

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



PROVISIONAL

T/SR.938
21 October 1958

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eighth Special Session

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE NINE HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 17 October 1958, at 10.45 a.m.

CONTENTS

The future of Togoland under French administration (T/1392 and Corr.2 and Add.1, T/1409, T/1410/Rev.1, T/L.413; T/L.884)

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of Togoland under French administration, 1956 (T/1371, T/1381; T/PET.7/L.31, T/PET.7/L.33 to L.46; T/PET.7/R.2 and Add.1; T/L.882, T/L.883)

Arrangements for the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, 1959 (T/1411)

Arrangements for the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, 1959 (T/1412)

Corrections to this record should be submitted in one of the two working languages (English or French), preferably in the same language as the text to which they refer. Corrections should be sent in duplicate within three working days to the Chief, Meeting Services, Office of Conference Services, Room 1104, and also incorporated in mimeographed copies of the record.

AS THIS RECORD WAS DISTRIBUTED AT 0930 HOURS ON 21 OCTOBER 1958 THE TIME-LIMIT FOR CORRECTIONS WILL BE 0930 HOURS ON 24 OCTOBER 1958.

Publication of the final printed records being subject to a rigid schedule, the co-operation of delegations in strictly observing this time-limit would be greatly appreciated.

PRESENT:

President:

Mr. CLAEYS ROUAERT (Belgium)

Members:

Mr. KELLY Australia

Mr. SMOLDEREN Belgium

U TIN MAUNG Burma

Mr. KIANG China

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET France

Mr. PERES GALLIANO)
Mr. VALADARES) Guatemala

Mr. JEAN-LOUIS Haiti

Mr. JAIPAL India

Mr. VITELLI Italy

Mr. SHANAHAN New Zealand

Mr. LOBANSKY Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics

Mr. MUFTI United Arab Republic

Sir Andrew COHEN United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland

Mr. SEARS United States of America

Also present:

Mr. DORSINVILLE Commissioner for the
supervision of the elections
in Togoland under French
administration

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. PAYRO International Labour
Organisation

Mr. SALSAMENDI United Nations Educational,
Scientific and Cultural
Organization

Dr. SACKS World Health Organization

Secretariat:

Mr. PROTITCH Under-Secretary for
Trusteeship and Information
from Non-Self-Governing
Territories

Mr. WIESCHHOFF Secretary of the Council

THE FUTURE OF TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/1592 and Corr.2 and Add.1, T/1409, T/1410/Rev.1, T/1413; T/L.884)

EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION, 1956 (T/1571, T/1381; T/PET.7/L.31, T/PET.7/L.33 to L.46; T/PET.7/R.2 and Add.1; T/L.882, T/L.883)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Dorsinville, Commissioner for the supervision of the elections in Togoland under French administration, took a place at the Council table.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America) introducing the draft resolution on the future of Togoland under French administration sponsored by his own and five other delegations (T/L.884), said that his delegation regarded it as one of the two most important resolutions ever put before the Trusteeship Council, the other having been that which had set up the machinery of self-determination whereby the former Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration had become independent as a part of the State of Ghana.

The three influences which, more than any others, had contributed to the present favourable outlook where the progressive attitude of the French Government in its capacity as Administering Authority, the effective work of the United Nations Commissioner and his staff in supervising the elections and the responsible leadership exercised by the independence movement in the Territory.

As an indicator of things to come, the French representative's exposition of the present situation in Togoland at the previous meeting had been one of the most significant statements made by a French official since the establishment of the Fifth Republic. That statement showed that France had made good the many assurances it had given the Trusteeship Council that the people of Togoland would have the opportunity to choose the government under which they wished to live.

The conduct of the former Government of Togoland, the Togolese people and the Administering Authority in the holding of the elections was a striking example

of the vigorous functioning of the democratic process. In view of the assurances given by the Commissioner that the outcome of the elections reflected the wishes of the people and that the new Chamber was entitled to speak for them, there could be no reason to delay the Territory's accession to independence beyond the date envisaged in the draft resolution. The year 1960, when it was anticipated that four African nations would become self-governing or independent, would indeed be a red-letter year in the history of that continent. It was fortunate that at such a time the African people should have leaders like Mr. Olympio, whose statesmanship and wisdom were contributing so greatly to the realization of the final goal of the Trusteeship System.

Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) congratulated Mr. Dorsinville and his staff on the fidelity with which they had complied with their terms of reference and the dedication with which they had carried out their task. He also wished to express his satisfaction at the warm welcome extended to them by the former Togoland Government and the measures taken by it either on its own initiative or at the Commissioner's request to ensure the proper conduct of the elections. The Administering Authority was to be congratulated for its sincere effort to facilitate the task of the mission. The Togoland people, particularly the women, were also deserving of praise for their exemplary conduct in the course of the elections.

He regretted to note, however, that the Commissioner had not been permitted to participate in the drawing up of certain important texts relating to the holding of the elections, and that the former Togoland Government had not felt able to adopt certain suggestions made by him and had delayed in adopting others. It was particularly regrettable that the system of invalidating the political qualifications for voting had not been revised, that certain political figures had been barred from voting and that some of the traditional chiefs had abused their authority. The important thing was, however, that the outcome

(Mr. Mufti, United Arab Republic)

of the elections to judge by the conclusions set forth in the report, was representative of the wishes of the Togolese peoples. It was significant that the addendum to the report showed that none of the appeals made against the elections results had concerned the candidates of the Comité de l'unité togolaise. The report did not call for specific recommendations by the Council, which could do no more than to take note of it, express its appreciation of the work of Mr. Dorsinville and his staff and transmit the observations of its members to the General Assembly.

The information to be supplied to the Council by the Administering Authority in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 1182 (XII) was particularly important inasmuch as there had been several important political developments in the Territory in addition to the elections, including the promulgation of the Decree amending the Statute of Togoland and the signing of the Conventions of 25 February 1958 between France and Togoland (T/1409) and the issuance of the communiqué concerning the talks between the two Governments which had taken place in September 1958 (T/1410/Rev.1).

In connexion with those developments, it must be asked to what degree the new Statute ensured the transfer of powers referred to in the fifth preambulatory paragraph of resolution 1182 (XII); to what degree the nine Conventions were compatible with that transfer of powers; what was the attitude of the new Togoland Government with regard to the amended Statute and the nine Conventions and when and by whom the Council would be informed of that attitude; and what were the essential modifications which would have to be made to the Statute in order to achieve the final stage in the development of Togoland's institutions before its accession to independence. The United Nations would not be in a position to take action until it had received satisfactory replies to those questions.

It was apparent that the French delegation was prepared to co-operate in every possible way; hence if it should be felt when the question was discussed in the Fourth Committee that certain other information was required, delegations could request it at that time.

(Mr. Mufti, United Arab Republic)

With regard to item 2 of the Council's agenda, he thought that as the annual report of the Administering Authority for 1956 did not take into account the important political events which had occurred in the past two years, there would be no point in discussing that report at the present time. If, however, the Council decided to examine the report, it might usefully consider at the same time the economic and political situation in the Territory in the light of the Council's most recent resolution on that subject, which had been adopted during the nineteenth regular session.

The text of the six-Power draft resolution accorded with his delegation's position with regard to the future of Togoland, and he would therefore vote in favour of it. He wished only to point out in that connexion that operative paragraph 6 could not be interpreted as requiring the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement before the Territory acceded to independence in 1960.

Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that in the absence of a special representative of the Administering Authority, and particularly in view of the great changes which had taken place in the Territory in the past two years, an examination of the annual report for 1956 could be of only academic interest, and the Council would do better to study the present situation and focus its attention on future developments.

He congratulated Mr. Dorsinville on the impartiality and diplomatic skill which he had displayed in supervising the conduct of the elections and expressed the view that it had been Mr. Dorsinville's presence in the Territory more than anything else which had made the present situation possible. The significance of the elections lay primarily in the fact that the people of the Territory were now truly represented in the Chamber of Deputies and had thus been able to make clear their desire for independence. It was encouraging that the Administering Authority had accepted that decision and was ready and willing to give effect to it. The transfer of powers which had already taken place meant that the

(Mr. Jaipal, India)

Togoland authorities now exercised a substantial degree of self-government; the contemplated modifications to the present Statute and the further conventions to be concluded in addition to those of 25 February 1958 should bring the Territorial Government still closer to the attainment of the final objective of the Trusteeship System. As the General Assembly would doubtless receive information later in the current session concerning the substance of those modifications and the date on which they would take effect, the Council should leave it to the Assembly to determine the next step to be taken towards the attainment of independence. He suggested in that connexion that the Assembly might wish to consider the situation in Togoland in the light of the factors outlined in its resolution 742 (VIII) before deciding that the time had come to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement.

He recalled that his delegation had abstained from voting on resolution 1182 (XII) at the previous session of the General Assembly, because it had not referred to the termination of trusteeship on the basis of independence. His delegation had been able to join in sponsoring the six-Power draft resolution, because it did not suffer from that defect. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the present fruitful co-operation between Togoland and France would continue and would lead to the establishment of friendly relations between and independent Togoland and the French Republic on the basis of complete equality and mutual benefit.

Mr. KIANG (China) said that his delegation would make its comments on the report of the Commissioner for the supervision of the elections in Togoland when it was laid before the General Assembly. Mr. Dorsinville was to be commended in particular for the influence which he had exercised in his prior consultations with the Administering Authority and the Government of Togoland regarding the organization and conduct of the elections. The advice he had given on the revision of the electoral lists, the problem of electoral disqualifications, the use of indelible ink to mark the thumbs of voters and the status of United Nations observers had contributed significantly to the successful conduct of the elections.

/...

(Mr. Kiang, China)

The Administering Authority could take pride in the efforts which it had made to guide the people of Togoland towards self-government. He was particularly happy to note that in the interval that had elapsed since the elections the French Government and the Prime Minister of Togoland had reached agreement on the modifications to be made in the present Statute of Togoland, a development which augured well for the future relationship between the two countries. The strength and prestige of Togoland, which had been enhanced as a result of the elections, would be further enhanced by its willingness to co-operate on a footing of equality with the Government of France.

Mr. VITELLI (Italy) said that the history of the Territory's progress towards the final objectives of the Trusteeship System was so recent that it was unnecessary to recall it. He would confine himself to an examination of the situation in the light of the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 1182 (XII).

In operative paragraph 7 of that resolution the Administering Authority was invited to inform the Trusteeship Council concerning certain specified developments. He would take those matters seriatim.

It seemed clear from the joint communiqué (T/1410/Rev.1) issued on the conclusion of the talks between France and Togoland in September 1958 that the transfer to the Togoland Government of all powers except those relating to external affairs, defence and monetary policy had been accomplished. Moreover, agreement had been reached on the modifications to the existing Statute of Togoland which were necessary in order to achieve the final stage in the development of Togoland's institutions before independence.

As regards the elections, he wished to congratulate Mr. Dorsinville on the manner in which he had performed his task and on his most informative report. Mr. Dorsinville had concluded his report by saying that there was not the slightest doubt that the general outcome of the elections faithfully reflected the wishes of the people of Togoland. Another requirement of the General Assembly had thus been met.

/...

(Mr. Vitelli, Italy)

The third and fourth matter referred to in operative paragraph 7 of the General Assembly resolution were the convening of the new Legislative Assembly and the wishes of the Assembly concerning the new Statute and the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. Both the statement of the French representative and the communiqué itself confirmed that Togoland had opted for independence on the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement in 1960. True, the Legislative Assembly had not formally expressed such a wish; but the Government of Togoland, enjoying as it did the support of the majority in that Assembly, was entitled to speak on behalf of it.

Accordingly, the Administering Authority had, in his opinion, complied with the requirements of operative paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 1182 (XII). Operative paragraph 8 of that resolution requested the Trusteeship Council to consider those matters and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its thirteenth session. His delegation felt that the Trusteeship Council should note with satisfaction what had been achieved and report its findings to the General Assembly, in order that the latter, in agreement with the Administering Authority, might take the final decision on the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. In so doing, the General Assembly should be guided by the desire for independence in 1960 which had been expressed by the Government of Togoland. Although, in fact, the Trusteeship Agreement could be terminated immediately, the Administering Authority had indicated its willingness to accede to the request of the Government of Togoland that the Agreement should be terminated in 1960. In view of the explanation given that the sole purpose of the delay was to further the interests of the people of Togoland, his delegation had agreed to be one of the sponsors of the six-Power draft resolution (T/L.884), in the earnest hope that it would be adopted unanimously.

In conclusion, he wished to congratulate the French Government on the manner in which it had led the Territory to the ultimate goal of the Trusteeship System and to express his warmest wishes to the Government and people of Togoland.

Mr. JEAN-LOUIS (Haiti) said that it was a noteworthy fact that, for the first time, a Trust Territory was on the point of achieving independence as a separate State. His Government fully approved the conclusions reached in the report of the United Nations Commissioner who was himself a Haitian. There had been many difficulties, but they had not proved insurmountable, and his delegation wished to record its appreciation of the devotion of the observers on whom so much had depended. Praise was also due to the people of Togoland for the civic virtues which they had displayed, and to the Togoland authorities who for the first time had been responsible for organizing elections on the basis of universal suffrage. As Mr. Dorsinville had said, the new Chamber was truly entitled to speak for the people of Togoland.

Although full information was not available on the essential modifications to be made to the present Statute in order to achieve the final stage in the development of Togoland's institutions before independence, the Trusteeship Council had sufficient information to enable it to express a preliminary opinion. Document T/1409 contained the text of the Decree of 22 February 1958 amending the Decree of 24 August 1956 setting forth the Statute of Togoland and the texts of the nine Conventions between France and Togoland concluded on 25 February 1958. Since Mr. Dorsinville had stated in paragraph 51 of his report that the Togoland authorities had power to enact laws and regulations in all matters concerning the political and administrative organization of the Territory, it was clear that the "essential modifications" mentioned in the communiqué (T/1410/Rev.1) could refer only to the Statute in its current form and to the conventions.

The elections of 27 April 1958 had resulted in a majority for those who supported complete independence.

The leader of the majority, Mr. Sylvanus Olympio, was now the Prime Minister of Togoland; in expressing his country's preference for independence, he could be sure that he spoke not only for his party but for a wide section of public opinion.

He would support the draft resolution: his delegation was satisfied with the course of events in Togoland and agreed with Mr. Dorsinville's statement in the last sentence of his report that the Administering Authority and the United Nations might well take pride in having helped to bring about the progress which had made the present outcome possible.

U TIN MAUNG (Burma) paid a tribute to Mr. Dorsinville for his impartiality and for his extremely interesting report, which undoubtedly gave an accurate description of the political situation, at the time of the elections.

The results of the elections were cause for gratification. The people of Togoland had shown a high sense of dignity and had elected a legislative body which was potentially a constituent assembly. The administration was now in the hands of Mr. Sylvanus Olympio and a Togoland Government, and the Administering Authority had shown true statesmanship in welcoming Mr. Olympio as Prime Minister.

In his opinion, the Trusteeship Council had three tasks before it. Firstly, it should satisfy itself that Togoland was self-governing; on that point, the Council only possessed the assurance of the Administering Authority. But, except in regard to external affairs, defence and monetary policy, power was in the hands of the Togoland authorities. Secondly, the Council should take note of the statements in the communiqué (T/1410/Rev.1) that Togoland had opted for independence and that modifications were to be made in the existing Statute. Thirdly, detailed consideration of the questions which had been raised should be deferred until the Fourth Committee had considered the procedure for the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement and had ascertained the wishes of the people of Togoland through their Prime Minister, who was expected in New York the following month.

For those reasons, his delegation had agreed to be one of the sponsors of the six-Power draft resolution (T/L.884) in the hope that it would be unanimously adopted.

Mr. SHANAHAN (New Zealand) recalled that in its resolution 1182 (XII) the General Assembly had specified certain conditions that were to be fulfilled in Togoland under French administration before the Assembly took a decision at its thirteenth session concerning the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement.

In the first place, general elections were to be held under the supervision of the United Nations Commissioner. That condition had been fulfilled and his delegation, like others, wished to express their warm appreciation of the work done by Mr. Dorsinville and his staff.

(Mr. Shanahan, New Zealand)

Then there had been the transfer to the Government of the Territory of all political powers except those relating to external affairs, defence and monetary policy. As the French representative had stated, that transfer had been completed and the Territory had thus achieved self-government, which was one of the objectives of the Trusteeship System as defined in Article 76 b of the Charter.

Finally, the General Assembly had desired to hear the views, both of the Administering Authority and of the new Legislative Assembly of the Territory on the future status of Togoland and the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. The representative of France had reported that an agreement had been reached between his country and a Togoland delegation led by Mr. Olympio whereby the Trust Territory would become independent in 1960; the other specific objective of the Trusteeship System laid down in Article 76 b of the Charter would thus be achieved, and it was at that stage that the Administering Authority and the people of Togoland desired the Trusteeship Agreement to be terminated.

His delegation, as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, congratulated the Government and people of Togoland on the peaceful and progressive solution of their political problem, and warmly commended the Administering Authority for its assistance in the attainment of that goal and for its wholehearted co-operation with the United Nations and with the people of Togoland.

Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) said that the choice of 1960 as the date for the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement had apparently been made at the request of the Togoland Government, which no doubt had good reason for wishing its country to remain under trusteeship for a further two years. That desire was clearly not the outcome of any request by France, since the French representative had stated at the 937th meeting that "Togoland was ready". But it was evident from the communiqué (T/1410/Rev.1) that France, as the Administering Authority, had been anxious to meet the wishes of the Togoland authorities.

His delegation desired to express its sincere good wishes for the prosperity of the new State. It felt, however, that the prolongation of trusteeship for approximately two years gave rise to numerous problems.

/...

(Mr. Smolderen, Belgium)

Since 24 August 1956, the Governments of Togoland had enjoyed full powers in all matters except external affairs, defence and monetary policy. Those exceptions had been made at the request of the Togoland authorities themselves and were not an obstacle to the termination of trusteeship. In consequence, although de jure France was responsible for the exercise of trusteeship, its de facto responsibilities were entirely different and its annual reports dealt with matters with which it was not concerned. In existing circumstances, the terms of Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter could hardly be applied to Togoland without interfering with the development of its political institutions and with its right to self-determination. Trusteeship had in fact ceased to have any meaning for the past two years.

His delegation has supported General Assembly resolution 1182 (XII), though not without misgivings. Those misgivings were in no way diminished by the draft resolution before the Council, which in fact gave effect to the General Assembly resolution. At the 713th meeting of the Fourth Committee, he had emphasized that neither the procedure adopted to terminate the Trusteeship Agreement in Togoland under British administration nor the proposed procedure concerning Togoland under French administration could constitute a precedent for the termination of other Trusteeship Agreements. He had gone on to say that only the consent of the Administering Authorities concerned conferred any validity on the procedure adopted in those two cases.

He wondered what was meant by the words "take a decision" in operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution. The Administering Authority and the elected Government of Togoland had reached agreement on the date for terminating the Trusteeship Agreement and on the manner in which the termination should be effected. The General Assembly was not entitled on legal or on any other grounds to intervene in that agreement. All that it could do before between now and 1960 would be to take note of the fact that trusteeship had terminated.

Nevertheless, the draft resolution expressed a sincere desire to ensure respect for the agreement recently reached in Paris between France and Togoland. On those grounds and on those grounds only his delegation would be prepared to support it.

/...

Mr. KELLY (Australia) agreed that no useful purpose would be served by considering the report on the administration of Togoland in 1956.

At the invitation both of the Administering Authority and the Togoland Government, the elections had been supervised by a United Nations Commissioner. The Council had been assured that the outcome reflected the will of the Togoland people and that the Government of Togoland was fully capable of expressing the Territory's wishes as regards its future. He wished to pay a tribute to Mr. Dorsinville's work and to his integrity.

The representative of France had confirmed that the elections had been fair and that the results were beyond dispute. He had gone on to say that power had been transferred to the Togoland Government except in three specific matters. In fact, the objectives of the Trusteeship System had been achieved; Togoland was ready for the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement in 1960 and ready to determine its own policy.

In view of that statement, which had been endorsed by the Prime Minister of Togoland, his delegation supported the draft resolution. It wished congratulate France and Togoland on their achievement and to welcome the appearance of a new African State.

Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) said that his delegation wholeheartedly welcomed and would support the draft resolution, which it hoped would receive unanimous support.

He expressed his delegation's appreciation of the work done by Mr. Dorsinville as Commissioner for the supervision of the elections in Togoland.

The United Kingdom delegation welcomed the agreement between France and Togoland outlined in the communiqué published on the conclusion of the talks in Paris and felt that the situation augured well for the future. He associated his delegation with the congratulations tendered by many other delegations to the Administering Authority, France, and to the Government and people of Togoland.

Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) thanked those members of the Council who had expressed appreciation of the work done by France in Togoland and who had congratulated the Governments and people of Togoland on their achievements.

(Mr. Kosciusko-Morizet, France)

He agreed with those speakers who had suggested that there was no point in examining the report of the Administering Authority for 1956 since the situation it described had now ceased to exist.

One previous speaker had appeared to feel that the assurances given by France to the effect that Togoland was indeed self-governing was insufficient. The French delegation had always adhered strictly to the facts and he could not imagine that any representative would question the veracity of the statements made by himself as the representative of the Administering Authority. In any event any doubts that might subsist would, he was sure, be dispelled in the course of the debate in the General Assembly.

In a recent interview at Lomé Mr. Sylvanus Olympio, the Prime Minister of Togoland, had explained that 1960 had been chosen as the date for Togoland's achievement of independence since time was needed to make the necessary arrangements. The French Government had agreed to that date at the wish of the Togoland Government. Incidentally, he had had a talk about a week previously with Mr. Olympio, who had expressed his intention of attending the present session of the General Assembly.

With regard to operative paragraph 6 of the draft resolution, he pointed out that the Trusteeship Agreement would automatically be terminated as soon as the French and Togoland Governments proclaimed the independence of the Republic of Togoland. The two events would be simultaneous; no other interpretation was possible.

His delegation would support the draft resolution and hoped that it would be adopted unanimously.

Mr. VALADARES (Guatemala) agreed with previous speakers that there was no need to examine the report of the Administering Authority for 1956 since the situation in Togoland had radically changed since that date.

His delegation welcomed the new nation that was entering into independence. It felt that the decision that there should be a short delay before the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement had been wise. The Conventions that had been concluded between France and Togoland were evidence that cordial understanding existed and that a detailed programme had been established for the achievement of Togoland's independence.

For those reasons he had been glad to join in sponsoring the six-Power draft resolution.

The joint draft resolution (T/L.884) was adopted unanimously.

/...

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had not participated in the debate, since it had dealt exclusively with the joint draft resolution.

It has not been possible to discuss the substance of the matter because a number of important documents were lacking and because no representative of the Togoland Government had been present. Such a discussion would, however, take place in the Fourth Committee and the Soviet delegation would then state its position.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO THE TRUST TERRITORY OF WESTERN SAMOA, 1959 (T/1411)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the nominations made by the Governments of France, India, the United Arab Republic and the United Kingdom for membership of the Visiting Mission.

The nominations were approved unanimously.

The PRESIDENT called for nominations to the Chairmanship of the Mission.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America) nominated Mr. Lall (India).

Mr. Lall (India) was elected Chairman by acclamation.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO THE TRUST TERRITORIES OF NAURU, NEW GUINEA AND THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 1959 (T/1412)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the nominations made by the Governments of Belgium, Burma, China and Italy for membership of the Visiting Mission.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked that each nomination should be voted on separately.

The nomination of Mr. Claeys-Bouuaert (Belgium) was approved by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The nomination of U Tin Maung (Burma) was approved by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The nomination of Mr. Kiang (China) was approved by 9 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions.

The nomination of Mr. Kociancich (Italy) was approved by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

/...

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had voted in favour of all duly authorized representatives of countries participating in the Mission but had voted against the person nominated in the name of China, who was unlawfully occupying a position rightfully due to a representative of the People's Republic of China.

The PRESIDENT emphasized that all representatives on the Trusteeship Council were the duly accredited representatives of States Members of the United Nations.

Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that, in his delegation's view, only the representative of the People's Republic of China should occupy the chair set aside for China in the Council. For that reason he had voted against the nomination of Mr. Kiang as a member of the Visiting Mission.

Mr. VALADARES (Guatemala) nominated Mr. Kiang (China) as Chairman of the Visiting Mission.

Mr. JAIPAL (India) asked for a vote on the nomination.

Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) asked that the vote should be by secret ballot.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<u>Number of ballot papers:</u>	14
<u>Invalid ballots:</u>	1
<u>Number of valid ballots:</u>	13
<u>Number of members voting:</u>	13
<u>Number of votes obtained:</u>	
Mr. Kiang (China)	10
U Tin Maung (Burma)	3

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. Kiang (China) was elected Chairman of the Visiting Mission.

Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that visiting missions to Trust Territories were a very important feature of the International Trusteeship System, since they provided almost the sole means of obtaining direct information about events in the Trust Territories and the wishes of the indigenous inhabitants. Unfortunately, the domination of the Trusteeship Council by the colonial Powers, and especially one of them, had

/...

(Mr. Lobanov, USSR)

led to a diminution in the significance of those visits. By exerting pressure on other delegations, the United States of America and the other Administering Authorities prevented the representation on such missions of any States that were undesirable to them. In the present instance the United States delegation had gone so far as to obtain the appointment as Chairman of a Visiting Mission of a person who represented no one and who retained a seat on the Council exclusively owing to United States support. The prestige of the Trusteeship Council had frequently suffered from attempts to convert it into a tool of the colonialist Powers. Public opinion would undoubtedly condemn the choice of the Chairman of the Visiting Mission to the Pacific, which would impair the prestige of the Trusteeship Council and of the United Nations as a whole.

Mr. SEARS (United States of America) emphasized that he had not approached any member of the Trusteeship Council with a view to securing a vote for Mr. Kiang. Mr. Kiang had been nominated Chairman of the Visiting Mission in accordance with the established practice of the Trusteeship Council and there was no justification for any suggestion to the contrary.

Mr. KIANG (China) expressed his delegation's appreciation for the honour done to it and its gratitude to those who had given him their unsolicited support.

Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that the views of most of the non-administering members on the issue were well known and he felt that the Council might have paid more heed to that majority opinion.

Mr. KELLY (Australia) said that his Government would be glad to welcome the Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories under Australian administration.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS
Office of Public Information
Press and Publications Division
United Nations, N.Y.

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

Trusteeship Council
Eighth Special Session, 2nd Meeting (AM)

Press Release TR/1443
17 October 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 1

20 OCT 1958

The Trusteeship Council this morning resumed consideration of conditions in the trust territory of Togoland under French administration, with particular reference to the future of this territory.

Before it was a draft resolution (Doc. T/L.884) on the future of Togoland sponsored by six of the Council's fourteen members -- Burma, Guatemala, India, Italy, New Zealand, and the United States.

The draft resolution, in its preamble, would take note of the report of the UN Commissioner, Max H. Dorsinville (Haiti), on the organization, conduct and results of the elections for Togoland's new legislative body which took place on 27 April 1958 under UN supervision. It also would take note of the information furnished by France, the administering authority, concerning the transfer of all powers to the Togoland Government, except those relating to defense, diplomacy and currency.

In its operative parts, the draft resolution would express appreciation of the work of the UN Commissioner and his staff; accept the conclusion of the Commissioner's report that "the general outcome of the elections faithfully reflects the wishes of the people and the new Chamber is truly entitled to speak for the people of Togoland;" and congratulate the administering authority and the Togolese authorities on "the rapid realization of the measures envisaged in General Assembly resolution 1182 (XII)," which relates to the future of Togoland.

The draft resolution would further take note of Togoland's choice of independence upon expiration of trusteeship; and of the communique (Doc. T/1410/Rev.1) issued at the conclusion of the talks on the future of the territory between the Government of France and the Government of Togoland.

Lastly, it would recommend to the General Assembly, as envisaged in its resolution 1182 (XII), that it take a decision, in agreement with the administering authority and taking into account the wishes of the Togolese authorities, concerning the termination of the trusteeship agreement in 1960 upon the attainment of independence by the territory, in accordance with Article 76 b of the Charter of the United Nations.

(more)

The President, ALFRED CLAEYS BOUVAERT (Belgium), after opening the meeting, drew the Council's attention to the six-nation draft resolution.

MASON SEARS (United States), formally introducing the proposal, said he considered it to be one of the two most important resolutions ever presented to the Council. The other, he said, was the one adopted in 1956 relating to former British Togoland.

If the draft resolution were adopted by the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly, he said, it would mean that French Togoland would become independent in 1960.

Three factors, he said, contributed to this: the "progressive attitude" of the French Government; the effective work of the UN through the UN Commissioner; and the "responsible leadership" of the independence movement headed by Sylvanus Olympio.

Mr. SEARS extended his "sincere best wishes" to the Government headed by Mr. Olympio. Togoland, he said, would become the first of the four African territories to become independent during 1960.

JAWDAT MUFTI (United Arab Republic) wanted to know to what extent the new modified statute for Togoland assured the transfer of powers to the Togoland Government, and to what extent the nine conventions concluded between France and Togoland were compatible with the transfer of powers. He also wanted to know the attitudes of the new Togoland Government to the modified statute, the nine conventions, and the further modifications which were required.

Satisfactory replies to these and other questions, he said, were necessary in order to have an over-all picture of the present situation in Togoland.

As for the draft resolution, he found it acceptable provided it was understood that trusteeship would be terminated only after Togoland attained independence.

RIKHI JAIPAL (India) said now that the goal was clear and in sight, it was up to the UN to help put into effect the final processes which would lead the territory to the attainment of the final goal of independence.

Referring to the modifications to the statute for Togoland, he trusted that the current Assembly would be kept informed on them. He also trusted that the Assembly would be told of the exact date when Togoland wanted to become independent. Togoland, he added, might wish to send its own representatives to the Assembly this year to explain its detailed plans for independence.

The Council, in his view, could not make a firm recommendation now. The remaining steps to be taken must be decided by the Assembly. The draft resolution, he added, was intended to pass the question on to the current Assembly.

He congratulated both France and Togoland for the present situation and hoped that present relations would continue to grow on a basis of equality to the mutual benefit of both nations.

UNITED NATIONS
Office of Public Information
Press and Publications Division
United Nations, N. Y.

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

Trusteeship Council
Eighth Special Session
2nd Meeting (AM)

Press Release TR/1445
17 October 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 2

CHIPING H. C. KIANG (China) said he believed it was the sense of this Committee that the report of the UN Commissioner should be immediately transmitted to the current Assembly. That being the case, he would offer his observations on the report when it was before the Assembly, he declared.

Today, he merely wished to pay tribute to the UN Commissioner for the "excellent work" he had done, and the administering authority on the Togoland Government. France, he said, could take pride for all its endeavours in guiding the Togolese people in the development of their country toward self-government.

Now, he went on, the Council had been told that Togoland had opted for independence at the termination of the trusteeship and that agreement had been reached between France and Togoland on the modifications to be made to the present statute.

He was happy to note this "most significant development" following the elections. It augured well for the future fruitful relations between France and Togoland, he said.

GIROLAMA VITELLI (Italy) said he believed that the pre-conditions provided in last year's General Assembly resolution on the future of Togoland had been fulfilled.

The Council, he said, should take note of these developments and report accordingly to the Assembly so that, in agreement with the administering authority, the trusteeship agreement for Togoland could be terminated.

In making this decision, he said, the Assembly should be guided by the wishes of Togoland for independence in 1960.

ERNEST JEAN-LOUIS (Haiti) said the Council had enough information before it to enable it to assess the situation in Togoland. As pointed out in the report of the UN Commissioner, the new Togolese Legislature was entitled to speak for the people of Togoland.

Now, the Council had been told that Togoland had opted for independence in 1960, and that agreement had been reached with France.

Accordingly, his delegation, he said, would support the joint draft resolution.

(more)

Press Release TR/1443
17 October 1958

U TIN MAUNG (Burma) said members must assure themselves that Togoland was in fact self-governing. At the moment, they could only place their assurances in the statement of the representative of the administering authority that, except for defense, diplomacy and currency, all powers had been transferred to Togoland.

Second, he said, the Council should take note of the joint communique containing the agreement reached between France and Togoland and stating that Togoland had opted for independence.

Thirdly, he went on, his delegation believed that detailed consideration of the steps to be taken in terminating the trusteeship agreement should be examined in the Assembly.

It was in the light of their considerations, he said, that Burma had joined as co-sponsor of the draft resolution, which he hoped would be adopted unanimously.

FOSS SHANAHAN (New Zealand) paid tribute to the Togoland Government, and to France for its efforts in developing the trust territory to the stage where Togoland was now ready for independence. He also praised the UN Commissioner.

These developments, he said, now made it possible for the Council to recommend that the General Assembly take a decision on termination of the trusteeship agreement.

LUC SMOLDEREN (Belgian) noted the statement of the administering authority that Togoland was ready for independence. He extended his best wishes to the new Togoland state.

Togoland, he said, had decided on a date for its independence and all that was required of the Assembly was to recognize that fact.

KEVIN KELLY (Australia) said the Council had positive assurance that the will of the Togolese people had been expressed, and that the Togoland Government and Legislature were truly representative of the people and could speak on their behalf.

Declaring his support for the draft resolution, he expressed tribute to the UN Commissioner, to France and to Togoland.

Sir ANDREW COHEN (United Kingdom) expressed support for the joint draft resolution and congratulated the UN Commissioner, the administering authority and the Togoland Government.

Here, he said, was a "happy and fruitful situation which augurs well the future."

(END OF TAKE 2)

UNITED NATIONS
Office of Public Information
Press and Publications Division
United Nations, N. Y.

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

Trusteeship Council
Eighth Special Session, 2nd Meeting (AM)

Press Release TR/1443
17 October 1958

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL -- TAKE 3

JACQUES KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) said he had nothing to reply to some of the earlier speakers, since the Council ^{was} encountering apparent unanimity in the matter.

He thanked the members for their "just assessment" of the work of France in Togoland. He joined in congratulating the government and people of Togoland for their contributions.

The assurances given by the administering authority, he said, might not have been quite adequate to some members. But he had tried, as representative of France, to give information which was always true. He could not conceive that any doubt could exist.

However, if there were still any doubts, he trusted that they would be dispelled by the further clarification which he would give in the Assembly.

He noted that Mr. Olympio had confirmed his intention to come to the UN during the current session.

France, he said, would vote in favor of the draft resolution.

LUIS BELTRANENE VALADARES (Guatemala) said Togoland was on the threshold of independence under the leadership of the "able statesman," Mr. Olympio. He wanted to extend to Togoland his warmest congratulations.

He noted that detailed agreement had been reached with France on the final steps to be taken. He congratulated France and the UN Commissioner.

There being no other speakers, the Council proceeded to vote on the joint draft resolution. It was adopted unanimously.

IVAN I. LOBANOV (USSR) said the discussion of the substance of the question could not take place at this stage, since certain documents were lacking and the representatives of Togoland were not here.

Such a discussion, he said, would take place in the Assembly when his delegation would state its position on the substance of the question.

The Council then took up the question of arrangements for sending two separate visiting missions to the Pacific in 1959. One of these, the Council has decided, would visit New Zealand, and the other would visit Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands.

(more)

As for the mission to Western Samoa, the Council today appointed the following persons as members of the group: Jacques Kosciuszko-Morizet (France), Arthur S. Lall (India), Omar Loutfi (UAR), and Sir Andrew Cohen (United Kingdom).

On the nomination of Mason Sears (United States), the Council appointed Mr. Lall as Chairman of this mission.

As for the mission to Nauru, New Guinea, and the Pacific Islands, the Council appointed the following members: Alfred Claeys Bouuaert (Belgium), U Tin Maung (Burma), Chiping H.C. Kiang (China) and Sergio Kociancich (Italy).

At the request of the USSR representative, each of these four members was appointed by separate vote.

Mr. Valadares (Guatemala) then proposed that Mr. Kiang be appointed as Chairman of the Mission.

Mr. Mufti (UAR), asked for a vote by secret ballot.

The result of the voting was as follows: 14 votes were cast, of which one was invalid; of the 13 valid votes, 10 were for Mr. Kiang's appointment as Chairman.

The PRESIDENT declared Mr. Kiang so appointed.

Following the voting, Mr. Mufti (UAR), charged that the vote had been conducted irregularly.

The PRESIDENT said the vote had been held in conformity with the rules of procedure at the request of the United Arab Republic representative.

Mr. ELIANOV (USSR) charged that Mr. Kiang's election was the result of United States pressure. Mr. Kiang, he charged, sat in the Council exclusively because of the support of the United States.

The Council, he went on, had been turned into a "tool of the colonizers." The proper person to lead the mission was the representative of Burma, in his view.

What kind of confidence could there be in the mission if it was headed by a person who not "represent anyone" and who sat "illegally" in the Council? he asked.

The PRESIDENT repeated that only representatives of governments, recognized as members of the United Nations, sat on the Council.

MR. SEARS (United States) declared that it really made little difference what the USSR representative had said. The Soviet statement, being a "down-right fabrication," was not worthy of a reply. However, he said he wanted to make clear that the United States had not asked any member to vote for Mr. Kiang.

MR. KIANG (China) said, as a representative of a member state in the Council, his legal position was as good as that of the USSR representative. However, his

(more)

moral position was "better and stronger." Mr. Lubanov had indulged in "cheap propaganda," he added.

MR. KIANG said he deeply appreciated the honor the Council had bestowed on his country in giving its "unsolicited support" of his appointment as Chairman of the mission.

MR. LUBANOV (USSR), said he would not reply to "a person who does not represent anyone."

As for his reference to United States pressure in the election of Mr. Kiang, he said the Council could judge for itself the sincerity of the words of the United States representative, particularly having in mind the actions of the United States in the Taiwan Strait.

The PRESIDENT said this last reference had nothing to do with the matters under discussion.

The Council will meet again at 3 p.m. today to approve the terms of reference of the two visiting missions.

(END OF TAKE 3 AND OF PRESS RELEASE TR/1443)