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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

Report of the fourth committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Hermod LANNUNG (Denmark)

Item 23 of the agenda of the third session of the General Assembly, referred to the Fourth Committee on 24 September 1948, was in two parts:

1. Summaries and analysis of information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: report of the Secretary-General;
2. Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: report of the Special Committee.

Under the provisions of resolution 66 (I), adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1946, and of resolutions 142 (II) and 143 (II), adopted by the General Assembly on 3 November 1947, the Secretary-General had submitted summaries and analyses of the information transmitted by Members of the United Nations responsible for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter, created by General Assembly resolution 146 (II) of 3 November 1947, had met from 2 to 17 September 1948 in Geneva, and on 23 September and 29 September in Paris, and submitted in its report (document A/593) four draft resolutions principally concerning the procedures to be followed in the future.

The Fourth Committee, at its 51st to 60th meetings, discussed the item in the light of the report of the Special Committee. The Committee is submitting five resolutions to the General Assembly. Four of these were adopted on the basis of the draft resolutions submitted by the Special Committee and, in all essentials, are identical with those draft resolutions. The fifth resulted from a proposal by the representative of India.

I. A draft resolution was proposed by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics reading as follows:

"HAVING CONSIDERED the summaries and analyses prepared by the Secretary-General of the information transmitted under Article 73 e

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/of the Charter

of the Charter, as well as the report of the Special Committee (A/593),

"TAKING NOTE:

"That the information transmitted is neither complete nor precise and does not reflect the situation really existing in the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

"That the report of the Special Committee does not contain an evaluation of that information or proposals regarding its substance,

"That the decisions of the Special Committee are limited to information on economic, social and educational conditions and exclude information concerning the development of self-government, and

"That these decisions are in contradiction with the meaning of, and the duties enumerated in, Chapter XI of the Charter and the resolutions of the General Assembly,

"THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

"RECOMMENDS that the Members which are responsible for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories should submit to the Secretary-General not only data concerning the economic, social and educational conditions in these territories, but also information regarding the development of organs of self-government in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the participation of the local population in the work of these organs;

"RECOMMENDS that the annual summaries should include data received from official sources, as well as information received from private persons and local groups or organizations;

"CONSIDERS that the Special Committee should examine communications received from the local population of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

"RECOMMENDS that representatives of the United Nations should be sent annually to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to make a survey of the situation on the spot."

The Committee voted on the resolution in parts by roll-call and decided to reject the preamble (8 votes in favour to 29 against, with 10 abstentions); the first paragraph of the operative part (15 votes in favour to 25 against, with 8 abstentions); the second paragraph (8 votes in favour to 28 against, with 12 abstentions); the third paragraph (8 votes in favour to 25 against, with 14 abstentions); and the fourth paragraph (7 votes in favour to 33 against, with 7 abstentions). It rejected the resolution as a whole (6 votes in favour to 30 against).

The Committee then considered draft resolution I submitted by the Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter. This resolution asks Members to transmit the most recent information at their disposal as early as possible, and at the latest within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in the Territories concerned; and to notify changes in statistics and other appreciable changes, including progress in development programmes, as may have occurred in the previous year and as affect the matters covered by Article 73 e. It invites the Secretary-General to extend the use of supplemental information, authorizing him, in order to provide a means of assessing the information transmitted, to make use of all relevant and comparable official statistical information, within the categories referred to in Article 73 e, which has been communicated to the United Nations and to the specialized agencies. It invites the Secretary-General to prepare (a) full summaries and analyses of information transmitted during 1949 and thereafter at three-year intervals; (b) annual supplements in the intervening years; and (c) annual summaries of any material voluntarily submitted under the optional category of the Standard Form. Lastly, the resolution provides that the Members transmitting information should be informed of the comments made in the Special Committee in connexion with the Standard Form and the information received.

The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics moved the following amendment to the fourth paragraph of draft resolution I regarding the preparation of summaries and analyses:

"INVITES the Secretary-General to prepare for the General Assembly and the Special Committee summaries and analyses of information transmitted annually on all the categories of the Standard Form by the Members responsible for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories; this information relates not only to the progress made in the economic, social and educational conditions but also to the development of organs of self-government and the participation of the local population in the work of these organs".

The Committee rejected the amendment (6 votes in favour to 25 against). The Committee adopted draft resolution I as a whole (38 votes in favour to 6 against). The text is given at the end of this report as Resolution I.

With regard to the transmission of information, reservations concerning sovereignty in respect of British Honduras (Belize territory), the Falkland Islands (the Malvinas) and Aden Protectorate (Southern Yemen) were made by the representatives of Guatemala, Argentina and Yemen respectively. The United Kingdom Government reserved its position in  
dd /respect of the

respect of the three Territories.

In the case of the transmission of information on Indonesia, several delegations raised the question of the independence of the Republic of Indonesia, which they held should not be classified as a Non-Self-Governing Territory.

II. Draft resolution II submitted by the Special Committee asks that a special committee, similar to that of this year, be constituted to meet in 1949, without prejudice as to the future, and defines its duties. The Committee decided by a roll-call vote to reject an amendment providing for the permanence of the Special Committee which had been originally proposed by the representatives of Cuba and Venezuela and, on its withdrawal by them, reintroduced by the representative of Poland (17 votes in favour to 17 against, with 18 abstentions). The amendment was to paragraph 1 and read as follows:

"CONSIDERS that a special committee similar to that of this year should be constituted on a permanent basis, composed of all the Members of the United Nations transmitting information in accordance with Article 73 e and of an equal number of other Members elected every third year by the Fourth Committee on behalf of the General Assembly, on as wide a geographical basis as possible."

This amendment included a consequential amendment to paragraph 3. The Committee rejected by a roll-call vote an amendment to the same paragraph introduced by the representative of Brazil, constituting a special committee on a three-year basis (11 votes in favour to 19 against, with 21 abstentions). The amendment read as follows (it also contained a consequential amendment to paragraph 3):

"CONSIDERS that a special committee similar to that of this year should be constituted for three years, composed of all the Members of the United Nations transmitting information in accordance with Article 73 e, and of an equal number of other Members elected by the Fourth Committee on behalf of the General Assembly, on as wide a geographical basis as possible."

Following these decisions, the Committee adopted paragraph 1 of draft resolution II as submitted by the Special Committee (41 votes in favour to 7 against).

The Committee decided by a roll-call vote to reject the amendment of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics representative to paragraph 2 of the draft resolution concerning the functions of the special committee (8 votes in favour to 26 against, with 17 abstentions). The amendment  
dd /read as follows:

read as follows:

"INVITES the special committee to examine the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter on the economic, social and educational conditions, as well as on the development of institutions of self-government and on the participation of the people in the work of the local organs of self-government, including all data supplied by the specialized agencies, as well as information transmitted to the Secretary-General by private persons, and local groups or organizations; to submit to the General Assembly a report on the information, accompanied by comments and conclusions; and also to prepare appropriate recommendations."

The Committee then adopted paragraph 2 of the draft resolution as submitted (37 votes in favour to 7 against). It adopted paragraph 3 concerning the time of meeting of the special committee (39 votes in favour to 1 against). It decided to delete paragraph 4 of the draft resolution on the ground that it was unnecessary (37 votes in favour to 1 against). The paragraph in question invited the Fourth Committee to take the necessary action on behalf of the General Assembly.

The draft resolution as a whole, subject to the deletion of paragraph 4, was adopted (38 votes in favour to 7 against). The text of the resolution is given at the end of this report as resolution II.

A statement on the financial implication of the resolution, already given to the Special Committee, was repeated in the Fourth Committee.

III. Draft resolution III submitted by the Special Committee relates to liaison between the Economic and Social Council and any special committee which the General Assembly may appoint. In paragraph 2 of the Special Committee's text, attention was drawn to "schemes of technical assistance approved by the Economic and Social Council". A drafting amendment was moved by the Rapporteur to substitute for the above words the phrase "arrangements for technical assistance approved by the Economic and Social Council". The amendment was adopted unanimously.

The draft resolution as a whole, subject to the drafting amendment, was adopted by a roll-call vote, without opposition (31 votes in favour to none against, with 6 abstentions).

The text of the resolution is given at the end of this report as resolution III.

IV. Draft resolution IV submitted by the Special Committee relates to co-operation with the specialized agencies. It invites the Secretary-General  
ad /to keep in close

to keep in close touch with the secretariats of the specialized agencies with a view to seeking their counsel and assistance in the preparation of his analyses of the information transmitted. It invites the specialized agencies to examine the relevant sections of the Standard Form with a view to the revision of this Form, and to inform any special committee which the General Assembly may appoint of the progress of any work undertaken by them which includes, within its scope, economic, social and educational conditions affecting Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The Committee adopted draft resolution IV as a whole by a roll-call vote, without opposition (31 votes in favour to none against, with 7 abstentions).

The text of the resolution is given at the end of this report as resolution IV.

V. The Committee then considered the draft resolution submitted by the representative of India which the latter had revised after consultations with certain delegations. Amendments to the revised text were submitted by the representative of Poland and by the representative of Belgium.

The draft resolution draws attention to the provisions of Article 73 e, and notes that, whereas in 1946 74 territories were enumerated by the Governments concerned as falling within the scope of Article 73 e, in some cases information was not transmitted in 1947 or 1948, although no explanations were given for the omission. The draft resolution welcomes any development of self-government that might have taken place in any of the territories, but considers that, having regard to the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter, it is essential that the United Nations be informed of any change in the constitutional position and status of any territory as a result of which the responsible Government concerned deems it unnecessary to transmit information in respect of that territory under Article 73 e. It requests the Members concerned to Communicate to the Secretary-General such information as may be appropriate in this connexion, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the territory and the constitutional relationship of the territory to the Government of the metropolitan country.

The Committee adopted the preamble of the Indian representative's proposed draft resolution (32 votes in favour to none against, with 15 abstentions).

The first amendment submitted by the representative of Poland, to insert the following sentence before the first operative paragraph of the Indian representative's proposal, was rejected (10 votes in favour to  
dd /21 against,

21 against, with 16 abstentions):

"DRAWS the attention of the Members concerned to the obligatory character of their responsibility under Article 73 to transmit information in respect of every territory which is not yet fully self-governing."

The Committee adopted the first operative paragraph of the Indian proposal, which welcomes any development of self-government that may have taken place. It thereby rejected the second amendment submitted by the representative of Poland, namely, to delete this paragraph (27 votes in favour to 8 against, with 12 abstentions).

The Committee adopted the second operative paragraph of the Indian proposal, which states that the General Assembly considers it essential that the United Nations be informed of the changes in the constitutional position and status as a result of which the further transmission of information was thought unnecessary (32 votes in favour, to none against, with 15 abstentions).

The third Polish amendment referred to the last operative paragraph of the Indian proposal, which requests the Members concerned to communicate to the Secretary-General certain information relating to the government of the territory affected and its relationship with the Government of the metropolitan country, "including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the territory, and the constitutional relationship of the territory to the Government of the metropolitan country." The Polish amendment proposed to add at the end of that paragraph the following words:

"as well as the structure and powers of the territorial government, including the extent and nature of the participation therein of the local inhabitants."

The amendment was rejected (10 votes in favour to 23 against, with 14 abstentions).

The representative of Belgium proposed to delete the words from "including" to "the metropolitan country" contained in the Indian proposal.

This amendment was rejected (13 votes in favour to 22 against).

The Committee adopted the last operative paragraph of the Indian proposal as a whole (30 votes in favour to 3 against, with 13 abstentions).

The Committee adopted the resolution proposed by the representative of India as a whole, without opposition (29 votes in favour to none against, with 17 abstentions). All the votes taken on this resolution were by roll-call with the exception of that on the Belgian amendment.

The text of the resolution is given at the end of this report as  
dd /resolution V.

resolution V.

The Fourth Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following resolutions:

RESOLUTION I

TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER

ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER

*Non-self-governing territories - information*

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

CONSIDERING that, in the light of experience, resolution 66(I) adopted by the General Assembly on 14 December 1946 and resolutions 142(II) and 143(II) adopted by the General Assembly on 3 November 1947 require adaptation and amplification,

1. INVITES the Members transmitting information under Article 73 e of the Charter to send to the Secretary-General the most recent information which is at their disposal, as early as possible and at the latest within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in the territories concerned;
2. RECOMMENDS that the Members, in transmitting information on the basis of the Standard Form, should notify such changes in statistics and such other appreciable changes, including the progress achieved in accordance with development programmes, as have occurred in the previous year and as affect the matters covered by Article 73 e of the Charter, bearing in mind that information already furnished on a previous occasion need not be repeated but that reference may be made to the appropriate sources;
3. INVITES the Secretary-General to extend the use of supplemental information in future years and considers that, in order to provide a means of assessing the information transmitted under Article 73 e, the Secretary-General should be authorized to include in his summaries and analyses all relevant and comparable official statistical information, within the categories referred to in Article 73 e of the Charter, which has been communicated to the United Nations or to the specialized agencies;
4. INVITES the Secretary-General to prepare for the General Assembly, and for any special committee which the General Assembly may appoint:
  - (a) Full summaries and analyses of the information transmitted during 1949 and thereafter at three-year



intervals, showing the progress made over the three-year period in respect of economic, social and educational conditions;

(b) In the intervening years annual supplements, showing such changes in statistics and such other appreciable changes, including information on the progress achieved in accordance with development programmes, as have occurred in the previous year, together with relevant statistics for the previous two years, as well as analyses of different aspects of economic, social and educational conditions to which attention may have been drawn in previous years;

(c) Annual summaries of any material which the Members may have voluntarily transmitted under the optional category of the Standard Form;

5. INVITES the Secretary-General to distribute the documents referred to above as far as practicable in accordance with the attached schedule;

6. DECIDES that the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information should be retained for the coming year, but that the Secretary-General

(a) In communicating this Form to the Members concerned should inform them of the comments made in the Special Committee in connexion with the contents of the Form and the information received;

(b) Should endeavour as far as practicable to take account of these comments in the preparation of his summaries and analyses; and

(c) Should invite the Members concerned, which have not hitherto provided the general information forming the optional category of the Standard Form, nevertheless to supply such information in relation to the geography, history, people of, and human rights in, the territories concerned.

#### Schedule

Information received before 1 June: summaries to be communicated by the Secretary-General before 15 July.

Information received in the month of June: summaries to be communicated before 31 July.

Analyses to be communicated by 31 July if practicable, and in any event not later than 15 August.

*Non-self-governing territories - Spec. Cttee.*

RESOLUTION II

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER  
ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter which was constituted by resolution 146(II) adopted by the General Assembly on 3 November 1947,

1. CONSIDERS that, without prejudice as to the future, a special committee similar to that of this year should be constituted to meet in 1949, composed of all the members of the United Nations which have hitherto transmitted information in accordance with Article 73 e and of an equal number of other Members elected by the Fourth Committee on behalf of the General Assembly, on as wide a geographical basis as possible;
2. INVITES this special committee to examine the summaries and analyses of information transmitted under Article 73 e on the economic, social and educational conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including any papers prepared by the specialized agencies, and to submit a report thereon for the consideration of the General Assembly, with such procedural recommendations as the special committee may deem fit and such substantive recommendations as it may deem desirable relating to functional fields generally but not with respect to individual territories;
3. CONSIDERS that the Special Committee should meet in 1949, not later than three weeks before the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly, at a place to be determined by the Secretary-general, and should conclude its work not later than one week before the opening of the session.

*Non-self-governing territories - Special Committee  
and ECOSOC.*

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RESOLUTION III

LIAISON BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter which was constituted by resolution 146(II) adopted by the General Assembly on 3 November 1947 and which was authorized to establish liaison with the Economic and Social Council,

1. INVITES the Secretary-General to:

- (a) Inform any special committee which the General Assembly may appoint of decisions taken by the Economic and Social Council and of studies undertaken under its auspices which include within their scope economic and social conditions affecting Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- (b) Place at the disposal of the Economic and Social Council all relevant information transmitted under Article 73 e and all relevant supplemental information required for the work of the Economic and Social Council;

2. DRAWS THE ATTENTION of the Members responsible for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories to the arrangements for technical assistance approved by the Economic and Social Council, and invites the Secretary-General to inform any special committee which the General Assembly may appoint of the extent and nature of any such technical assistance rendered to Non-Self-Governing Territories at the request of Administering Members.

*Non self-governing territories - Special agencies  
collaborative*

RESOLUTION IV

COLLABORATION OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN REGARD TO ARTICLE 73 e  
OF THE CHARTER

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY,

HAVING CONSIDERED the report of the Special Committee on Information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter which was constituted by resolution 146 (II) adopted by the General Assembly on 3 November 1947, and which was authorized to avail itself of the counsel and assistance of the specialized agencies,

1. HAS NOTED the resolution adopted by the World Health Assembly and welcomes the measures being taken by the World Health Organization to examine the section of the Standard Form relating to public health and sanitation, and in other ways to provide technical assistance in the preparation and consideration of information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter;

HAS ALSO NOTED the information supplied by the International Labour Office with particular reference to the ratification and application of international labour conventions concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories and to the study which is being undertaken in regard to migrant labour problems;

HAS ALSO NOTED the explanations furnished by the representative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the services which that organization is providing in Non-Self-Governing Territories with the consent of the Members responsible for the administration of those territories;

2. INVITES the Secretary-General to keep in close touch with the secretariats of the specialized agencies with a view to seeking their counsel and assistance in the preparation of his analyses of information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter;

3. INVITES the specialized agencies to examine the relevant sections of the Standard Form with which they are specially concerned, with a view to the revision of this Form;

4. INVITES the specialized agencies to inform any special committee which the General Assembly may appoint of the progress of any work undertaken by them which includes within its scope economic, social and educational conditions affecting Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. FURTHER INVITES the appropriate specialized agencies to make such comments on the analyses prepared by the Secretary-General as they may feel will be helpful to the consideration of these analyses.

*N.S.C.T. - Annex with scope of Article 73 e.*  
RESOLUTION V

CESSATION OF TRANSMISSION OF INFORMATION UNDER ARTICLE 73 e  
OF THE CHARTER

WHEREAS, by Article 73 e of the Charter, Members of the United Nations which have or assume responsibilities for the administration of territories whose peoples have not yet attained a full measure of self-government have accepted the obligation to transmit, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to the economic, social and educational conditions in those territories,

WHEREAS, by General Assembly resolution 66 (I) adopted on 14 December 1946, 74 territories were enumerated, in accordance with the declarations of the responsible Governments, as falling within the scope of Article 73 e,

WHEREAS some of the responsible Governments concerned have not transmitted information on certain of these territories in 1947 and in 1948, without furnishing any explanation for such omission,

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. WELCOMES any development of self-government that may have taken place subsequent to the passing of General Assembly resolution 66 (I) in any of the territories enumerated therein;

2. CONSIDERS that, having regard to the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter, it is essential that the United Nations be informed of any change in the constitutional position and status of any such territory as a result of which the responsible Government concerned thinks it unnecessary to transmit information in respect of that territory under Article 73 e of the Charter; and

3. REQUESTS the Members concerned to communicate to the Secretary-General, within a maximum period of six months, such information as may be appropriate pursuant to the preceding paragraph, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the territory and the constitutional relationship of the territory to the Government of the metropolitan country.

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