the Trusteeship Council detailed information concerning the actual use of scholarship and training facilities offered by Member States for the instruction of inhabitants of Trust Territories.

Finally, in its resolution the General Assembly requests the Trusteeship Council to resume the consideration of this question at the sessions which will be held in 1958, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session.

Does any delegation wish to refer to this matter?

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The General Assembly pays much attention to the question of the education of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories. This is borne out by the fact that throughout a number of years in the General Assembly, there has been a special discussion of the question of granting the inhabitants of Trust Territories the possibilities of obtaining education and training. As was pointed out correctly in the resolution adopted at the twelfth session, the General Assembly noted the fact that the larger part of the scholarships offered by Members of the United Nations remained unused and are not taken up, and it proposed to the Council, at its sessions held in June 1958, to resume the consideration of this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session.

In the course of a discussion on the situation in the Trust Territories, many members of the Council have called attention -- and the representatives of the Administering Authorities have not denied this -- to the fact that the question of training qualified staffs from among the indigenous populations is lagging far behind the task of preparing the Territories for independence. Under these circumstances, in our view, the Council must study carefully the reasons for this lag, and especially the reasons which prevent the indigenous inhabitants from taking up the scholarships made available to them by Member States of the United Nations.

We suppose that the Council would not cope with this task if it were to limit itself merely to taking note of the matter formally on such an important question. The situation is such that the Administering Authorities are interfering in every way with the indigenous inhabitants making use of the very favourable possibilities of obtaining education in other countries. In particular, the Government of the Soviet Union, in accordance with the resolutions of the General Assembly over a number of years, has been offering scholarships to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories. These scholarships cover not only all expenses including food, clothing, transportation, housing, medical, cultural and other services, but also expenses connected with rest and travel to rest homes; they also provide for study at the highest level of modern science under the direction of professors with the highest qualifications in foremost educational institutions.

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

Many inhabitants of the Trust Territories have expressed their wish to take up these possibilities, but the Administering Authority prevented their travel to the place of study. The delegation of the Soviet Union assumes that the Council should at the present session discuss such an important question and submit a detailed report and proposals to the General Assembly. In this connexion, the Soviet delegation expresses regret that the consideration of such an important question is once again being postponed, and it hopes that at its next session the Council will pay special attention to the consideration of this question.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Does any representative wish to comment on this matter?

In the absence of observations, the President would like to point out that, according to the terms of the resolution now before us, perhaps the most important requests are addressed to the Administering Authorities and to the Secretary-General. Perhaps the Council might take note at this meeting of the resolution as a stage in our consideration of the item, and we might put on our agenda for the twenty-second session this same item, and at that time the Council might study it in the light of the report which the Secretary-General will submit with regard to the operation of the scholarship programmes.

If there is no objection to this suggested procedure, I will take it that the Council approves of it.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEMS 4b and 8

REPORTS OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE AND OF THE COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE UNIONS ON RUANDA-URUNDI (T/L.810 and Add.1, 823, 824)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): It is possible that the length of the consideration of this document may not allow us to conclude consideration of the matter this afternoon, but I feel, if there is no objection, that we might begin our consideration of the question and continue it at a later meeting. We might thus avail ourselves of the time still available to us. That being the case, I will take the liberty of drawing the Council's

(The President)

attention to the report of the Drafting Committee on Conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi. (T/L.824). In this document we have Annex I containing thirty-six draft resolutions and conclusions concerning Ruanda-Urundi under Belgium administration. I believe, according to our customary procedure, that the Council will enter upon a consideration of each of these recommendations and conclusions separately. I call on the Chairman of the Drafting Committee, Mr. Max of France, to submit this report.

Mr. MAX (France) (interpretation from French), Chairman of the Drafting Committee: I have the honour to submit to the Council the draft report of the Drafting Committee on conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi. The members of the Committee reached conclusions on all the questions put before them and I hope that the adoption of the report will not present any particular difficulties.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): In accordance with the usual practice, the Council will consider the draft conclusions and recommendations contained in annex I, paragraph by paragraph, in the order in which they appear in the document. We will begin with annex I, page 1, paragraph 1.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): With respect to paragraph 1, I offer the following amendment: replace the word "significant" with the word "some".

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I also have a drafting change to propose with regard to the last two lines of paragraph 1 which says that the Council:

"... expresses the hope that transition to the establishment of more democratic institutions will be carried out at an even more accelerated pace."

The expression "even more accelerated pace" is of course highly subjective and does not really mean anything. It seems to me that without losing its meaning, it would be preferable to say:

"... and hopes that transition to the establishment of democratic institutions will be carried out in the spirit of the Charter."

The Soviet amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.

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

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): I voted for the amendment offered by the representative of Belgium because I think that in his phrasing it is inherent that there will be an accelerated pace.

Paragraph 1, as amended, was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to explain my vote on paragraph 1. The paragraph which was adopted by the Council contains a highly excessive evaluation which would mislead public opinion. The rejection of the Soviet amendment and the adoption of an amendment submitted by the representative of Belgium, which aggravates matters, made the present paragraph completely unacceptable to the Soviet delegation. In spite of the fact that it does contain some positive recommendations, we were unable to vote for the paragraph and abstained.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council will now consider paragraph 2 of annex I.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): With respect to paragraph 2, I wish to offer a similar amendment: replace the word "important" with the word "some".

The Soviet amendment was rejected by 7 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 2 was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Paragraph 3 was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I wish briefly to explain my abstention. It was based not on any disagreement with the substance of this paragraph but on the implication that the extension of universal suffrage is necessarily a means to achieve political unification of Ruanda-Urundi.

Paragraph 4 was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

Paragraph 5 was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I should like to seek some clarification in regard to paragraph 6. Perhaps the Chairman of the Drafting Committee could elucidate the point that is causing some doubt in my mind. The last sentence of this paragraph reads:

"In particular, the Council wishes to recommend that the Administering Authority continue to increase the representation of the indigenous population in the General Council..."

I am not quite clear as to the intention of this recommendation. Is it intended that the indigenous population should be represented by indigenous persons? Or should they continue to be represented by non-indigenous elements in the General Council?

Mr. MAX (France)(interpretation from French): In any case, my delegation is not the author of this proposal. In my view this sentence means that it is desired that the Council recommend to the Administering Authority that it bring more indigenous inhabitants into the General Council.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I thank the representative of France for that clarification.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)(interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, I ask you to take a separate vote on the first sentence of the paragraph, which begins with the words "The Council endorses the view" and ends with the words "modern political organization".

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): In accordance with the request of the representative of the Soviet Union, I shall take a vote on the first sentence of paragraph 6.

The sentence was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I wish to have a separate vote taken on the clause which starts in the fourth line from the bottom of the paragraph and which reads as follows:

"that it gradually confer legislative powers upon the General Council, so that eventually it might become the legislative body of the Territory;"

In explanation, I want to say immediately that I shall abstain on this clause not because I consider that possibility to be impossible or undersirable, but because at the present time it would prejudice the feelings and the free aspirations of the inhabitants of the Territory. It is too early to define their aspirations concerning the gradual development of their institutions as being such that they would wish to transform the General Council into a legislative assembly for the whole of the Trust Territory. It is because of this somewhat premature nature of the provision in view of the development of the Territory that I shall abstain.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): According to the request of the representative of Belgium, I shall now take a vote on the clause beginning with the words "that it gradually confer legislative powers" and ending with the words "the legislative body of the Territory."

The clause was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): I shall now take a vote on the final part of the paragraph beginning with the words "It hopes that further enlargement" and ending with the words "consultations with the Administration,"

The final part of the paragraph was adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 6 as a whole was adopted unanimously.

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): I should be grateful for an opportunity to explain my vote.

(Mr. Thorp, New Zealand)

In voting for this paragraph, I did have a reservation in my mind that in the last sentence the Council was making rather a detailed recommendation to the Administering Authority, particularly in the last clauses, about the establishment of a delegation as a means of consultation. I believe that in general it is not desirable for the Council to attempt to go into this degree of detail in explaining how the Administering Authority should go about consulting or otherwise making constitutional changes in these organs.

Mr. KELLY (New Zealand): I wish to make precisely the same reservations as those made by the representative of New Zealand.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): In connexion with paragraph 7 I would request a vote, first, on the part of the paragraph ending with the words "Belgian Congo".

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): My delegation wishes to make a few comments with regard to the drafting of paragraph 7. In the first place, "The Council recommends to the Administering Authority that, in so far as practicable, separate legislative enactments be applied to Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo". In my opinion, the Trusteeship Council is not competent to make recommendations applicable to the Belgian Congo. The Belgian Congo is a territory which is not within the jurisdiction of the Trusteeship Council. In any case, aside from this question of the Belgian Congo, my delegation will be unable to vote in favour of this paragraph because the Trusteeship Agreement itself allows us to administer the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi as an integral part of the Belgian Congo. This is one point.

In the second place, on the practical level, similar legislation which is applicable to Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo -- which is the case in all fields except political -- and including labour legislation, health legislation, etc., far from being against the interests of Ruanda-Urundi, would benefit the inhabitants of that Territory in various aspects of its development.

Mr. MAX (France) (interpretation from French): I have had occasion, in the Committee, to make similar observations, and I fully support the statement just now made by the representative of Belgium.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): According to the request of the representative of Guatemala, we shall take a vote on the first part of paragraph 7, beginning with "the Council recommends" and ending with "Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo".

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I thought that the representative of Belgium had asked for a separate vote on the words "and the Belgian Congo". If he has not, I should like to ask for it, because I am perfectly in agreement with him so far as those words are concerned.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): In the first place, then, we shall take a vote on the words "and the Belgian Congo", as requested by the representative of India.

The proposal to retain the words "and the Belgian Congo" was rejected by 9 votes to 1, with 4 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): As requested by the representative of Guatemala, we shall take a vote on the first part of paragraph 7, beginning with "The Council recommends" and ending with "be applied to Ruanda-Urundi".

The first part of paragraph 7 was adopted by 7 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now vote on the second part of paragraph 7, beginning with "without prejudicing" and ending with "if he deems it desirable".

The second part of paragraph 7 was adopted by 5 votes to 2, with 7 abstentions.

Paragraph 7 as amended was adopted by 6 votes to 2, with 6 abstentions.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): I should like to propose the following amendment to paragraph 8: delete the words "gradually but" in the seventh line.

There were 7 votes in favour and 7 against.

After a brief recess in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, a second vote was taken.

There were 7 votes in favour and 7 against. The proposal was not adopted.

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): I should like to speak on a point of drafting clarification. In the English text, the third line from the bottom reads: "...study the transformation of these councils into local governmental bodies..." Perhaps there has been some word missed in the text. It would seem that one might study the possibility of transforming, but in English, "study the transformation" does not mean anything to me.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I should like to request a separate vote on the last phrase of paragraph 8 -- namely, the phrase reading "as a part of a unified administration common to the whole Territory". I shall abstain from the vote on that phrase for the reasons I stated with regard to the previous paragraph. At the present stage of the Territory's development, the recommendation contained in the last phrase of paragraph 8 would amount to a prejudgement of the freely expressed wishes of the people.

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): In the interests of style, I propose that the phrase "study the transformation" in paragraph 8 should be replaced by the phrase "study the possibility of transforming".

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I presume that the representative of New Zealand will vote for that amendment. Is he making a formal proposal or a mere suggestion?

Mr. THORP (New Zealand): This has no relation to any vote that may be cast on the paragraph. I have made the proposal in the interests of style, because at the moment the phrase in question has no meaning. I do make this as a formal amendment.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): If I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Council adopts the New Zealand amendment.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): In accordance with the request of the representative of Belgium, I shall now put to the vote the last phrase of paragraph 8 -- the phrase reading "as a part of a unified administration common to the whole Territory".

The phrase was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

Paragraph 8 as a whole, as amended, was adopted unanimously.

Mr. CIAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): As regards paragraph 9, I would say the following. We have no objection in substance to paragraph 9; indeed, it is very complimentary to the Administering Authority. It is perhaps, however, somewhat inaccurate, since it implies that the training of indigenous persons was initiated by the Administering Authority particularly with a view to their appointment to administrative posts and posts of authority. This is not altogether correct; it is only one of the objectives of the Administering Authority in promoting the training of indigenous persons.

Furthermore, I think that paragraphs 9 and 10 repeat each other, and this is especially true if the phrase of paragraph 9 to which I have referred is retained. I therefore propose that the last phrase of paragraph 9 should be deleted and that paragraphs 9 and 10 should be joined.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): I should like to propose the following amendment to paragraph 9: replace the words "The Council congratulates the Administering Authority for" by the words "The Council notes with interest".

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom): I should like to oppose the amendment just suggested by the representative of Guatemala. If we all attach such great importance to the subject in question, why should we not congratulate an Administering Authority when it acts in accordance with the Trusteeship Council's wishes?

I should like to make a suggestion -- and I emphasize that at this stage it is only a suggestion -- which might meet the point raised by the representative of Belgium. Paragraph 9 would read somewhat flatly if the phrase read out by the representative of Belgium were deleted. Would it not be possible instead to add the words "in all services", which would make it clear that it is not only in the administrative posts and posts of authority? As I have said, I am not making a formal proposal, but am merely trying to find out whether what I have suggested would improve the text; it might even satisfy the representative of Guatemala, by indirect means.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I merely wished to draw the Council's attention to the fact that there was a redundancy as between paragraph 9 and paragraph 10 and, also, that paragraph 9 contained a certain inaccuracy. What I suggested did not affect the substance of the paragraph; indeed, the scope of the congratulations which the Drafting Committee was good enough to address to the Administering Authority would have been reduced.

I have not made a formal proposal, however, and I withdraw my suggestion. I am perfectly happy to have the vote taken on paragraph 9 as presently drafted, if no one supports the suggestion I made.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I should like to reintroduce in the name of the delegation of India the amendment suggested by the representative of Belgium -- namely, the deletion from paragraph 9 of the phrase reading "with a view to their appointment to administrative posts and posts of authority".

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council has before it two formal amendments. I shall first put to the vote the Guatemalan amendment that the words "The Council congratulates the Administering Authority for" at the beginning of paragraph 9 should be replaced by the words "The Council notes with interest".

The Guatemalan amendment was rejected by 6 votes to 3, with 5 abstentions

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council now has before it the amendment proposed by India and introduced originally by Belgium, according to which we should delete the final words of paragraph 9: "with a view to their appointment to administrative posts and posts of authority". The amendment provides further that, with those words omitted, paragraphs 9 and 10 should be combined to make a single paragraph 9.

Mr. MAX (France) (interpretation from French): I should like to ask what becomes of the word "spécialement" which I believe was part of the deletion proposed originally by the representative of Belgium.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): There is a difficulty there because the French text does not correspond exactly to the English text, and no equivalent of the word "spécialement" occurs in the latter. I am told that this word is to be deleted from the French text also. Does that satisfy the representative of France?

Mr. MAX (France) (interpretation from French): If the President agrees, I think that the best thing would be to ask the representative of Belgium what he thinks, since he did introduce this amendment originally.

Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) (interpretation from French): I think that we have to view the problem as a whole, and since my initial idea has been taken up by the Indian representative I would propose that paragraphs 9 and 10 should be combined and should read as follows:

"9. The Council congratulates the Administering Authority for the progress which has been achieved in the training of indigenous persons and takes note of the statement of the Administering Authority that as the number of persons having graduated from educational institutions grows it will be possible to increase the appointment of nationals of Ruanda-Urundi to the Territory's civil service and to posts of higher responsibility within it."

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): The Council will now vote upon the amendments proposed by India as just read out by the representative of Belgium.

The amendment was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): We shall now vote on paragraph 9, as amended. If adopted, the new text will take the place of the present paragraphs 9 and 10.

Paragraph 9, as amended, was adopted by 12 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Mr. KESTLER (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): Since paragraphs 9 and 10 have now been combined and adopted, as amended, and in view of what was said by the representative of the United Kingdom, who objected to the amendment which I proposed, I should like to state that my amendment was not intended in any way to detract from the congratulations addressed to the Administering Authority. I merely thought that the language was, perhaps, somewhat exaggerated since the training of indigenous persons with a view to their appointment to posts of authority is a minimum task which the Administering Authority should carry out.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to explain the vote of the Soviet delegation on the paragraph which has just been adopted. Inasmuch as the discussion which took place on the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi showed, in our view, that the Council had no reason to congratulate the Administering Authority since the lack of training for the specialists who are required in Ruanda-Urundi was perfectly clear, the Soviet Union voted against the text in question. For the same reason -- namely because the Soviet delegation had a negative attitude towards the paragraph as a whole -- we abstained during the voting on the Guatemalan and Indian amendments.

Paragraph 11 was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I wish to propose a small amendment to the text of paragraph 12, namely, to delete the words "break down and" in the fourth line from the end of the paragraph, and then to change the phrase "nature of the distinction" in that same line. I am not quite clear what is meant by those words. I would suggest the replacement of the words "nature of the distinction" by the words "present relationship". If my amendments were accepted the text would read, "... are helping to change the present relationship between the Bahutu and the Batutsi".

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): Are there any comments on the amendment proposed by the representative of India?

Mr. MAX (France) (interpretation from French): I have only one observation to make: I believe that this text was taken from the findings of the Visiting Mission.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from Spanish): There being no formal objections, I shall consider the Council approves the Indian amendment.

The Indian amendment was adopted.

Paragraph 12, as amended, was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.

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Trusteeship Council
21st Session
37th Meeting (PM)

Press Release TR/1373
14 March 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

The Trusteeship Council this afternoon first took up six reports submitted by its Standing Committee on Petitions.

Petitions concerning the affairs of trust territories are examined first by the Petitions Committee. The Committee's recommendations on each of the petitions examined are then submitted to the Council for final approval.

The six reports submitted to the Council today were presented by RIKHI JAIPAL (India), the Chairman of the Petitions Committee. The first four (Docs. T/L.817 to 820) dealt with some 50 petitions from the Cameroons under French administration; the fifth (Doc. T/L.821) concerned 12 petitions from British-administered Cameroons; and the sixth (Doc. T/L.822) report related to two petitions from Belgian-administered Ruanda-Urundi.

The petitions cover a wide variety of issues, both of a personal and general nature, such as complaints regarding collection of taxes by native authorities, land disputes, charges of forced labor, charges of false arrest as alleged members of the Union des Populations du Cameroun, a dissolved political party in the French Cameroons, complaints concerning injuries received in traffic accidents, and the dissolution of UPC, which was later established and subsequently dissolved in the British Cameroons.

A majority of the recommendations proposed by the Petitions Committee would draw the attention of the petitioners concerned to the observations of the administering authority. In the case of the dissolution of the UPC in the British Cameroons, the Committee further expressed the hope that the Council's next (1958) visiting mission to West Africa would take into account, in its report on the political situation in the territory, both the causes and effects of the dissolution of the party.

By varying votes, the Council approved all but one of the nearly 60 separate recommendations proposed by the Petitions Committee. In several cases, it turned down Soviet proposals for a stronger recommendation.

(more)

The Council postponed voting on a recommendation concerning the dissolution of the UPC in the British Cameroons to permit time for circulation of an oral amendment moved by Belgium, and a sub-amendment moved by India.

The Council then took up a resolution adopted by the last session of the General Assembly concerning the economic advancement of Somaliland under Italian administration.

At the request of VITTORIO ZADOTTI (Italy), the Council agreed to postpone the consideration of this item until its summer session when it could be considered together with the annual review of conditions in Somaliland.

(END OF TAKE 1)

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Trusteeship Council
21st Session
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14 March 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

Next, the Council took up the question of the rural economic development of the trust territories. In response to a General Assembly request, the Council in 1951 set up a committee to study the problem of land tenure, land alienation and land use in the trust territories.

This Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories, after submitting seven progress reports, decided at its meeting on 23 January 1958, to take up its studies territory by territory, beginning with Belgian-administered Ruanda-Urundi.

The Assembly, in a further resolution adopted on this subject last year, invited the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labor Organization to submit such observations as they might have on the question.

The Council today heard statements by R.A. METALL (ILO) and JOSEPH L. ORR (FAO), who explained how their organizations intended to meet the request of the General Assembly.

Mr. ORR indicated that the FAO comments might be submitted to the Council's 23rd session in 1959, after field studies of the subject had been made by its own experts.

Sir ANDREW COHEN (United Kingdom), speaking as Chairman of the Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories, said the Committee had held a number of meetings. He hoped that the Committee might be able to submit during the present session a report in relation to its current study of the land problem in Ruanda-Urundi.

IVAN I. LOBANOV (USSR) said the General Assembly had repeatedly expressed its concern regarding the land question in trust territories. He said the situation in a number of the territories was such that further procrastination in the work of the Committee could not be tolerated.

ALFRED CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) expressed reservations regarding the Committee's method of work. He considered that the study should be integrated with the general work of the Council.

Sir ANDREW said the Committee hoped to be able to speed up its work. However, this should not be done in such haste as to affect the outcome of its efforts.

(more)

KEVIN T. KELLY (Australia) declared that the three phases of the subject -- land tenure, land use and land alienation -- were "inextricably" related. In his view, no one phase should be singled out for separate treatment.

The President, EMILIO ARENALES CATALAN (Guatemala), suggested that the latest Assembly resolution on this subject should be formally referred to the Committee on the Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories.

This procedure was agreed to by the Council.

The Council then took up the Assembly resolution on offers of scholarships by member states for study abroad for students of trust territories. The resolution expressed hope that such offers would be fully utilized and asked the Council to report to the next Assembly session on the extent to which such offers had actually been utilized.

Mr. LOBANOV declared that the Soviet Union had offered numerous scholarships to permit students of trust territories to study in the USSR. Such offers covered all expenses, including food, clothing, transportation and housing. Many students of trust territories, he said, had wanted to take up the offers but they had been prevented from leaving the territories by the administering authorities concerned.

The Council, he said, should discuss this question and submit detailed proposals to the Assembly.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council take note of the Assembly resolution for the present. The resolution, he said, would appear on the agenda of the Council's next session.

The Council agreed to this procedure.

Lastly, the Council took up the report (Doc. T/L.824) of the drafting committee on conditions in Ruanda-Urundi. The report, prepared in the light of the general debate previously held in the Council, proposes for the Council's approval a series of conclusions and recommendations concerning developments in the territory, as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole.

The Council voted on the report paragraph by paragraph. Before adjourning today, it approved with modifications the first 12 of the nearly 40 paragraphs.

The Council will vote on the remaining paragraphs of the report of the drafting committee on Ruanda-Urundi at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, 18 March.

(END OF TAKE 2 AND OF PRESS RELEASE TR/1373)