

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL

T/PV.846

19 September 1957

ENGLISH

Seventh Special Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE EIGHT HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIXTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 19 September 1957, at 3 p.m.

President:

Mr. HOOD

(Australia)

The future of Togoland under French administration: report
of the United Nations Commission on Togoland under French
administration (continued)

Note:

The Official Record of this meeting, i.e., the summary record,
will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol
T/SR.846 and will be subject to representatives' corrections.
It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

THE FUTURE OF TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION: REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/1336 and Corr.1, 1336/Add.1 and Corr.1, 1336/Add.2; T/L.808/Rev.1 [General Assembly resolution 1046 (XI)]
(continued)

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): During yesterday afternoon's debate, several delegations presented a number of suggestions for changes in the draft resolution which is before the Council. These suggestions were available to us in writing for the first time in yesterday's verbatim record, which was circulated this morning. I think the members of the Council may have observed the difficulties to which those of us who were trying to achieve a meeting of minds have been subjected -- certainly within the last five minutes. I do not know how it will all work out, but I am fairly satisfied that there may actually have been achieved a very substantial meeting of minds, in which case I must say that my delegation is extremely grateful for the way in which the main supporters on both sides of the question have been willing to give ground.

It might be helpful if I were to summarize briefly the position of the United States in its attempt to place before the Council a draft resolution on Togoland which could attract substantial support.

First, we do not deny that there is some merit, and considerable merit, in the amendments which we have been asked to accept. We believe, however, that the resolution which the Council sends to the Assembly should largely confine itself to points on which there can be general agreement -- including even agreement among the opposition parties in Togoland. We are certain that such agreement exists on two essential points which are included in our draft resolution. The first point is that there has been a very significant transfer of powers from Paris to Lomé, and that these powers are being extended to the point where internal autonomy will shortly be realized. The second point on which there seems to be general agreement -- a point which the United States especially wishes to underline -- is that as soon as possible the Territory should hold new elections on the basis of universal suffrage, to set up a Legislative Assembly fully qualified to express its views as to the future of Togoland.

It is the considered view of the United States that the holding of free and fair elections on a universal suffrage basis, and perhaps with United Nations observers, is a democratic and fair means of determining the country's future.

(Mr. Sears, United States)

We have already been told by Mr. Olympio and the leaders of the other groups and parties in Togoland that all would participate in such elections if free and fairly conducted. The United States delegation believes that we should not prejudice the future of the people of Togoland, or interfere with them ahead of time in the free expression of their wishes through such free elections.

If the elections were to be delayed for the purpose of giving an advantage to one party or the other, it would seem to us to be an unjust interference in the affairs of the people of Togoland.

My delegation fully realizes that in some parts of the world there is little confidence, or perhaps little experience, with the method of free and democratic elections. It may be that circumstances at times make it difficult to hold such elections. We believe, nevertheless, that in the case of Togoland the people are ready to participate in such a democratic and well-tried method of determining their wishes.

We need only look at the neighbouring countries of Ghana and Nigeria to see that under the leadership of the United Kingdom elections have been held in a free and satisfactory manner. Likewise, one of the great contributions of France with respect to Africa has been its expression of confidence in the capacity of African leadership. In Senegal, the Ivory Coast, Guinea and Dahomey, in fact in thirteen of the fourteen West African Territories under French control, free elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage have already been held.

In all the discussion about termination of Trusteeship for Togoland, many may, perhaps, have lost sight of the fact that the essential features of internal self-government -- including law and order -- have been exercised in Togoland for some time. Democratic self-government is never easy, but in Togoland today it is being carried out well. We think that due note should be taken of this, and that credit should be given where credit is due. Only a decade ago, this exercise of the powers of government would have been considered by many outsiders to be completely premature.

We are also aware, as pointed out in the Commission's report, that the careless handling of the future of Togoland in the United Nations could easily lead to disturbances -- and even bloodshed -- among opposing groups in Togoland itself.

I shall not prolong my statement. We realize that other relevant but less essential points could have been added to our resolution. We believe, however, that the essential principle in paragraph 4 -- providing for new elections to be held in the near future on the basis of universal suffrage -- is so overriding that it seems to us unnecessary to complicate the question further by adding considerations which, though useful, are not at this stage of the highest importance.

I trust therefore that this draft resolution in its present revised form will receive support from all sections of this Council who believe, as we do, that the people of Togoland are fully capable of exercising democratic government and determining their own future, whatever it may be.

Mr. ROLZ-BENNETT (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): May I first be permitted to say how grateful I am to the United States delegation especially for having taken the initiative in the presentation of this draft resolution, and also for the careful consideration which that delegation has given to the suggestions presented yesterday by various delegations, including my own. As a result of this study by the sponsor we have before us a revised text of the draft resolution. We observe that operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 have been revised in accordance with certain suggestions which we presented yesterday and which were contained in an informal paper which was circulated among us. We also note that certain suggestions made by the representative of Syria have been taken into account in the revised draft. Permit me to express our opinion that, in the light of the revisions which have been effected, this draft resolution is now in a much less objectionable form.

However, may I point out that the most important suggestions we presented yesterday have not been incorporated in the revised draft resolution before us this afternoon. These more important suggestions had, in our view, the merit of introducing a certain balance which we feel is still lacking in the present draft resolution. We felt yesterday, and we continue to feel, that this draft resolution should be based on the general feeling of this Council formed on the study of the documents which we have had before us and, in particular, of the report of the Commission on Togoland, and with due consideration of the statements made by the representatives of France and of the Government of Togoland. All these should, we feel, be more fully reflected in the draft resolution.

(Mr. Rolz-Bennett, Guatemala)

My delegation notes that certain aspects of the report are justifiably mentioned, and it supports these expressions of satisfaction in connexion with the political reforms in the Territory. These expressions of appreciation are addressed to the Administering Authority for the manner in which it has interpreted the new Statute and to the Government of Togoland for the manner in which it is exercising the power and functions which have been transferred to it.

However, if these matters are mentioned, reference should also be made to the principal suggestions appearing in chapter V of the report. These suggestions concern the fact that a full measure of self-government has not yet been achieved and that new elections should be held on a basis of universal suffrage, although mention of the latter can be found in the context of paragraph 4, to which I shall refer later on.

Finally, my last point is that the Commission recommends -- and I think that this thought should be put down in black and white -- that at an opportune time the population should be consulted, in co-operation with the United Nations, so as to determine the future of the Territory. Therefore, my delegation considers that balance is still lacking in this draft resolution.

Allow me now to refer to paragraph 4 of the operative part of the draft resolution. This paragraph contains various elements but I should like to refer to the fact that, although various viewpoints were presented in our debate, in paragraph 4 special emphasis is placed on the intention of the Government of Togoland, as stated by its representative here, to hold new elections for the Legislative Assembly before 1960 as was provided for in a transitional provision of the Statute. It seems to me that the present wording of paragraph 4 could be interpreted to mean that the Trusteeship Council is expressing an opinion to the effect that the holding of elections constitutes a means of terminating the Trusteeship Agreement and that this is a measure which the General Assembly might take at its next session. We feel that such an interpretation would be premature and that the General Assembly should be left entirely free to deliberate upon what action should be taken concerning the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement in Togoland, in view of the events which have occurred there.

(Mr. Rolz-Bennett, Guatemala)

This being the case, I would take the liberty of making a suggestion which I hope will not be considered too late. I suggest that the words in paragraph 4 referring to the intention of the Togoland Government to hold new elections for the Legislative Assembly, on the basis of direct universal suffrage, before 1960, should be transferred to the end of paragraph 3. This transfer would be very helpful in the interpretation of paragraph 4 and would avoid any erroneous impression. This change would greatly help my delegation in adopting its position regarding the resolution as a whole.

This is all that I wish to say, for the moment, but I would ask you, Mr. President, to call upon me later on so that I may make some remarks concerning the suggestions which have been made to the United States delegation and which, unfortunately, have not been incorporated in this draft resolution.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): I should like at the outset to congratulate the sponsor of the draft resolution for the spirit of co-operation which had led him to accept some of the many suggestions put before the Council yesterday, although, of course, I still wish he could have been a little more responsive.

However, as the representative of Guatemala has now made a further suggestion, I think the Council will agree with my delegation that it is most important, in respect of paragraph 4 -- which is, if I may say so, a key paragraph in this draft resolution -- that there should be as little ambiguity as possible, although, of course, interpretations may differ.

In the interests of clarity, therefore, I should like to support the suggestion of the representative of Guatemala which is not, really, an amendment of a substantive nature. He is not in fact proposing the deletion of any sentence from the revised text of the paragraph. What he is, in effect, suggesting is the lifting of one sentence from paragraph 4 and the placing of it in paragraph 3. Thus the suggestion which is contained in this sentence will still be adequately reflected in the draft resolution. If this is going to facilitate the position of one delegation, I have no doubt that it will facilitate the positions of other delegations as well. I do hope that the

(Mr. Jaipal, India)

sponsor will find it possible to accept this very simple suggestion, which is merely to lift one sentence from one paragraph and to place it, in its entirety, in another paragraph.

At a later stage, if you will permit me, I shall explain our position with regard to the draft resolution as a whole.

The PRESIDENT: We have now reached a situation somewhat like that in which we found ourselves yesterday, where suggestions of greater or lesser importance have been put across the table to the sponsor of the resolution. I would not like to place anybody in difficulties in this connexion and am therefore quite prepared to adjourn the Council to allow time for further consideration of these suggestions. However, I shall be glad to hear any further observations.

U THAN HIA (Burma): I should like to make a few remarks about paragraph 4. The suggestion made by the representative of Guatemala meets with our wishes. I stated yesterday the views of my delegation on the question of the intention of the Government of Togoland to hold new elections to the Legislative Assembly. We are strongly in favour of all elections and we hope therefore that the United States is right in its interpretation of the situation.

I should say at this time, however, that the holding of elections without the transfer of other powers and responsibilities would not be the final stage in the evolution of the Territory towards self-government or independence. The transfer of other powers is very important and we should not lose sight of it in the process of attaching importance to the new elections. Paragraph 4, in its present form, creates the impression that if elections are held, all would be well.

I therefore support the suggestion made by the representative of Guatemala.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria)(interpretation from French): My delegation has studied the draft resolution contained in document T/L.808/Rev.1. We have been happy to note that certain suggestions made earlier have been accepted by the United States delegation. Unfortunately, it must be recognized that the suggestions which have been accepted are not the most important ones submitted and do not affect the substance of the draft resolution itself. We are not encouraged by this fact, and we now have before us a text which we have criticized at some length at a previous meeting.

We would, in the spirit of conciliation, not try to improve this text any further along the lines we have explained; the reluctance of certain delegations in the Council makes such improvements impossible. We would like to reserve our right to do so in the General Assembly when this text is transmitted to it for consideration.

My delegation will therefore abstain when the vote is taken on the revised draft resolution submitted by the United States. This should not be interpreted as a weakening of the position taken by the Syrian delegation, or as a change of attitude in respect of the basic implications of the United States draft.

My delegation wishes to point out that it has not taken part in the consultations which have led to the revision of the United States draft. By virtue of this, it feels perfectly free to adopt, in the General Assembly, an attitude which will be most in line with the principles which it has always defended and will continue to defend.

Lastly, I should like to support the useful suggestion made by the representative of Guatemala. Such a suggestion might dispel certain misunderstandings which might arise in the future in the interpretation of paragraph 4 of the United States draft. If this suggestion were to be adopted by the Council, my delegation might then reconsider its position.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France)(interpretation from French): I have already had the opportunity of indicating the reservations of a general nature to which this draft gave rise on our part. I should nevertheless like to pay a tribute to the United States delegation for the effort which it has made in trying to produce a draft which might attract the greatest amount of support from members of the Council.

(Mr. Kosciusko-Morizet, France)

In order to facilitate the work of the Council, I should first of all like to give our opinion on the amendment which has just been proposed. I think that no one will doubt our spirit of conciliation and particularly the spirit of conciliation evidenced by the representative of Togoland. We thought we had detected among delegations -- particularly the delegations of non-administering Powers -- a sincere desire to find a meeting of minds and produce solutions which would be acceptable to all. Under these conditions, but for different reasons from those expressed by the representative of Guatemala, we align ourselves with the suggestion to transfer a phrase from paragraph 4 to paragraph 3. That would seem to us to be more logical, in view of the fact that it is the Togoland Government which has the power to organize elections and it alone has that power. It is under these conditions that we accept the proposed suggestion.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America): In view of the interesting and happy statements which have just been made, my delegation is very glad to accept the suggestion of the representative of Guatemala.

The PRESIDENT: I would like to enquire whether the Council is now ready to vote on a new revision of the text of the draft resolution.

Mr. ROLZ-BENNETT (Guatemala)(interpretation from Spanish): I would like to thank the delegations of France and the United States for the statements which they have just made. I would specially like to thank the sponsor for having incorporated my suggestion in the draft resolution.

Before proceeding to the vote, I wish to make a brief statement with regard to the suggestions which were not accepted by the delegation of the United States and which my delegation proposed yesterday. At this juncture, my delegation does not intend to ask for a vote on an amendment, but I would like these suggestions to appear in their entirety in the report which the Council will submit to the General Assembly on this special session. I trust there will be no objection to this course of action.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium)(interpretation from French): I do not know whether certain delegations would wish paragraph 3 in its new form to be circulated in writing, but I would like the representative of Guatemala or the Secretary of the Council to read out the new draft of paragraph 3.

Mr. WIESCHHOFF (Secretary): Paragraph 3 of the draft resolution would read:

"3. Notes with satisfaction the exercise by the Togoland authorities of the powers transferred to them under the State and the intention of the Togoland Government to hold new elections before 1960 on the basis of direct universal suffrage for a new Legislative Assembly."

Paragraph 4, of course, would be shortened to the extent of the three lines which have been transferred to paragraph 3 and in consequence would read:

"4. Considers that the report, as well as the statements before the seventh special session of the Trusteeship Council made by the representative of the Government of France and the representative of the Government of Togoland provide a useful and constructive basis for consideration and action by the General Assembly with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory solution in accordance with the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement; and".

Mr. MUFTI (Syria)(interpretation from French): I should like to ask that the words "with satisfaction" in paragraph 3 of the draft resolution should be voted on separately.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): My delegation regrets that the Guatemalan amendments with which we associate ourselves were not pressed to the vote. The representative of Guatemala has, however, made a suggestion that his suggestions should be set forth in the report of this Council to the General Assembly, and I take it that there is no objection on the part of the Council to that procedure. I would much prefer that that suggestion was decided on first, before we vote on this draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT: I will, of course, follow the wish of the Council in this matter. I take it to be part of the normal procedure and it will be done.

I propose that we now put the draft resolution as revised to the vote of the Council, bearing in mind that a separate vote has been requested in respect of two words contained in paragraph 3, which I shall put first to the vote of the Council.

We shall now vote on the retention of the words "with satisfaction" contained in paragraph 3 of T/L.808/Rev.1.

The words "with satisfaction" were adopted by 12 votes to 2.

The draft resolution as a whole (T/L.808/Rev.1) was adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation would like to explain the manner in which it has voted. My delegation abstained in the vote on the resolution submitted by the United States; however, that does not mean that the Soviet delegation has altered its opinion regarding this subject.

The amendments accepted by the sponsors of the resolution have improved -- to a certain, although not to a very great extent -- certain provisions of the text, but its basic substance has not been altered and the resolution remains in contradiction with the basic conclusions contained in the Commission's report.

The Council has had the opportunity of adopting an objective resolution based upon the conclusions of the report; however, the waiving by the authors of this resolution of the relevant amendments of Guatemala and Syria has removed from the resolution the necessary objectivity that it might have had otherwise. Despite the attempts made by certain delegations to close their eyes to certain nebulous wording in the resolution, this wording was intended to help the Administering Authority realize the purpose which it has been trying to achieve for over a year, that is, the termination of Trusteeship before the purposes and objectives of Trusteeship have been achieved.

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

This inference was not denied by the authors of the resolution, or by those who supported them; on the contrary, they confirmed that view on numerous occasions, not only by the fact that they had rejected the objective amendments suggested by the representatives of Guatemala and Syria: also, in particular, they confirmed this by stating in effect that the acceptance of the resolution as well as the analogous decisions of the General Assembly in the future would offer the only opportunity for the Togoland Territory to obtain a larger measure of self-government which, as was indicated here, might be conferred upon it only after the Trusteeship has been terminated.

Was it not mentioned here, quite openly and frankly, that Trusteeship by the United Nations would hamper the achievement of self-government by the Trust Territory and, as a logical conclusion, it was suggested that the Trusteeship Council should empower the Administering Authority to administer the Trust Territory without supervision.

The Soviet delegation considers it its duty to state frankly that it senses the dangers inherent in the nebulous wording of the resolution and emanating from this resolution. As a result, the Soviet delegation wishes, once again, to stress that its abstention regarding the resolution as a whole means that, without altering its attitude towards the resolution, my delegation retains the right to defend its point of view in the General Assembly.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) (interpretation from French): The resolution contained in document T/L.808/Rev.1, submitted by the delegation of the United States, which transmits to the General Assembly both the Commission's report and the statements of the representatives of France and of Togoland, seems to me to achieve a happy equilibrium between different points of view.

However, the Belgian delegation regrets that no reference was made in the text submitted to us to the opinion of the population of the Territory, which, on 28 October 1956, expressed itself -- by more than 71 per cent of the vote -- in favour of the Togoland Statute and of the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. The "freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned", mentioned

(Mr. Smolderen, Belgium)

in Article 76 of the Charter, are one of the important factors which must be taken into account in connexion with the achievement of self-government by the Territory. On the other hand, however, my delegation has not fully understood the meaning and the scope of paragraphs 4 and 5 of the resolution which seemed to attribute to the General Assembly certain powers to decide what measures should be taken and to set in motion an appropriate procedure for the early attainment of the objectives of the Trusteeship System.

If this means that the General Assembly will be required to cast aside the full powers attributed to France under the Trusteeship Agreement, or to interfere in the machinery provided for amending the Statute, the Belgian delegation has most serious reservations.

My Government voted for the resolution only because the Administering Authority also agreed to the procedure mentioned in the resolution.

Mr. JAIPAL (India): The vote of my delegation is necessarily qualified by our attitude to the parent resolution, that is, General Assembly resolution 1046 (XI), on which we also abstained. Furthermore, the statements made by the Administering Authority here are, we find, still a little ambiguous in regard to certain aspects of this question as a whole. Also, the resolution does not reflect adequately the Commission's findings, probably because no exhaustive examination of the Commission's report was possible. Our understanding, therefore, is that the General Assembly this year will carry out this examination on the basis of the Commission's report and the statements made by the Administering Authority here and later in the Fourth Committee, and then decide upon the further steps necessary in accordance with the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement for bringing this Trust Territory closer to the final objective of trusteeship.

Mr. SALOMON (Haiti) (interpretation from French): First of all I should like to say how greatly we appreciate the efforts made by the United States to present a resolution incorporating the views of the majority of the Council on the question of Togoland. The results of the vote on the resolution confirm the fact that those efforts were not in vain.

The delegation of Haiti voted in favour of the resolution contained in document T/L.808/Rev.1 because we feel that it constitutes an acceptable compromise. As such, it is true that it does not give us complete satisfaction and some delegations may not be too happy with it.

At previous meetings, both in the Council and in the General Assembly, my delegation made its position well known. We would have preferred a more balanced resolution including a reference to three questions which appear in the report of the Commission on Togoland, namely, the need to transfer to Togoland, for the purpose of full self-government, those powers still retained by the Administering Authority, the advisability of holding elections in the near future on the basis of universal suffrage, and the need to consult the population in due course with regard to its future in full agreement with the United Nations.

The delegation of Guatemala presented amendments along those lines. My delegation is happy that the Council did not disregard them but rather will include them in the report to be submitted to the General Assembly.

In the meantime, the United States draft resolution just adopted by the Council will allow the General Assembly to set in motion the appropriate procedure for the attainment of the aspirations of the population of Togoland. This will be one of the Assembly's main tasks at its future sessions.

U THAN HLA (Burma): I should like to explain the vote of my delegation on the draft resolution.

The draft resolution does not reflect adequately and in a balanced form the important findings and final observations of the Commission. The Commission's view that the Territory has made considerable strides on the road to the achievement of the basic objectives of the Charter finds a place in the draft resolution but no mention is made of the final observation of the Commission that the transfer of other powers and responsibilities is necessary in order

(U Than Hla, Burma)

to achieve full autonomy. It is true that the entire report of the Commission will be before the General Assembly for study, but any action on the part of the Council to pinpoint some aspects of the report and to omit others will tend to create an impression which, I am sure, is not intended by the United States, and it might appear that the Council does not endorse or attach sufficient importance to the aspects which are omitted. My delegation, therefore, abstained from the vote on the draft resolution.

Mr. MUFTI (Syria) (interpretation from French): My delegation requested that the phrase "with satisfaction" in paragraph 3 of the operative part of the draft resolution be voted on separately. We voted against the inclusion of the phrase because we felt that the satisfaction expressed in this paragraph applies not only to "the exercise by the Togoland authorities of the powers transferred to them under the Statute" but also to the statement by the representative of the Togoland Government which seems to link elections on the basis of universal adult suffrage to the development of new conditions, which in the mind of the Government of Togoland might correspond to the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

My delegation cannot be satisfied with such a statement and would be unable to approve of elections which might be interpreted in future as being conditional elections. My delegation is certainly happy to see that the Government of Togoland exercises the broader powers which have been conferred upon it.

Mr. ROLZ-BENNETT (Guatemala) (interpretation from Spanish): My delegation abstained from the vote on the resolution contained in document T/L.808/Rev.1. Before the vote was taken we stated our reasons for abstaining. However, I should like to state for the record that my delegation reserves its right to express its points of view in the debate in the General Assembly. I should also like to say that in the opinion of my delegation the resolution which has just been adopted is not at variance with the conclusions appearing in the report of the Commission on Togoland. Otherwise, my

(Mr. Rolz-Bennett, Guatemala)

delegation would not have hesitated to vote against the resolution. What the resolution needed was to have certain of the amendments incorporated into it to make it more balanced.

The PRESIDENT: This concludes our business for this afternoon. The Council will have to adopt its report to the General Assembly and I suggest that this can be done, with any necessary discussion, tomorrow morning at 11.30.

The meeting rose at 4.5 p.m.

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(For use of information media -- not an official record)

Trusteeship Council
Seventh Special Session
6th Meeting (PM)
(French Togoland)

Press Release TR/1324
19 September 1957

COUNCIL ADOPTS UNITED STATES RESOLUTION ON FUTURE OF TOGOLAND

Transmits Report of UN Commission to Assembly

The Trusteeship Council this afternoon decided to transmit the report of the UN Commission to French Togoland to the current session of the General Assembly "in order to set in motion an appropriate procedure for the early attainment of the final objective of the trusteeship system" in that West African territory.

The decision was embodied in a revised United States resolution which was adopted by a vote of 9 to 0, with 5 abstentions (Burma, Guatemala, India, Syria, USSR).

The resolution also expresses its appreciation to the Commission for its report on Togoland; and commends France, the administering authority, for the liberal way in which it was applying the new political statute for Togoland, introduced in 1956.

In addition, it notes with satisfaction the exercise by Togoland authorities of the powers transferred to them under the statute and "the intention of the Togoland Government to hold new elections before 1960 on the basis of direct universal suffrage for a new Legislative Assembly" in the territory.

It considers that the Commission's report, together with statements made to the Council by representatives of the Government of France and of the Government of Togoland, "provide a useful and constructive basis for consideration and action by the General Assembly with a view to reaching a mutually satisfactory solution in accordance with the Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement."

The revised resolution, Mason Sears (United States) said, took into account some of the changes which had been suggested by Guatemala and Syria. He expressed belief that the new text represented the widest degree of common agreement on some of the main findings of the UN Commission. One, he said, was that a "significant" measure of internal autonomy had been transferred to Togoland. The second concerned the question of elections for a new Legislative Assembly in the territory.

The United States, he added, favored the holding of early elections in Togoland by universal suffrage.

(more)

Members who abstained in the vote explained that, in their view, the revised resolution, although somewhat improved, did not give a balanced reflection of the views of the Commission. The representative of Syria, the USSR and Guatemala said they would state their positions in the Assembly.

Jose Rolz (Guatemala) asked that the changes to the original United States draft which he had suggested yesterday for the consideration of the United States representative should be incorporated in the Council's report to the Assembly.

The Council will meet briefly at 11:30 a.m. tomorrow, 20 September, to approve its report to the Assembly.

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