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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

Fourth session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Wednesday, 2 September 1953, at 2.30 p.m.

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PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. LOOMES	Australia
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Mrs. MENON	India
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. PETHERBRIDGE	Australia
	Mr. FRAZAO	Brazil
	Mr. LIU	China
	Miss MAÑAS	Cuba
	Mr. SVEISTRUP	Denmark
	Mr. BENITES-VINUEZA	Ecuador
	Mr. PIGNON	France
	Miss RUSAD	Indonesia
	Mr. KHALIDY	Iraq
	Mr. SPITS	Netherlands
	Mr. SCOTT	New Zealand
	Mr. PIRACHA	Pakistan
	Mr. MATHIESON	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. SEARS	United States of America
<u>Representatives of specialized agencies:</u>		
	Mr. GAVIN	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
	Mr. BANOS	Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
	Mr. DESTOMBES	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
	Mrs. MEAGHER	World Health Organization (WHO)
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. HOO	Assistant Secretary-General
	Mr. BENSON	Secretary of the Committee

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES:

(a) SECRETARY-GENERAL'S SUMMARIES AND ANALYSES OF INFORMATION ON SOCIAL CONDITIONS (A/AC.35/L.131)

(b) QUESTIONS ARISING OUT OF THE SPECIAL REPORT ON SOCIAL CONDITIONS ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN 1952 (A/AC.35/L.140)

Mrs. MEAGHER (World Health Organization) wished to comment on items 5 (b) and 8, on the latter of which the WHO had submitted a memorandum (A/AC.35/L.129). Since the submission of that document, which contained a description of the current and future activities of the WHO in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the WHO had received further information from its regional offices regarding new activities and projects.

Eight additional projects had been put into operation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, while nine others were still at the preparatory stage. The first eight dealt respectively with the granting of fellowships to Bechuanaland, Zanzibar and the French African territories, nutrition programmes in French Equatorial Africa and the Belgian Congo, the anti-trachoma campaign in French Morocco, BCG vaccination programmes in Jamaica and Trinidad and an environmental sanitation programme in the Seychelles. Of the nine projects which had not yet been put into effect, four dealt with anti-tuberculosis campaigns, two with anti-trachoma campaigns, and the rest with environmental sanitation and with campaigns against yellow fever and venereal disease. Including the activities mentioned in the memorandum, the WHO had launched 23 projects and had planned 45 others which would be put into operation towards the end of 1953 or early in 1954 - a total of 68 projects as against 38 carried out the preceding year.

Of these 68 projects, 18 were financed out of the WHO's regular budget and 27 out of its technical assistance fund; 22 were financed jointly by the WHO and UNICEF; and the costs of the last project were shared by the WHO, UNICEF and the FAO. The WHO and the co-operating agencies concerned had allocated a total of 1,972,270 dollars for 1953 for work in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as compared with 565,289 dollars in 1952, an increase of almost 400 per cent. The projects in question covered some 47 territories and would affect, directly or indirectly, 39 million inhabitants.

She wished to draw special attention to the increase in the number of fellowships granted by the WHO. Whereas only 12 fellowships had been granted to applicants from Non-Self-Governing Territories between January 1947 and December 1951, in 1952 approximately 70 individual and group training fellowships had been awarded, at the request of the Administering Powers. She was sure that the Committee would be pleased with such progress, in view of the importance it had attached to the training of professional and auxiliary workers, which it regarded as an essential prerequisite to improved sanitary conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in view of the recommendations on the subject which it had adopted at its third session. The training of personnel was germane to the objectives of the programmes of almost all the specialized agencies and to many of the programmes of the United Nations. Consequently, the WHO took part at the inter-Secretariat level in the preparation of expanded and accelerated programmes for the training of auxiliary, multi-purpose and community workers. The question had been brought up by the WHO the previous spring at a meeting of the Administrative Committee on Co-ordination, composed of high officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Moreover, the WHO's Regional Office for Africa had organized a regional conference on nursing education, which would be held the following October at Kampala and at which special attention would be devoted to the problem of training auxiliary nursing staff. The WHO was also taking part in three regional conferences of experts (relating to Asia, the Eastern Mediterranean and Latin America), which would study the problem of training auxiliary workers in the light of the conditions peculiar to each region.

The WHO had prepared three projects on environmental sanitation for the prevention of disease and the development of hygiene for Kenya, North Borneo and the Seychelles. A similar project had been carried out in British Honduras. The WHO invited UNICEF to collaborate with it on programmes of environmental sanitation; if UNICEF agreed, the available resources would increase considerably and greater assistance could be given to all the under-developed areas including the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The WHO had also proposed joint action with UNICEF in the field of leprosy control; if the proposal was accepted, a more vigorous attack could be made against the disease wherever it existed. The WHO and UNICEF had already planned a joint project in Nigeria, whereby the number of cases treated at present could be doubled.

The 68 projects undertaken by the WHO included 20 anti-tuberculosis projects (including 9 BCG vaccination programmes), 8 malaria and insect control projects, 9 professional training projects (providing inter alia for fellowships and educational equipment), 6 maternal and child health projects, 5 nursing education projects, 4 projects to combat venereal disease and yaws, 4 anti-trachoma projects, 4 projects relating to health education of the public and 2 nutrition projects.

The WHO's aim in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was essentially to demonstrate, aid and advise, its ultimate objective being to contribute to the permanent establishment or integration of public health services. The extent of WHO assistance depended on the funds and staff available and, above all, on the number of requests for such assistance. The WHO's role was in the main to co-ordinate and advise; it never undertook any activity until it had received an official request for assistance.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the WHO representative and paid a tribute to the organization's work.

Mrs. MENON (India) said that the movement of the rural population to the urban areas in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was breaking up families, overcrowding towns and destroying moral principles. The administering Powers were incapable of finding a solution to the numerous housing, health and educational problems.

Social development called for vast resources. In many cases, the administering Powers had economized to the detriment of the social development programmes, which was hard to justify. Thus, in Uganda, the sums assigned for

social development had been cut from 29 to 10 per cent, while in Northern Rhodesia, the funds had been sharply reduced. In Malaya, the 1950-1955 development plan involved a capital expenditure of 300 million dollars, but the report stated that if any cuts were necessary, they would have to be made at the expense of the social services. With reference to Uganda, the report stated that a territory could only have the social services which it was able to afford, from which it must logically be concluded that, in the absence of the resources required for extending the social development programme, all possible steps would have to be taken to increase the national wealth and, in the meanwhile to slow down the development of the social services. There appeared to be some anxiety lest the territories of French Africa, should be unable either to maintain their financial equilibrium or meet the cost of social development. In short, the territories did not possess the financial resources required for an expanded programme of social development. In the report, however, the lack of resources was skilfully concealed by some elegantly phrased generalities, which was one of the reasons for the profusion of clichés which introduced no new element.

There was no denying the existence of discrimination in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It sufficed to recall the different scales of wages for Africans and non-Africans, for example, in Northern Rhodesia. A cursory glance at the figures given in the report would give the impression that the indigenous inhabitants were admitted to public office on an absolutely equal footing with Europeans. Yet it was explained that in Africa most of the senior posts were still held by Europeans, despite the fact that the civil service was gradually being transferred to the Africans. In the Belgian Congo, the highest post to which an African could aspire was equivalent to the lowest post in the European

category. In the territories of East Africa, the senior posts went first to Europeans and then to Asians, and the Africans were obliged, in their own land, to be content with very junior posts. In West Africa, on the other hand, the administering Powers had taken steps to ensure that Africans were trained for high positions. Judging by the report, the Government of Nigeria formally deprecated all discrimination; it might therefore well be asked why the same administering Power's policy on discrimination varied in the territories under its administration. Her delegation would welcome some enlightenment on that point from the United Kingdom representative.

The information on the status of women in the report was very vague. The Indian delegation would like to know how far the principle of equal pay for equal work was implemented in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. She was well aware that in Africa particularly women were still the victims of prejudice and inhuman treatment and condemned to a life of ignorance and hard labour. There was a too frequent tendency to judge the situation of women in general from a small number of exceptional cases. Improvement in the status of women was indispensable to social progress, and the Indian delegation would like details on the subject.

Finally, she noted with regret that corporal punishment was still applied in many Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly those under British administration. She would like to know the reasons for that.

In conclusion, she pointed out the inadequacy of the vital statistics provided by the administering Powers. She wondered why the Secretariat still divided the population into three separate groups, Africans, Europeans and coloured, and, in particular, what the word "coloured" meant.

Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) pointed out that the classification was taken from the documents transmitted to the Secretariat, which had thought to facilitate the work of the Committee by retaining it. The expression "coloured" seemed to vary in meaning according to the territory to which it referred, but the Secretariat had used it only in cases where it had been used by the administering Powers themselves.

Mrs. MENON (India) said that in that case she would ask the administering Powers to reply to her question.

Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) thought that the expression "coloured" referred to labour imported from non-African territories or from certain regions of Africa, but, in any case, it would be desirable for the administering Powers to clarify the point. He did not see any objection to the use of the classification into Europeans, Africans and coloured, referred to by the Indian representative, in the document prepared by the Secretariat, on which the latter ought to be congratulated. He thought that the classification was necessary, since it would give the Committee an idea of the progress achieved in the various categories.

An examination of social conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories revealed that, despite the undeniable progress already made, much remained to be done. The administering Powers stated, that in their efforts to develop the territories under their administration, they had to take into account the traditions and capacities of the populations. It was obvious that those populations could not be forcibly subjected to reforms for which they were not yet ready, but, it was also not enough to await the gradual disappearance of old customs. A comprehensive and carefully balanced progressive policy should be adopted; the administering Powers, with their long experience, would certainly be able to formulate such a policy.

The problem of the financial resources required to achieve progress in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was not one that could be lightly dismissed. There was no denying that the administering Powers, particularly the United Kingdom and France, had spent considerable sums on the development of those territories. The statement that the amounts were still inadequate, was not intended to cast aspersions on the administering Powers. It was nevertheless a fact that those Powers had at their disposal the resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories which should be judiciously applied for their development.

It was also important to encourage qualified Europeans to serve in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. If Europeans were obliged, for various reasons, to accept considerable sacrifices when they came to fill posts in those territories, he could see no objection to giving them the appropriate financial remuneration; for example, it was understandable that a European physician sent to an isolated and particularly backward part of a Non-Self-Governing Territory should be offered a salary appreciably higher than that of an indigenous physician.

Although he did not wish to revert in detail to the position of women in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, he reiterated his delegation's view that full equality between men and women should be ensured, especially in education.

With regard to events over which the administering Powers apparently had no control, such as floods, earthquakes and ruinous harvests, he stressed the need for better training of officials who would be on the spot when such phenomena occurred, in order to prevent excessive damage.

The statistics on Non-Self-Governing Territories were usually inadequate. The administering Powers should transmit representative statistics which, together with references to certain official works on the territories concerned, would give an accurate picture of the situation and of the progress achieved. Certain omissions were extremely regrettable; for example, it appeared from document A/2410 that the French Government had transmitted extremely detailed statistics on all the territories under its administration, with the exception of Tunisia.

Statistics should be not only detailed but complete. Thus, it was not clear why, with regard to Morocco, the French Government had provided statistical data on industrial and commercial wages, but had omitted to give similar data on agriculture, in which 75 per cent of the manpower was employed. The fact that Moroccan agricultural labourers earned between 70 and 150 francs per day might explain the omission. The want and degradation of the agricultural labourers, especially those employed by French settlers, could not fail to have a direct influence on other aspects of the social situation. The extremely low standard of living of the workers explained the large number of deaths registered in Morocco. The fact that Moroccan workers could not form trade unions and were subjected to violent police reprisals when they tried to join French unions - as proved by the events of 1952 - showed that the lot of those workers was unenviable in all respects.

The information transmitted by France showed that a worker whose wages amounted to a maximum of 376 francs per day found it difficult to meet the most elementary needs of his family. He hoped that the French representative could elucidate on the matter and perhaps suggest remedies for a situation which was fraught with serious consequences for the two countries concerned.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) was surprised that the report on social conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/2219) had not been reproduced in extenso in the special report on social conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories, which had been distributed to the Committee as document ST/TRI/SERA/7/Add.2. The Committee's report had apparently been abridged and he wished to know why that had been done. The United Kingdom Government had circulated copies of the Committee's report (A/2219) to the authorities responsible for defining or applying principles of social administration in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The document dealt with various aspects of social conditions and he would base his statement on conditions in British colonial territories on it.

With regard to the training of medical staff, he agreed with the Iraqi representative that it was difficult to attract qualified physicians to the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Nevertheless, the United Kingdom Government had made tempting offers to physicians in the metropolitan country. As metropolitan recruitment could not be expected to meet all needs, it had tried to recruit and train personnel on the spot. He quoted the example of the Territory of Nyassaland, where a medical staff training programme had been begun in 1951. The school for medical auxiliary personnel at the African hospital at Lilongwe, opened in November 1951, was training twenty qualified students annually. The physicians and auxiliary medical staff under training should be able to treat the endemic diseases most prevalent in Nyassaland and also to diagnose diseases which they were not competent to treat. The medical auxiliary personnel operated in their respective villages, where they gradually acquired prestige and authority. The training period for the auxiliary staff was two years; the more gifted students received supplementary instruction in medicine, elementary surgery and laboratory work. An attempt was also being made to train midwives. In that connexion, the authorities had been hampered by recruiting difficulties and by prejudices which it was hoped to overcome by improving the basic education of girls and women. Similar measures had been taken in all the other territories administered by the United Kingdom, in Africa, the Caribbean and the Malay Peninsula.

In connexion with the housing question, he stressed that the application of the "aided self-help" system had produced excellent results, especially in the Caribbean. A pilot project was being carried out in Antigua, and the Government of Jamaica had used the same method to carry out its programme for rehousing the victims of the hurricane which had ravaged the island in 1951. On that occasion, the United Kingdom Government had opened a credit of 1,240,000 pounds in Jamaica and had issued a non-interest-bearing loan of 1 million pounds to finance the rehousing programme. The use of modern methods and the participation of the future occupants should make it possible to build 7,000 houses in rural areas and 3,000 houses in the urban centres. The programme was being carried out with the active participation of the population.

With regard to trade unions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the United Kingdom Government had tried to develop the trade unions and to train trade union representatives in the territories under its administration. Between 1951 and 1952, the number of registered trade unions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories had increased from 1,220 to 1,325 and the number of affiliated workers from 737,000 to 865,000. The authorities had tried to instruct the populations in the principles of trade unionism and to improve trade union organization everywhere. An attempt had been made to strengthen the trade union movement by grouping small unions together and by convening congresses such as that recently held at Singapore. Some trade union representatives had come to attend courses in the United Kingdom and others, from the Caribbean, could attend three-month courses at Barbados. The same policy had been applied in British territories in Asia.

In conclusion, he hoped that the examples he had chosen would convince members of the Committee of the social progress achieved in the British territories. He paid a tribute to the useful co-operation which his Government had always received from the United Nations Department of Social Affairs, whose monographs and numerous documents had given it valuable assistance.

The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and was resumed at 4.30 p.m.

Mr. BENSON (Secretary of the Committee), replying to the United Kingdom representative's complaint that the special report on social conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories (ST/TRI/SERA/7/Add.2) contained only an abridged version of the Committee's report on social conditions (A/2219), explained that the special report was to have contained Secretariat studies, observations made during Committee meetings and the text of the report which the General Assembly had adopted. Pursuant to a General Assembly decision, however, the Secretary-General was required to avoid duplication in the

publication of United Nations documents. That was why only a summary of the Committee's report on social conditions could be included in the special report and why the Committee's conclusions had had to be omitted. While the United Kingdom representative's objections were justified, the Secretary-General had been compelled to apply the General Assembly's decisions regarding the reproduction of documents.

Mr. PIGNON (France) recalled that, at the Committee's previous session, a French Government expert had explained the broad outlines of French social policy in the territories under French administration. Further reference to those questions of principle was unnecessary. Some progress had been achieved. The national school of Overseas France continued to offer a course in the social sciences attended, inter alia, by African trainees whose costs of living in Paris were defrayed by trade unions. Social services in Madagascar had been organized by the promulgation of a series of official decrees. Considerable progress had also been achieved in French West Africa with respect to courses in professional training. Finally, the French Government had established a centre of social studies in the Cameroons to evolve the principles of a social doctrine applicable in other African territories. While Cameroons was a Trust Territory, the conclusions drawn from the experiment could obviously be applicable to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Replying to the Iraqi representative's remarks concerning Tunisia, he agreed that the section of the French Government's report devoted to social problems had been abridged. It contained information on price levels and statistics on the hospital situation. That was because the French representative had himself requested that special attention be given to information on public education, the main topic on the agenda of the current session. The request had perhaps been taken too literally. He would endeavour to remedy the deficiency mentioned by the Iraqi representative.

With regard to farm workers in Morocco, he was in a position to state that their standard of living, like that of Moroccan workers in general, had risen in recent years. A substantial increase had been noted in the amount spent by Moroccans on clothing and other consumer goods. The per capita consumption of bread crops and sugar was 300 kgs. and 20 kgs. respectively, which was relatively high.

There were few farm workers in Morocco; they numbered from 50,000 to 60,000, and were for the most part small farmers or tenant farmers. The degree of wealth or poverty of the Moroccan farmer was difficult to determine because he preferred to live more modestly and use his savings to purchase cattle. The average wage of the farm worker in Morocco was comparable to that of farm workers in many Departments of France.

The standard of living in urban centres was twice as high as it had been in 1939, not only in terms of minimum wages but of real wages.

Moroccans were free to join trade unions in metropolitan centres. Besides the trade unions there was another type of labour association known as the labour jam'a which, while not a trade union, was a useful organ for the protection of workers.

With regard to the relative share contributed by Europeans and Moroccans to the budget, the European contingent had paid taxes amounting to 8 thousand million francs in 1951 out of a total of 16,500,000,000 francs paid by the population of Morocco as a whole.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (A/AC.35/L.134 and A/AC.35/L.135/Corr.1)

Mr. PIRACHA (Pakistan) subscribed to the view expressed in paragraph 20 of document A/AC.35/L.134 that, due to the downswing of raw material prices, the situation of the Territories as a whole was less favourable than in 1951. That observation applied to all territories, self-governing or not. The Pakistan delegation hoped that the administering Powers, through their representatives, would inform the Committee of the measures they had taken to remedy the situation created by the drop in prices; whether the balance of trade in the Territories had been affected; whether the depression had made it necessary to postpone or modify development schemes, and what the effect had been on the budget. Representing a country in which a drop in the prices of raw materials created major economic problems, the Pakistan delegation wished to know how those problems had been solved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Mrs. MENON (India) said she would be guided in her statement by considerations derived from her own country's experience with colonialism. In its study of the question before it at the present session, the Committee had repeatedly come upon the same problem: that of financial resources. It was natural that the Committee should look into the causes of that problem.

The first characteristic of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was that most of them were under-developed countries with economies which were based on the production of raw materials and which had suffered as a result of changes in the world market.

The second characteristic was that a major part of that production was aimed at export to the metropolitan countries. Thus, the Territories were dependent upon the metropolitan countries both for commercial activity and for manufactured goods.

The third characteristic of the economies of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was that the exploitation of natural resources, in Africa as in Malaya, was not in the hands of the indigenous inhabitants and that investments were made by foreign companies which did not give the population a fair share in the profits and dividends. A survey of the assets and industries which were not in the hands of the indigenous inhabitants, similar to that made for Puerto Rico by the United States, would be most enlightening and would permit better understanding of the economic relations between metropolitan countries and their Non-Self-Governing Territories.

The export and import prices of the Non-Self-Governing Territories had to be stabilized, in particular by means of international agreements dealing with basic commodities. It was regrettable that no progress had been made on that score (A/AC.35/L.134, paragraph 21). Moreover, an effort should be made to expand the export field and develop new export products, since a country might find itself in difficulty if its economy was based on a limited range of export goods. Then, too steps should be taken so that unfavourable economic conditions in the metropolitan countries would not give rise to similar conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Therefore, research facilities in the industrial and scientific fields, should be developed within the Territories themselves. It was true that some States had already revised their planning

with respect to their Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to allow for more development of indigenous production, especially agricultural production.

As regards foreign investment, the Indian delegation felt that, while it was desirable, it should be used to put into effect programmes ensuring the economic and social well-being of the peoples of the Territories rather than that of the inhabitants of the metropolitan countries. There could be no social progress without improvement of economic conditions and vice-versa. From the information furnished by the administering Powers it was clear that they were aware that the standard of living in the African and South East Asian Territories was low in every respect; thus, they were concerned about the food situation. It was a fact that the people of those territories seldom had enough to eat. The Indian delegation stressed that fact not as a criticism of the administering Powers but to indicate that it would be advisable for the Committee to have some thorough studies on the matter before it next year when it examined economic conditions and development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. She noted with regret that less importance was attached in the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the production of food crops than to that of export crops. She hoped that the administering Powers would not simply put on file the results of surveys and studies by experts as recorded in the excellent documents of the Secretariat and the FAO, but would put the findings into practice so that when any of them requested the cessation of the transmission of information concerning a particular Territory the Committee would be assured that the politically emancipated Territory was also economically viable.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) thought that the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in 1952 was marked chiefly by the noticeable fall in colonial export earnings as a result of the drop in raw material prices. However, the United Kingdom looked upon that development simply as the disappearance of the abnormal situation in 1950 and 1951. On observing the inflation of raw material prices, ore prices in particular, which was linked to the world situation, it had realized that such a state of affairs would not last and that steps had to be taken to offset the effects of the depression that was

bound to follow. The United Kingdom had had two objectives in mind: to protect the producer against fluctuations of raw material prices and to protect the economic system from the possible effects of a sudden and considerable rise in purchasing power which, unless accompanied by adequate supply, would lead to inflation.

Replying to the Pakistan representative, he described the two main classes of measures his Government had accordingly taken. Its first concern had been to increase the duty on exported raw materials. A part of the resulting additional funds had gone into general revenue. The remainder had gone into reserve funds either to protect general revenue or to be deposited in special development accounts. The procedures followed and the percentage of revenue assigned to one or the other purpose had varied in the different Territories. As a rule, the Government had deposited such funds in banks with Head Offices in London and the effect had been to increase considerably the sterling balances held in the United Kingdom on colonial account in 1950 and 1951. Part of the balances had been invested by the banks but they had had to be kept liquid to a certain extent since they represented reserve funds. The rate of increase in balances held on colonial account had begun to drop off in 1952.

Secondly, wherever there was a large production of staple crops, the United Kingdom Government had established marketing boards consisting of representatives of the Government and the producers who controlled the marketing of produce, such as the Cocoa Marketing Board in the Gold Coast and the Produce Marketing Boards in Nigeria. The purpose of the marketing boards was to build up, when prices were high, stabilization funds that could be used when prices were low. For that purpose they had to maintain a certain amount of their funds as liquid assets which they kept in banks, that being another reason why the sterling balances held at London on colonial account appeared to be inflated.

Some resources of the stabilization funds were used for the development of the industry. Such had been the case in the Gold Coast, where the Cocoa Marketing Board had improved the transport system in the cocoa-producing area and had helped to finance expansion of agricultural studies at the University college of the Gold Coast. Government and Marketing Board reserves enabled development to be maintained at a constant level so that the implementation of programmes should be neither retarded nor abandoned.

The most seriously affected territory was the Federation of Malaya, which produced rubber and tin. The prices of those raw materials had fallen abruptly after reaching their maximum in 1950-1951. Consequently, there had been a decrease in the amounts both of taxes paid by the exploiting companies and of the export duties on rubber. The United Kingdom had been acutely concerned over the situation and had made grants to the Federation during the crisis. The Federation of Malaya was, however, firmly resolved to reduce the effects of the depression to a minimum. Its economic and social programmes would be less ambitious but would not be abandoned.

Moreover, the Indian representative's remark concerning the dependence of the territories on the metropolitan country was not true in every case and certainly did not apply to the Federation of Malaya. In fact, the United States was the largest buyer of Malayan rubber and tin and the slightest fluctuation in the price of those raw materials on the American market had serious effects on the Federation's economy. He, too, felt that it would be expedient to draw up international agreements on raw materials so as to protect certain territories whose whole economy could be upset by a difference of a few pence per pound of raw material.

In reply to the Pakistan representative, he quoted figures showing the trade balance of colonial territories during the past three years. The trade balance of all United Kingdom colonies except Hong Kong, had shown a profit of 140 million pounds sterling in 1950, of 178 million pounds sterling in 1951 and of 52 million pounds sterling in 1952. Thus, the trade balance had been affected by the crisis, but the economic life of the territories in question continued to improve.

Mr. FRAZAO (Brazil) said that the characteristic feature of colonial economies was that the colonies exported agricultural products and raw materials and imported finished goods. He drew attention to the difficulties met by the Interim Commission of the International Trade Organization in ensuring parity between agricultural and industrial prices. If the metropolitan countries really exercised a monopoly over imports and exports from colonies, there would result a certain stability which would improve the position of colonies with regard to the metropolitan country.

He did not believe that documents A/AC.35/L.134 and A/AC.35/L.135 portrayed the real economic situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories; they provided some statistics but failed to give a general view of the economy. In subsequent years the administering Powers should be asked to supply not only arid data on imports and exports but also general views on integrated economic development plans which would enable the Committee to form an opinion on the development of the territories.

With regard to the United Kingdom representative's speech, he pointed out that if the countries exporting raw materials had seemed to profit from the boom, they had not retained the profits, which had often gone to the metropolitan country instead of being reinvested on the spot for the development of the country and the diversification of its industry.

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) agreed with the Brazilian representative that statistics were arid; but that was inevitable. To remedy the situation as far as possible, the United Kingdom Government employed two methods. First, it placed at the disposal of the Secretary-General, who could use them for his reports, the chapters of the report submitted to the British Parliament by the Secretary of State for Colonies on the economic, social and cultural conditions obtaining in the territories for which he was responsible. Secondly, it tried to give each year a general idea of the measures it had taken on the particular subject chosen by the Committee. For example, when the Committee was studying economic development, the United Kingdom Government would not only describe its general policy in the territories and their prospects, but would also provide details of the development plans applied in one or two territories.

He opposed the statement that Non-Self-Governing Territories did not enjoy the profits derived from their exports, by taking two extreme cases, that of mining in Northern Rhodesia and of plantations in Malaya. The economy of Northern Rhodesia was based on copper. The ore was exploited with the aid of foreign capital and by foreign technicians. Shares in the mining companies were held by the investors in the United Kingdom, the United States and Belgium.

In the case of one company, for instance, for twenty years there had been no dividends, but as soon as profits had been made, the territories benefited not only by the salaries paid and purchases made in the country but also by increased investment in new mines and improved equipment.

In Malaya, plantations were owned either by Chinese small-holders who worked them with their families, or by companies which operated on a larger scale. When the plantations had shown a profit, the Government had considerably increased the income tax and the export duties, the revenue from which had remained entirely in the territory. In addition increased profits provided the necessary capital for development and reinvestment.

Those were two extreme cases, and in the majority of territories administered by the United Kingdom, most of the production was carried on by indigenous farmers and operators. Such was the case for palm oil and cocoa in West Africa, and for cotton in Uganda.

Mr. FRAZAO (Brazil) recalled that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development had just agreed to lend \$14,500,000 to Northern Rhodesia. Moreover, until the discovery of synthetic rubber, Malaya had held the monopoly of rubber for forty years since it supplied about 80 per cent of world production. If it had retained all the profits from that production, its economic system would already have achieved an admirable stability, whereas in fact, it remained an agricultural and under-developed country.

The meeting rose at 6.00 p.m.