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SUMMARY RECORD OF THE THIRTY-EIGHTH MEETING

held at the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
on Friday, 12 October 1951, at 2.30 p.m.CONTENTS:Pages

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Present:

Chairman: Mr. KERNKAMP

Members:

Australia	Mr. PEACHEY
Belgium	Mr. RYCKMANS
Brazil	Mr. ROCQUE da MOTTA
Denmark	Mr. LANNUNG
Egypt	Mr. PHARAONY
France	Mr. PIGNON Mr. SAGOT
India	Mr. PANT
Mexico	Mr. CALDERÓN PUIG
Netherlands	Mr. SPITS
New Zealand	Mr. SCOTT
Pakistan	Mr. ZIAUD-DIN
Philippines	Mr. INGLES
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Mr. SOLDATOV
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Mr. MATHIESON
United States of America	Mr. DAVIS

Representatives of specialized agencies:

International Labour Organisation	Mr. GAVIN
Food and Agriculture Organization	Mr. PANLEY
World Health Organization	Dr. FORREST Mr. DEUTCHMAN

Secretariat:

Mr. Benson	Representative of the Secretary-General
Mr. van Beusekom	Secretariat
Mr. Cottrell	Secretariat
Mr. Kunst	Secretary to the Special Committee

1. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS AND DEVELOPMENT IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES:
SECRETARY-GENERAL'S ANALYSES OF INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED BY
ILO AND FAO (item 4 of the agenda) (continued):

(d) Forests (A/AC.35/L.37, A/AC.35/L.41) (continued)

Mr. DAVIS (United States of America), referring to the Indian representative's statement at the previous meeting, said the most important forest areas in Non-Self-Governing Territories under United States administration were in Alaska. So far as he could recall, there were no forests of commercial importance in any of the other Non-Self-Governing Territories under United States administration. In Puerto Rico forests were simply used to cover the coffee crop.

There were about 375,000 square miles of forest in Alaska, much of which was covered with large trees eminently suitable as timber or for the production of pulp and other wood products. Five million acres of the two national forest areas in south-eastern Alaska were classified as merchantable timber, and the total amount of timber which could be cut in those areas without in any way diminishing the supply was extremely large. The exploitation of the forests was under the control of the Bureau of Forestry of the Federal Department of Agriculture. The Government's aim for some years past had been to encourage the commercial development of wood-working industries in those areas, and a large pulp mill was to be constructed which was expected to provide about 300 tons of cellulose pulp daily.

The Federal Government wished to make the timber resources of Alaska available, under proper control and selective cutting, to local industries or to larger investment enterprises from the United States.

Mr. PANT (India) said that the forest reserves of the Non-Self-Governing Territories included some of the largest in the world and he wondered whether any statistics had been kept of the effect of the depletion of the forests on the climatic conditions of those areas.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that scientists and technicians of the Belgian Congo had devoted much time to studying the effect of deforestation on climate.

He referred the Indian representative to the reports of the National Institute for Agricultural Research in the Congo (INELAC) where he would find descriptions of the forestry research work carried out in various parts of the Belgian Congo.

Mr. MATHILSON (United Kingdom) emphasized the difficulty of the question of the influence of vegetation, and particularly of forests, on climatic conditions, and said that it was one of great interest to United Kingdom experts.

He drew attention to the photographs on the wall outside the Committee room which showed graphically the various forms in which timber production had been developed in the different parts of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under United Kingdom administration, and which illustrated the practical application of the policy of rational exploitation which was being followed there in conjunction with a policy directed primarily to the preservation of forest cover in order to maintain the productivity of the soil and to keep standing forests as a continuing source of economic benefit.

Mr. PLACHEY (Australia) pointed out that the depletion of forests in Papua did not at the moment greatly affect climatic conditions in that Territory. In fact, the Government of Australia was encouraging judicious cutting of trees to meet the timber requirements of the Territory, which, on occasions, had had to import timber from New Zealand for housing purposes. Apart from timber which could be used for general purposes, there were two species of special value, namely walnut and hoop pine for which there was a market outside the Territory. Though Papua was covered to a large extent by rain forests, the resources were not so large as to allow of unrestricted cutting, and the Australian Government's policy, therefore, envisaged the use of forestry methods designed to ensure that the timber resources were not dissipated. The question of afforestation and the possible problem of soil erosion were always considered when large-scale cutting of trees was contemplated.

(e) Agricultural Research (A/AC.35/L.33)

Mr. SAGOT (France), emphasizing the importance of agricultural research, pointed out that before the second world war experimental stations and laboratories in French Africa, with the exception of a federal body in French West Africa, had come under the control of the agricultural services. Although certain difficulties had restricted their programmes of work, considerable results had been achieved by those services. During the past ten years great efforts had been made to improve agricultural research in the Territories under French administration, and an Overseas Scientific Research Centre had been set up with branches in Central Africa, Madagascar and Oceania. Research centres for the improvement of textiles, fruits and oil-yielding plants now came under three special institutes with headquarters in Paris. General agricultural problems outside the scope of these institutes were dealt with by centres and laboratories belonging to the federal agricultural services.

A proposal had been laid before the Assembly of the French Union that a National Institute for Tropical Agriculture should be established in order to centralize the services of the various local research institutes. The Tropical Forest Technical Centre and the Institute of Cattle Breeding and Tropical Veterinary Medicine had been created for a similar reason. The former centre carried out research in connexion with the production, exploitation and use of tropical timber, and the latter scientific and technical research for the improvement of cattle breeding.

He then briefly reviewed the various research centres and laboratories which were organized and financed by semi-public corporations, and said that advisory co-ordination committees had been set up in each territory under French administration. Those committees were composed of representatives of research centres and members of the local administrative and technical services, and provided a link between theory and practice.

In view of the ever-increasing threat of soil exhaustion, the various territories had set up soil institutes the members of which were drawn from the various technical services concerned.

The considerable funds needed to equip the many research centres and laboratories were provided by the Fonds d'investissement pour le développement économique et social (FIDES). The proceeds of various taxes were used to pay the working expenses of the different centres.

The various research centres needed well-trained staff, and praiseworthy efforts had been made in recent years to provide it. There were now 250 research workers, and 20 to 25 additional workers were engaged yearly.

In the past, agricultural research had mainly been conducted in connection with cash crops of exportable produce. The main reason for that was that technical improvements relating to such crops were more easily applicable in the fields than were improvements affecting traditional crops. However, food crops covered eight-tenths of the total area of cultivated land in the territories under French administration, and the increase necessary in their productivity could not be brought about without appreciable changes being made in the farming techniques so far adopted.

That inescapable necessity raised important problems which were being considered by the agricultural research institutions.

The various research centres of the local agricultural services in the different territories under French administration were grouped around a central body with a large experimental station and a specially trained staff. There were two such centres in West Africa with seventeen auxiliary stations.

In French Equatorial Africa there were two research centres, one of which had five auxiliary stations. In the Cameroons the research centre had four auxiliary stations. Dahomey had two auxiliary stations and Madagascar five. New Caledonia relied on the research services of the French Oceania Institute.

For cattle breeding, there was a central research station in Dakar, three in the Sudan and one each in Brazzaville, Fort Lamy and Antananarive. Research on fisheries was carried out at Dakar and at two stations in Senegal. Research on tropical forests was superintended by the Tropical Forest Technical Centre in Paris and there were various auxiliary centres in the different Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Agricultural research in Morocco and Tunisia had had good results. Technical advice to agriculturists was supplied by three centres - agricultural, horticultural and cattle breeding. In Morocco the central station was situated at Rabat and there were various experimental farms, laboratories and nurseries in other parts of the Territory. Referring to the question of soil protection in Morocco, he pointed out that a special service to deal with that problem had been initiated in 1949.

In Tunisia, agricultural research was performed by the Botanical and Agricultural Service set up in 1913 by Professor Boeuf and remarkable results had been obtained. The Arloing Institute, which had been created in 1913, was also carrying out experiments on animal biology and pathology, fodder resources and cattle breeding.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) said that his Government regarded agricultural research as one of the principal ways in which the rural economy of the Territories under its administration could be developed and as a fundamental responsibility of all Administering Authorities.

Referring to Section IV, on agricultural services and research, of the Secretariat's note on General Conditions of Agricultural Production (A/AC.35/L.33), he felt that insufficient weight had been given to the importance of central organizations established in the metropolitan country to co-ordinate agricultural research. In dealing with the international aspect of research, the Secretariat paper did not touch upon the great and growing importance of international collaboration in that field.

With regard to the question of the central organization of research, he pointed out that it was obvious from the outset that the problems encountered in developing agriculture in the Non-Self-Governing Territories were not conditioned by the political status of those territories, as similar problems were encountered in Territories all over the world with similar conditions of agricultural development and climate and infested by the same type of pests. It was important, therefore, that those problems should not be studied from the local or regional point of view, but should rather be treated in such a way that the whole scientific research of

the world was brought to bear on them. His Government had encouraged academic institutions in the United Kingdom to take an interest in tropical problems. Interest in tropical medicine had been aroused in the nineteenth century, and, under the inspiration of Joseph Chamberlain, two great schools of tropical medicine had been founded in London and Liverpool.

For a number of years the great clearing house for information on tropical plants both in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in parts of the British Commonwealth had been the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew in London. Much work had been done there to promote a thorough knowledge of tropical plants in general and, more particularly, of their uses and their transplanting.

He proposed to invite the Secretariat to distribute to members certain documents dealing in greater detail with the problem of agricultural research. It would be seen from them that a vast number of research stations had been established in Non-Self-Governing Territories under United Kingdom administration, and that all the information received from them had been examined and pieced together by the highest possible authorities on the subject.

Referring to a report entitled "Colonial Research 1950/1951", issued by the Colonial Office, copies of which he would make available to any members on request, he pointed out that it contained the detailed reports of the Colonial Research Council, which controlled a series of more specialized councils and bodies such as the Colonial Products Research Council, the Social Science Research Council, the Colonial Medical Research Council, the Colonial Insecticides Committee, the Colonial Economic Research Committee, the Tsetse Fly and Trypanosomiasis Research Committee, the Colonial Fisheries Advisory Committee and the Anti-Locust Research Centre.

After briefly reviewing the work done by all these various bodies, he said their work showed how world knowledge was brought to bear on agricultural problems through the presence of the most notable authorities in the United Kingdom on those committees and councils, whose sole function was to ensure that all information gathered was made available to those who were interested in the various problems.

Part of the material which he intended to make available to the members of the Committee contained a list of stations, both territorial and regional, which had been established and were now in operation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

In order to illustrate the type of work which was being carried out by those stations, he pointed out that in the field of agriculture the most important thing was to ensure that the soil was of the right type to receive the variety of plant which was being planted in it. The Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture had been established in Trinidad in 1921 to serve the whole British Commonwealth, and the men trained at that college had taken up their duties in the various parts of the Commonwealth and in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. As an extension of the work on sugar cane carried out at the Imperial College, a central sugar cane research centre had been established in Barbados where a great deal of work had been done towards developing a strain of sugar cane which was resistant to disease and high in yield. The varieties of sugar developed had been propagated in the West Indian islands, the Caribbean area, Venezuela, the United States of America, Kenya, and Argentina. That was merely one example of the importance which the United Kingdom Government attached to research and of the notable results which it yielded.

Referring to the East African Agriculture and Forestry Research Organization, he pointed out that it was financed by grants from the Metropolitan Government and from parts of the East African Territories. In addition to plant pathology and other research work, the organization carried out fertilizer tests in Kenya, Tanganyika and Uganda. It organized a clove research scheme in Zanzibar to investigate the disease which attacked cloves, and it operated in close conjunction with the East African Veterinary Research Organization. The principal function of the latter organization was to investigate diseases such as trypanosomiasis, East Coast fever, rinderpest and other cattle diseases which afflicted stock in East Africa. Those diseases had to be overcome in order to ensure a better protein diet for the indigenous workers.

Another aspect of research being pursued in Africa by the West African Cocoa Research Institute was that into diseases of the cocoa plant. The swollen-shoot disease affecting cocoa plants constituted the most serious threat to the economy.

of the Gold Coast and of Nigeria, since, if it remained unchecked, the cocoa industry could be brought to a standstill within a few years. Progress in combating the disease had, however, been made within the last few years by means of insecticides. Furthermore, variety trials amongst types of cocoa were being conducted with the object of introducing a higher-yielding stock. Research was also being conducted into the preparation of cocoa beans, particularly in connexion with the fermentation process.

The various research institutes mentioned did not operate independently but were in constant touch with scientific advice from the metropolitan country. International co-operation too had been highly developed in the various regions, especially in Africa. In that connexion, he referred to the Southern African Scientific Council and the Commission for Technical Co-operation, both of which dealt with the regions south of the Sahara. The Council reviewed the progress achieved in all fields of research and was responsible for the co-ordination of activities; the Commission was an inter governmental body supervising the various bureaux established by inter-governmental co-operation in connexion with aspects of agriculture and animal husbandry. Moreover, closer association with the specialized agencies had been achieved and experts from such agencies, particularly from the Food and Agriculture Organization, had taken part in the discussions at the various conferences organized in Africa on those questions. Under the auspices of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, an Overseas Territories Committee had been set up which arranged meetings of experts in the various fields of agriculture and related problems. That body consisted of representatives of most of the Administering Authorities represented on the Special Committee, as well as of Italy and Portugal, and published valuable reports.

He suggested that in its final report the Special Committee should emphasize the importance it attached to agricultural research. Steps should be taken to ensure that none of the Non-Self-Governing Territories would encounter difficulties arising out of certain problems for which a solution had been found elsewhere. To that end, it was essential to ensure that the work of the specialized agencies was closely integrated with national governmental action.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) did not think it appropriate to give the Committee a report on the work which had been carried out in the field of agricultural research in the Belgian Congo during the past year. If such detailed information were required, he suggested that members should request the Secretariat to supply full information instead of summaries of the data provided by the Administering authorities. If members did not think that the original information was sufficiently complete, additional detail could no doubt be found in the United Nations library.

He wished, however, to refer to the report of the INEAC (National Institute of Agricultural Research in the Congo) which had been published very recently and which the Secretariat had therefore not had the opportunity of summarizing. He would call particular attention to the introduction to that report which described briefly the main research activities undertaken. The year 1950 had been particularly active since it was the first of the ten-year plan of implementation. A division of agricultural mechanization had been instituted, as well as centres connected with food crops, forestry, palm-oil production and fish-breeding. Furthermore, centres, which would begin to function within the next year, had been set on foot in connexion with food production and coffee-growing. The European staff at the end of 1950 numbered 267, of whom 227 were based on Africa. African personnel numbered 10,380 of whom 550 were craftsmen. He recalled that, at a previous meeting, he had referred to the number of European personnel in Africa as 180. That figure, however, represented only the number of technical personnel, whereas the total number was 227. Such persons were not attached to the government agricultural services but were INEAC personnel working on research; they did not deal with popularizing agricultural methods, that being the responsibility of the Government.

If members were interested in consulting that report, together with the bibliography attached thereto, it could be found in the United Nations library.

Mr. PANT (India) said that, in view of the importance of research work, the statements made by the representatives of France and the United Kingdom would prove of great value to the Committee. He pointed out that research had a two-fold aspect, pure research and the application of the knowledge so gained to practical conditions. Experience in his own country had shown the strenuous efforts which were required in order to put into practice the knowledge acquired by research. The Committee would therefore be particularly interested to hear the experiences of the Administering Authorities in that respect.

The Belgian representative had drawn attention to the documents published concerning research undertaken by the Administering Authorities. As, however, the Special Committee was expected to exchange information and experiences, information provided in concise form at meetings would, he felt, be most welcome and preferable to the consultation of published documents.

Mr. PLACHEY (Australia) said that from discussion with other representatives, it appeared that comparatively little was known about the research undertaken in Australian Territories where, in proportion to their size and population, the amounts appropriated for research compared favourably with those allocated in most parts of the world.

The problem of research in New Guinea was of particular importance since that Territory differed so widely from other areas. Among the research stations set up in Papua was a new one at Epo in the Mekeo Division which was being used initially for rice production and harvesting. Research officers in that Territory worked in close collaboration with the research station in Australia, and, in the case of rice, the experience gained in the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area was being drawn upon.

Giving instances of the various matters into which research was being conducted, he called special attention to work in connexion with cocoa pests and measures for the eradication of the giant snail, which had been brought under satisfactory control in some areas. Work had also been done in analyzing different types of soil of which a very considerable variety existed throughout the Territory.

The Australian Government was collaborating with several Governments including those of India and Pakistan, on the introduction of types of certain plants, such as rice, sorghum, jute and tea, approximately one-third of which had been imported from India and Pakistan.

Research in the field of land utilization and soil conservation in New Guinea had led to the discovery that much of the land in the highlands was unproductive and was likely to continue to be so for a considerable period of time, owing partly to the practice of burning stretches of high-lying land. The lack of fertility in the soil was a particularly important consideration since there was considerable evidence of population pressure in many parts of the highland region.

Coffee research had experienced a severe setback as a result of the volcanic eruption which had occurred at Mount Lamington, in Northern Papua, leading to a loss of some 4,000 indigenous inhabitants and a slightly higher number of casualties. A considerable area had been denuded and the coffee producing area of the Sangara Native Coffee Project had been completely obliterated. Very few of the trained indigenous coffee workers had survived.

In connexion with livestock and livestock products, his Government was also calling upon the experience of India and other territories with a tropical climate. By the crossing of European and Asiatic breeds of cattle, it was hoped to introduce breeding nuclei of suitable Asiatic beef and dairy cattle types.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), replying to the Indian representative, said that he fully appreciated that the Committee should not be required to consult a very large number of reports in order to find the information it required. It was, however, the Secretariat's responsibility to make a summary of the information supplied to it and not to provide that information in toto. The Indian representative had quite rightly pointed out that it was essential to communicate the results achieved in the various territories. But, if only a relatively small section of the Secretariat's summaries was devoted to information on the Belgian Congo, that did not mean that considerable achievements were not taking place in that Territory. Conferences were being held every year between INEAC and

government representatives, while inter-African conferences, attended by representatives of France, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Portugal and other independent countries, such as the Union of South Africa met at regular intervals and issued valuable documentary material at the end of each session.

The Committee should try to find a happy mean in its method of working. It would be unfortunate if the impression were given that nothing was being done merely because extremely detailed information was not verbally provided.

Mr. PAWT (India) said that he had not intended to imply that nothing was being achieved in the territories under Belgian administration. He had merely wished to stress the point that it would not be desirable for the Committee to be obliged to have recourse to documentary material in order to obtain all the information it required.

Mr. DAVIS (United States of America) said that he had been most interested by the statements on research in the territories under the administration of the United Kingdom and of France. He emphasized very strongly the paramount importance of research in all territories in order to achieve the aim of economic development, particularly in the field of nutrition. If research for the development of hybrids, which, in the United States, had resulted in an increase of over 50 per cent in maize production, were extended to such crops as sugar-cane and rice, an extremely valuable contribution could be made to the general security by ensuring adequate food supplies.

Without entering into detail, he would like to give some indication of the way in which research facilities were made available in United States territories. In the United States of America, proper agricultural experimental stations were the responsibility of the various State universities, which all had agricultural colleges, and were also supported by the Federal Department of Agriculture. Experts also worked directly in the experimental field. That system ensured that the benefits of agricultural research throughout the world were made available to the various regions of the United States with the least possible delay.

The same system was applied in experimental stations in territories under United States administration. Thus, there was in Alaska, under the joint auspices of the University of Alaska and the Federal Government, an experimental station which was undertaking topographical research. In Puerto Rico, an experimental station which had been in existence for some considerable time, was conducting important researches on tropical and semi-tropical plants. The Puerto Rican Government co-operated in that service, and its facilities were made available to the Virgin Islands and the Pacific Territories where elaborate research stations did not yet exist. Research in Hawaii had been considerably developed, as a result of the activities both of the University of Hawaii, as well as of private organizations and sugar-cane and pineapple growers. Large-scale research on those plants had helped to improve the varieties of pineapples and sugar-cane and to stabilize the yield.

Agricultural research was a field in which international co-operation was of particular value since the work undertaken was for the common good, and consequently no barriers of any kind should exist. He wished to refer in particular to the work of two international commissions, the Caribbean Commission and the South Pacific Commission which had done a considerable amount of work, some of it preparatory, in the sphere of agricultural research. The Caribbean Commission had published two years previously a document showing the appreciable number of research projects undertaken. His Government found considerable ground for satisfaction in all those activities.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom), commenting on the various points raised by previous speakers, recalled that he had already mentioned the results achieved in the production of sugar-cane in the Barbados by the use of high-yield strains, to which the United States representative had alluded in connexion with maize production. He wished, however, to add a word of caution; it was not sufficient to propagate the higher-yield strains produced in any particular place since it was not by any means certain that they could be adapted to other conditions. His Government had, for instance, established sugar cane research centres at three different points since it had been proved that particular varieties were suited

only to certain climatic and soil conditions. For example, experiments in Nyasaland with types of maize which had proved successful in the United States had shown that a different maize-breeding programme would be necessary in Nyasaland.

He had, in his previous statement, omitted to mention the vital importance of research in connexion with stored products; a larger quantity of food had been lost in East Africa owing to pests attacking harvested crops than from any other kind of disease. For example, in Nigeria, a very considerable quantity of ground-nuts had been lost from attacks by weevils once the ground-nuts had been stored. The provision of cheap storage bins for village products was being developed in East Africa in order to prevent predatory pests from battenning on stored products.

The Indian representative had referred to the distinction between fundamental and applied research. It was easier, however, to apply such a distinction on paper than in practice; those two aspects overlapped to a great extent. He quoted the example of locust research. An important feature of the locust control programme was research on the study of locust behaviour. Under the European Co-operation Administration, the programme had secured the services of a locust expert who had conducted her researches in a laboratory in a temperate climate, where controlled conditions for research could be more easily maintained than in Africa. Frequently, however, laboratory experiments were completed by tests made by the experts on the spot. A definition of the distinction between fundamental and applied research was important when organizing the administration of scientific research. The problem of whether it was desirable for such research to be directed by scientists from the metropolitan country or by field experts or administrators had not yet been solved. Indeed within the administration there was some difference of opinion about the most favourable method. The organizational problem was one of importance, upon which information as to other countries' experience would be most welcome. He personally believed that extension services could better be undertaken by administrative personnel than by scientific experts, in view of the importance of gaining the confidence of the indigenous people in the furtherance of research.

Mr. BENJON (Representative of the Secretary-General) observed that an exhaustive list of the major research stations had been included in the Special Committee's report following its previous session. The problem had arisen as to what further information should be included in the report. It had, however, been considered that any further expansion would entail reference to the nature of scientific research, and would thus not only result in unwieldy documentation, but would also place a strain upon the Secretariat's printing budget.

The discussion had been of great interest in that it had drawn attention to the work done in the field of agricultural research by the Administering Authorities. The revised Standard Form would give those Authorities an additional opportunity for commenting on their activities in that field.

He recalled the various aspects of agricultural research which had been elaborated in the Special Committee's report of the previous session. After the discussion that had taken place the Sub-Committee would be able to amplify the information to be supplied in the present session's report.

2. REPORT OF THE STANDARD FORM SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REVISION OF THE STANDARD FORM (item 9 of the agenda) (A/AC.35/L.67).

The CHAIRMAN called upon the Chairman of the Standard Form Sub-Committee to introduce that Sub-Committee's report on the revision of the Standard Form (A/AC.35/L.67).

Mr. INGLES (Philippines), Chairman of the Standard Form Sub-Committee, said that the Sub-Committee had adopted its report unanimously. That statements of principle by certain delegations had been included in the report should not in any way detract from the unanimous nature of the recommendations contained therein. At its opening meeting, the Sub-Committee had decided that, if any difference of opinion on a question of principle should occur, it should not be voted upon by the Sub-Committee but should be referred to the Special Committee. However, that case had not arisen.

In drafting the revision of the Standard Form, the Sub-Committee had been guided by the directive of the General Assembly that any undue elaboration of the Standard Form would not assist the Special Committee or the General Assembly. The opinions had therefore been expressed that the Standard Form should be simple, concise and graphic and that it should avoid ambiguity and duplication. Although the Sub-Committee had taken those points into consideration, it had also felt that undue brevity would not assist the work of the Special Committee and of the General Assembly. He believed, and the view had been shared to a greater or lesser degree by the members of the Sub-Committee, that requests connected with data of special interest to the Special Committee and the General Assembly should rather err on the side of precision than be too general in nature.

He called particular attention ^{to} Section C of the Explanatory Preface of the revised Standard Form which, by inviting Members to furnish a survey of the principles and practical measures showing general trends in the Territories concerned, had introduced a new element in the Standard Form. The sub-paragraphs of Section C had been included on a suggestion made previously in the Special Committee by the representatives of India and of the United States that the Secretary-General should indicate trends and general lines of policy in his analyses; the representatives of Belgium and France on the other hand, had felt that such matters were the responsibility of the Administering Members themselves. He wished to note, in particular, that the work of the Sub-Committee had been considerably facilitated by the various working papers prepared by the Secretariat.

The question of including in the report a resolution concerning the revised Standard Form had been raised in the Sub-Committee. However, following discussion, it had been decided that the responsibility for formulating and approving a resolution thereon for transmission to the General Assembly should be left to the Special Committee.

Mr. SPITS (Netherlands) expressed his delegation's appreciation of the useful work done by the Sub-Committee in revising the Standard Form. At the same time, it acknowledged the valuable co-operation received from the Secretariat and from the specialized agencies which had submitted various amendments.

Any revision of the Standard Form would have fundamental repercussions since, in the preparation of replies to the Standard Form, all strata of the administration and the population of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were involved. It was naturally desirable that the Standard Form should have been thus reviewed following a period of several years. He hoped, however, that the present revised Standard Form would last a long time.

The Special Committee should bear in mind the fact that the Non-Self-Governing Territories varied very considerably in size, in development and in the form of their administration. It was clearly essential to have a single type of standard form. But it should be understood that, in some cases, it was not possible to provide data in certain parts of that form. As an instance, he pointed to the impossibility in certain regions of supplying annual birth and mortality statistics. In many cases, only approximate numbers could be given for the inhabitants of each village since it was often difficult to obtain such information owing to the native mentality and the considerable distances involved. Another item upon which it would be almost impossible to supply detailed statistics for certain backward areas would be family budgets and, to an even greater extent, national income, particularly in view of the fact that to a large extent a money economy had not yet been fully adopted.

He pointed out that, in Section B of the Explanatory Preface, mention was made of "invariable conditions in the Territory such as its area and geography", in respect of which "there would be no purpose in repeating information already provided", and that the same comment was applicable "to such features as the natural resources and principal features of the economy of a territory". He fully agreed with that view, but felt that a footnote or heading in the Standard Form should make clear to which information that provision should apply. He also thought that certain items in Part I of the Form itself such as location, topography, climate and history should be included in that category.

The same observation applied to the second category of information requested, that relating to long-term government policies and administrative organization. It was suggested that information on those items should be submitted once every three years, and he believed that the information should be included in the Standard Form itself under the relevant headings.

Section C of the Explanatory Preface stated that Members were invited "to provide a survey of the principles and practical measures showing general trends in the Territories concerned". From the summary records of the Sub-Committee, the intention of the French representative in sponsoring that proposal appeared to be that such data should be provided by the central administration in the metropolitan country. In his view it was advisable to include items of that type in a separate part of the Standard Form itself.

If the Committee supported his proposed changes, the Sub-Committee should be requested to include the necessary additions in the Standard Form.

Mr. PHARAONY (Egypt) congratulated the Sub-Committee and the Secretariat on producing such an excellent draft report in a relatively short time. The revised version would make it possible for Administering Members to transmit data in a more simplified and condensed form.

He supported the Sub-Committee's conclusion regarding the necessity for information to be transmitted on the application in Non-Self-Governing Territories of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and on the legislative instruments ensuring the recognition of those rights. By endorsing such action, the Committee would be complying with Resolution 327(IV) of the General Assembly which recommended that "when the revision is undertaken of the Standard Form for the guidance of Members in the preparation of information to be transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter, general information on human rights should cease to be classified under the optional category of that Form".

On the other hand, the transmission of political information was still classified under the optional category, probably in accordance with the letter of paragraph e of Article 73 of the Charter, while, in paragraphs a and b of the same article, emphasis was twice put on the political advancement of the people in Non-Self-Governing Territories. Political information therefore was essential if a complete picture of the conditions prevailing in a given Territory were to be provided.

A number of Administering Members, for example the United States and Denmark, had already opted to supply political data regarding the countries for which they were responsible, and he hoped that others would follow their example.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) associated himself with the expressions of thanks to the Sub-Committee.

As a general observation, he pointed out that the revised Standard Form consisted of approximately 40 pages. The replies submitted to a 40-page document by some 60 Non-Self-Governing Territories would constitute a voluminous mass of material. Again, certain items, concerning which it was suggested that information should be transmitted, were political rather than technical. However, his Government would continue to be guided by the Standard Form in submitting information, although it did not feel bound to provide data on all items.

There were certain difficulties arising from the terminology used in Section F of Part II. Originally information had been requested on electric power, distinguishing between installations and production. In fact, those two aspects were not always analogous. In the Belgian Congo, for example, there had been a drop in the production of electric energy in 1949 which had been caused by the drought; but during the same year there had been an increase in installed capacity. It would also be useful, for the sake of uniformity, to ensure that installed capacity was expressed everywhere in terms of the same unit, whether HP or kW.

With regard to Section G, it would be advisable to amend item (e) of paragraph 2 to read "Other manufactures" since textiles [item (c)], for example, were themselves manufactures.

So far as Section B, paragraph 2(b), was concerned, the question of water supply was extremely important and information thereon should be transmitted in respect of both rural and urban areas.

He felt that the formula suggested by the Sub-Committee for transmitting information on the recognition of human rights (part III, section B) was not wholly satisfactory. There was only one way of protecting by law human rights

as defined in the Universal Declaration and that was by ratifying the Draft Covenant on Human Rights. But so long as that instrument, which was intended to implement the principles enunciated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, was not adopted, there was no way in law of applying the terms of the Universal Declaration.

Mr. MATTHESON (United Kingdom) spoke in praise of the excellent support which the Sub-Committee had received from the Secretariat. Much credit was also due to the Chairman of the Sub-Committee who had carried out his duties conscientiously and who had promoted harmony and effective work.

He agreed with the Belgian representative that the section dealing with electric power should be clarified (Part II, Section F).

The point raised by the Netherlands representative that Section C of the explanatory Preface should be in the body of the Standard Form had arisen in the Sub-Committee, where it had been felt that, since the Standard Form was a document sent to territorial governments, it would be inappropriate to include Section C in the body of the Form rather than in the preface, which was for the guidance of Members responsible for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories in transmitting information.

He also agreed with the Netherlands representative that conditions varied greatly from one territory to another and that the headings in the Standard Form were not applicable to every territory in respect of which information was to be transmitted. His delegation supported the revised Standard Form as a guide for the presentation of comparable data which would assist the Secretary-General in his analyses, and on the understanding that it was not a mandatory request for information.

Mr. PEACHEY (Australia) said that, while accepting the Standard Form as a guide for his Government in the preparation of information submitted to the Secretary-General, he was not prepared to make any detailed comments at that stage as he was still awaiting information from his Government.

As a general observation, he pointed out that many requests for statistical data were included throughout the standard Form and that, at the same time, several statistical appendices were attached. He felt that it would be logical for all statistical information to be concentrated in the appendices.

Mr. BENSON (Representative of the Secretary-General) replied that particular importance was attached to statistics throughout the Standard Form in view of the terms of Article 73 e, and also because the submission of statistics was frequently involved in answers to requests for descriptions of institutions and organizations. The intention of the Secretariat in drafting the revised Standard Form, and probably the idea of the Sub-Committee, had been that requests for statistics should be made in the body of the Standard Form and that, in answering, reference should be made to the appendices. It was immaterial whether the Administering Authorities, in replying, submitted statistics under appropriate subjects or in the appendices.

Mr. PLACHEY (Australia) remarked that the Standard Form, as it stood would be extremely suitable for smaller territories where fewer statistics were available, because the statistics could be submitted in the replies to the questions appearing in the body of the Standard Form.

He welcomed the statement in Section B of the Explanatory Preface that there was no purpose in repeating information already provided in respect of invariable conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Secretariat would prepare the amendments presented for submission to the Committee on Monday, 15 October 1951, and that each amendment would be taken up individually.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.