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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

Ninth Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-THIRD MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 2 May 1958, at 10.45 a.m.

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PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. LALL	(India)
<u>Later:</u>	Mr. ALFONZO RAVARD	Venezuela
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. KELLY	Australia
	Mr. CASTRO ALVES	Brazil
	Mr. DURAISWAMY	Ceylon
	Mr. YANG)	
	Mr. YIN)	China
	Mr. de CAMARET	France
	Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO	Guatemala
	Mr. MITRA	India
	Mr. KITTANI	Iraq
	Mr. VIXSEECHSE)	
	Mr. VAS NUNES)	Netherlands
	Mr. THORP	New Zealand
	Mr. CASTON)	
	Mr. CHINN)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. MORE)	
	Mr. OSBORNE)	United States of America

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. PAYRO	International Labour Organisation
Mr. SALSAMENDI	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Dr. SACKS	World Health Organization

Secretariat:

Mr. COHEN	Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non- Self-Governing Territories
Mr. PEREZ GUERRERO	Director of the Division of Non-Self-Governing Territories
Mr. KUNST	Secretary of the Committee

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EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (continued)

Mr. SALSAMENDI (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), referring to the hope expressed by the representative of Venezuela at the previous meeting that UNESCO would increase the number of fellowships granted to inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, said that his organization was ready to co-operate with the Committee within the limits of its budget. Under resolution 6.21 of the General Conference, the Director-General was authorized to plan, award and administer, in co-operation with Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and international non-governmental organizations, fellowships, scholarships and travel grants; to assist Member States, at their request, by providing fellowships for study and training abroad; and to administer, on behalf of Member States or international or national non-governmental organizations, and at their request, fellowships and scholarships financed by them for study abroad in fields related to UNESCO's programme.

Mr. ALFONZO RAVARD (Venezuela) felt that in the light of the UNESCO representative's statement the Committee should recommend the Administering Authorities to make as much use as possible of the facilities granted by UNESCO.

Mr. Alfonso Ravard (Venezuela) took the Chair.

QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE SUMMARIES AND ANALYSES ADDITIONAL TO THOSE TREATED UNDER PREVIOUS ITEMS (A/AC.35/L.284; A/3806-3808, A/3809 and Corr.1, A/3810-3816) (continued)

Mr. URRUTIA APARICIO (Guatemala) wished to reiterate his Government's firm stand with reference to the interpretation of Chapter XI of the Charter.

As the representative of Guatemala had pointed out at the 690th meeting of the Fourth Committee, Chapter XI of the Charter conferred rights and obligations on all Members of the United Nations. The Administering Powers did not own the Non-Self-Governing Territories; they were only temporary administrators of the interests of the people until they attained self-government. They had undertaken

(Mr. Urrutia Aparicio, Guatemala)

the international responsibility for administering the Territories and promoting their progress in all fields, including the political field. It was true that Article 73e did not include the word "political", but the concept of full self-government could not refer to anything but a political situation. In support of that contention he pointed out that the Administering Powers that had ceased to transmit information under Article 73e had done so on the basis of political progress in the Territories in question. It was regrettable that certain outworn and rigid notions of sovereignty still subsisted.

As the representative of Guatemala had said at the same meeting of the the Fourth Committee, information was obviously transmitted for purposes of examination. All Members of the United Nations were under the obligation to ensure that the provisions of the Charter were complied with; hence the General Assembly was fully competent in the matter and was responsible for ensuring that the obligations assumed by both Administering and non-Administering Members under Articles 73 and 74 were fulfilled. In the light of the stipulations of those Articles, the General Assembly had adopted various recommendations and resolutions requesting the Administering Powers to transmit political information on the Territories under their administration. Nevertheless, some of the Administering Powers did not consider themselves obliged to do so. Obviously, however, information on economic, social and educational advancement could not be completely understood in the absence of information on political advancement.

The Committee's discussions did not adequately reflect the changes that were taking place in various regions of the world, partly owing to the fact that the information it received was inadequate in both quality and quantity. Furthermore, the Committee had not enough time at its disposal to analyse the information transmitted.

(Mr. Urrutia Aparicio, Guatemala)

He had listened with much interest to the statement by a member of the Committee the previous day claiming that it was for his Government alone to decide what were the Non-Self-Governing Territories under its administration. If that argument were taken to its logical conclusion no Administering Powers would submit information of any kind, since they could deny the existence of any Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Mr. YANG (China) said that the delay in the receipt of information concerning the Non-Self-Governing Territories, as shown in document A/AC.35/L.284, entailed, at the very least, inconvenience. The previous year his delegation, while favourably impressed with the possible advantages of replacing the printed volumes of summaries with offset fascicles, had been concerned lest with the new system the supplementary summaries might not be ready in time for the Committee. Experience seemed to have justified that concern. He would not, however, pass final judgement on the matter pending the submission by the Secretary-General of his final report at the next session of the General Assembly.

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IN RESPECT OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS (A/AC.35/L.272, L.276, L.283, L.287, L.288) (continued)

Mr. YANG (China) said that his delegation attached great importance to international collaboration in the economic, social and educational fields. It therefore appreciated the assistance which the specialized agencies and United Nations organs had given and were still giving to the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Such assistance would do more than anything to make the peoples of dependent Territories understand what the United Nations stood for.

He noted with satisfaction that during the period 1952 to 1957 UNICEF aid totalling \$9 million had been approved to assist in 101 child care projects in forty-one Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.35/L.272, paragraph 3). He was also glad to note from the report on WHO activities (A/AC.35/L.288) that in 1957 108 fellowships had been awarded by WHO to candidates from Non-Self-Governing

(Mr. Yang, China)

Territories. According to paragraph 45 of the report on international technical assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.35/L.283) technical assistance projects in the field of public health formed the greatest part of the programme for Non-Self-Governing Territories, with a predominance of projects for the control of communicable diseases.

He was glad to note from paragraph 27 of the same document that a survey of the technical assistance provided to Non-Self-Governing Territories under various programmes showed that such assistance had been provided in all the major social fields listed in the Standard Form. On the other hand, it was regrettable that, as stated in paragraph 16, for 1958 no assistance was provided to the Non-Self-Governing Territories for industrial production or for community development and other social services. His delegation would also like to know why schemes for vocational training were not included in the 1958 programme.

His delegation wondered why the number of fellowships awarded to Non-Self-Governing Territories under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance had decreased from ninety-three in 1956 to twenty in 1957, while only eleven were approved for 1958.

What was even more serious was that, according to paragraph 3, the programme approved for 1958 provided assistance to only twenty-seven Territories compared with thirty-one in 1957. It would have appeared reasonable to suppose that assistance would increase as time went by.

Dr. SACKS (World Health Organization) introduced the report of the World Health Organization on its activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.35/L.288). Generally speaking, WHO projects in the Non-Self-Governing Territories emphasized the health problems which were most serious and urgent. There were, for example, forty projects for the control or eradication of communicable diseases and a substantial number to strengthen the public health administrations of the Territories, to assist in the training of professional personnel and to promote preventive health activities. In the last category alone there were at least twenty-one individual regional projects.

(Dr. Sacks, WHO)

In 1957 there had been a greater increase in WHO's work in Africa than in any previous year since the establishment of the Regional Office at Brazzaville. Collaboration had been concentrated on communicable disease control and on surveys and courses on nutrition, environmental sanitation, nursing and maternal and child health.

The WHO programme for 1959 indicated the expenditure during 1957 and that planned for 1958 and 1959. The figures covered the various types and methods of assistance and indicated the funds to be used.

The number of experts provided by WHO for individual and regional projects benefiting the Non-Self-Governing Territories had risen from ninety-three in 1957 to 130 in 1958 and 133 were planned for 1959. The funds provided for the purpose had been increased from about \$850,000 in 1957 to \$1.3 million in 1958 and would amount to \$1.6 million in 1959. For the same three years there had been a decrease in the funds earmarked for fellowships for Non-Self-Governing Territories in Africa and in the Americas, but a slight rise in the Western Pacific. That was partly due to a shift in the requests for assistance from fellowships to experts or other forms of aid. Total expenditure for the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including supplies and equipment from UNICEF, showed an increase from \$2.7 million in 1957 to \$3.5 million in 1958 and would amount to \$4 million in 1959. Those figures did not include the cost of services regularly provided to the Non-Self-Governing Territories by WHO Regional Offices as part of their normal functions, nor did they reflect the benefit derived by the Non-Self-Governing Territories from the central technical services provided by WHO on a global basis.

In reply to the question the representative of Ceylon had asked at the 177th meeting, he said that all requests for assistance from countries and Territories were discussed first at the annual sessions of the WHO Regional Committees concerned and then by the World Health Assembly. Assistance to any particular country or Territory might vary from year to year, depending upon the stage of development of projects, the funds and personnel available and the relationship of the projects to the total programme. As a general rule it was

(Mr. Sacks, WHO)

possible for WHO to provide the desired assistance, since requests were normally preceded by discussion at the local level between the national authorities and the WHO representatives. Sometimes, however, lack of funds made it necessary to postpone the granting of assistance; for example, owing to lack of funds it had been impossible, in 1957, to provide three fellowships requested by one Territory, and in 1958 or 1959 to make provision for nine fellowships requested by four Territories.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) said that his Government welcomed the constructive interest of international organizations and of other Governments in the work being done in the Territories under United Kingdom administration. The figures for the assistance given by the specialized agencies to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, carefully analysed, were to be found in the Secretariat report on international technical assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.35/L.283). In the five years from 1953 to 1957 inclusive, no fewer than 150 experts had been made available to United Kingdom Territories and 200 fellowships had been awarded. He thought that part of the explanation for the decline in the number of fellowships to which the representative of China had referred might be the shift from fellowship aid to other forms of assistance, such as those referred to by the WHO representative. The United Kingdom, of course, contributed a large number of experts to the pool from which the specialized agencies drew.

The United Kingdom participated in a number of regional commissions, in addition to the world-wide agencies. At its annual conference, held in November 1957 in Curaçao, the Caribbean Commission had concentrated on the theme of co-operative development, including agricultural credit and low-cost housing. Two months earlier a conference on the population problems of the Caribbean had been held under its auspices in Trinidad and it was sponsoring a home economics training seminar in Trinidad. The South Pacific Commission had recently reviewed its work and organization and had agreed that in future particular emphasis should be placed on increased participation by the Governments and peoples of the Territories in the area in the economic and social projects undertaken by the Commission.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

The Commission for Technical Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara (CCTA) had been set up in 1950 to co-ordinate and promote technical and scientific co-operation between the various territories in Africa South of the Sahara. It was advised by a Scientific Council, a body of eminent scientists drawn from the member countries. The Commission and the Scientific Council shared the services of a joint secretariat with offices in London and at Bukavu in the Belgian Congo. They also had a number of specialized bureaux, but the total staff was small since the main practical work was carried out by the Governments themselves.

In the eight years of its existence CCTA had achieved much. Its methods were essentially consultative and included the pooling of knowledge and experience over a wide variety of technical and scientific fields and the formulation of agreed measures of practical co-operation between the various Territories of the region. In some fields permanent inter-African bureaux had been established. The Commission had organized a number of important and successful meetings of specialists in various subjects and had organized and financed a number of special joint projects such as the preparation of the first climatological atlas of Africa South of the Sahara. So far, however, it had not concerned itself with the provision of technical assistance to the region.

During the previous year, the Commission had taken two important steps forward. The first had been the accession of Ghana and Liberia to the Commission, and the second the inauguration of a scheme, known as the Foundation for Mutual Assistance in Africa South of the Sahara, whose objectives were to assist in the supply of experts or advisers to countries in the region, to help in the training of personnel and to supply equipment for training purposes. Although differing in detail, it would be very like the technical co-operation scheme of the Colombo Plan and its small secretariat would act as a clearing-house between the participating Governments. The Commission would not dispense technical assistance itself although it had established a small central fund to provide supplementary finance when needed. The scheme would be experimental to begin with but it was intended that all countries within the region, including those which were not at present members of the Commission, would be eligible for technical assistance through the Foundation, and the constitution provided that the Commission could arrange for non-member Governments which wished to contribute to the Foundation to do so.

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

He did not think that at the present stage the member Governments would make exaggerated claims for the Foundation: the idea was essentially a practical one, the establishment of a system which would respect the freedom of action of all concerned but would enable those who wished to provide assistance as effectively as possible and those who needed it to obtain it economically and with a minimum of formalities.

Mr. MITRA (India) said that his delegation had noted with regret the considerable decrease in the technical assistance the Non-Self-Governing Territories were to receive under the United Nations Technical Assistance programme in 1958 as compared with 1957 and hoped that the Administering Authorities would make every effort to ensure that there was no further decrease.

His delegation would like to hear from the Administering Powers whether their requests for technical assistance in 1958 had increased by comparison with 1957. It would be surprising if they had not, in view of the generally undeveloped state of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the fact that assistance was available in a number of important fields. His delegation would also like to know if the decrease in technical assistance was caused by any feeling on the part of the Administering Powers that it was not desirable to associate United Nations bodies with development work in the Territories.

His delegation had noted that, as usual, a large majority of the projects approved under the Technical Assistance programme were in connexion with public health. While public health was certainly a matter of vital importance in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, it was regrettable that only five projects concerning educational and social matters had been approved for 1958. The Non-Self-Governing Territories were faced with many pressing problems in those fields and it would be highly desirable for the Administering Authorities to ask for more assistance from UNESCO on such matters.

His delegation had noted with regret the great decline in the number of fellowships awarded to the Territories under the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance: only eleven had been approved for 1958 out of a total of 2,032 awarded throughout the world. On the basis of population alone, the Non-Self-Governing Territories should have ten times as many fellowships as they

(Mr. Mitra, India)

had actually been awarded. It seemed to his delegation that the only likely explanation for that discrepancy was that fellowships were not being used or asked for by the Administering Powers. If that was the case, his delegation would like to hear from the Administering Powers what reasons prompted that attitude on their part.

His delegation could not understand why the Non-Self-Governing Territories received no assistance for community development under the Technical Assistance Programme. It would be grateful for information from the Administering Powers on that point.

Although India welcomed the international collaboration represented by the work of such inter-governmental bodies as the Caribbean Commission, The South Pacific Commission and the Commission for Co-operation in Africa South of the Sahara, it was somewhat apprehensive lest the use of such agencies might prevent full utilization of the machinery of the United Nations and its specialized agencies. Many of those inter-governmental organizations were really inter-colonial organizations and they sometimes operated in competition with international organizations; for example, large-scale technical programmes were being planned and carried out by some of those organizations in the very areas where United Nations bodies such as WHO had themselves attempted to establish regional collaboration. Moreover, in view of the fact that some of those organizations included countries which did not co-operate with the work of the Committee, there was justification for feeling that the objectives they pursued might not always be in keeping with the objectives of the United Nations. Very often their main emphasis was on the role of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the economic recovery of the world, while the standard of living of the people of the Territories was a secondary consideration. His delegation would emphasize that co-operation between the Administering Powers in no way reduced the need for increased co-operation between the Administering Powers and the United Nations; it would be glad if the Powers concerned would inform it of the extent to which economic co-operation among themselves had rendered collaboration with international agencies superfluous.

Mr. MORE (United States of America) said that his delegation appreciated the information with which the Committee had been provided on international technical assistance in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and reiterated its support for those important activities. The United States had taken an active part in the work of the South Pacific and Caribbean Commissions since their inception and had always considered the technical assistance provided through those organizations to be an important factor in the development of the two regions. Both Commissions worked closely with the specialized agencies of the United Nations; during the past year, for example, observers from WHO, FAO and other international organizations had attended the eighth meeting of the South Pacific Research Council, while the South Pacific Commission had joined with WHO in sponsoring a health education training course attended by fifty trainees, and with FAO in sponsoring a fisheries training course attended by twenty-five trainees. Observers from FAO, the ILO, UNESCO and the United Nations had attended the seventh session of the West Indian Conference held in Curaçao in 1957, which had devoted its main attention to the subject of co-operatives, including the co-operative aspects of agricultural credit and low-cost housing. FAO had made an especially important contribution to the Conference, having prepared documents for it and co-sponsored a preliminary technical conference on co-operatives. A UNESCO educational specialist had worked with the Caribbean Commission for a year.

During the current school year fourteen scholarships in the United States had been taken up by students from Non-Self-Governing Territories under the Department of State's Exchange of Persons Programme, and it was anticipated that fifteen such scholarships would be awarded for the 1958-1959 school year. Under the technical training programme of the United States International Co-operation Administration, conducted in co-operation with the Government of Puerto Rico, between 150 and 200 grants would be taken up during the current school year by students from the Caribbean area and about thirty by students from the Near East and Africa, including a few from Non-Self-Governing Territories in Africa. The emphasis of the programme was on teacher-training in such fields as co-operatives, home economics, community education and vocational agriculture.

Mr. VAS NUNES (Netherlands) said that before dealing with international collaboration he would refer to the direct assistance his country furnished to Netherlands New Guinea. The Netherlands had made good the deficit of about 66 million guilders in the Territory's total annual budget of 125 million guilders in 1956 and it was expected that its contribution would be even greater in the future. One of the reasons for that huge deficit was that the Territory was in the process of accelerated development and a large number of non-indigenous officials and specialists were needed. Every effort was being made to give as many assignments as possible to indigenous staff as soon as improved educational facilities made such staff available; indeed, the number of Papuans in the established civil service had almost doubled between 1953 and 1956. Apart from the direct assistance, financial and otherwise, provided by the Netherlands Government, assistance in the medical, economic, agricultural and cultural fields was being channelled through a number of private institutions and foundations.

The Committee had already been informed of the international co-operation extended to the Territory by the specialized agencies, particularly WHO and UNICEF. The close co-operation within the framework of the South Pacific Commission was also important for the development of the Territory: in the Commission's Research Council ideas were exchanged regularly with experts of the other Administrations in the South Pacific region, whose problems were often similar to those of the Territory. No less important was the South Pacific Conference, held triennially. The Netherlands New Guinea delegation to the last conference had included a Papuan school-inspector, a Papuan staff member of the Office for Native Information, and the manager of a Papuan co-operative organization. A Papuan study group was at present preparing working papers for the fourth Conference, which would be held in 1959. Among the other activities of the Commission had been a health education course, held in New Caledonia; two teachers of the training centre for rural teachers in

(Mr. Vas Nunes, Netherlands)

Netherlands New Guinea had attended the course, which had been followed by a visit to the Territory by the Commission's expert on health education. The Territory had also been visited by nutrition experts working under the auspices of the Commission and by the Fisheries Officer of the Commission. A fisheries training course, held under the joint auspices of the Commission and FAO, had been attended by two trainees from the Territory. The Commission had also given the Territory valuable assistance in the production of new crops and its Plant Introduction Officer had toured the Territory several times. The Territory had also received assistance and technical advice from the Commission in the control of mosquito-borne diseases, pests and plant diseases, and in the fields of social and educational development.

Close co-operation had been maintained with the Australian authorities in the neighbouring Territory of New Guinea. The authorities of Netherlands New Guinea had been able to learn a great deal from their Australian colleagues in such matters as disease control, the training of Papuan medical personnel, quarantine and precautions against the introduction of diseases into newly-opened areas of the central highlands. The Territory had profited especially from Australian experience in the opening up of the inaccessible interior through the use of small aircraft. It was felt that the two Administrations would also benefit from each other's experience in the training of Papuan staff, the establishment of indigenous local government councils and the association of the Papuan population with the administration of the Territory. The co-operation between the Australian and Netherlands authorities would undoubtedly increase still further as a result of the joint statement of 6 November 1957, on the basis of which the two Governments had recently decided to station permanent liaison officers at Hollandia and at Port Moresby. Regular meetings between senior Government officials from both Territories were to be held in the future.

Mr. CHINN (United Kingdom), replying to the Indian representative's observations on technical assistance in the field of community development, said that, as far as the general administrative approach was concerned, it was hard to see how technical assistance from outside the Territories and the United Kingdom could be effectively rendered. The United Kingdom authorities were, in fact, pioneers in the movement, so much so that they were constantly being requested by United Nations agencies to provide experts in the general approach to community development. Nevertheless, an interesting example of a regional organization applying to the United Nations for technical assistance in that field was the fact that, as a result of the Conference on Rural Welfare held in Madagascar, in 1957 under CCTA auspices it had been proposed that a group of community development experts from certain African territories should visit other territories on that continent and then proceed as a body to India and perhaps an additional country if the requisite technical assistance funds could be made available.

The Territories administered by the United Kingdom had actually received considerable assistance from the specialized agencies in certain aspects of community development, although it was described under specific headings rather than under that of community development. For example, UNICEF had provided equipment and means of transport for women's clubs in East Africa, FAO had granted fellowships to women community development officers to study home economics in the United States and Puerto Rico, home economics experts from FAO had visited East Africa and Aden at the invitation of the Governments of those Territories, and FAO had organized home economics training schemes in the Caribbean. Those examples indicated only some of the aspects of community development in which the United Kingdom hoped that technical assistance would continue to be rendered as part of a comprehensive community development programme.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) noted that the Indian representative seemed to fear that the regional commissions, which the United Kingdom Government regarded as a valuable medium of international collaboration, might think of themselves as being in competition with the specialized agencies

and other United Nations bodies. He would like, therefore, to give the Committee a few examples of the way in which the CCTA, far from competing with United Nations bodies, had during the past year welcomed their aid and co-operated in the work they had been doing.

Within the United Nations Secretariat, the Under-Secretary in charge of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs had often expressed the desire to avail himself of the services of the CCTA in connexion with the implementation of the plans drawn up at the twenty-fourth session of the Economic and Social Council to enable the Secretariat to be better informed on the economic problems of Africa and to establish closer contacts with services dealing with economic policy in the countries concerned. Two senior officials had represented the Secretariat at the CCTA's Statistics Conference, one had attended its Rural Welfare Conference and one its Labour Conference, and two heads of Departments had attended its Extraordinary Session at Accra. The Commission, in turn, had been represented for the first time at the annual session of the Economic and Social Council. Co-operation between the CCTA and the United Nations Secretariat would doubtless expand still further with the establishment of the Economic Commission for Africa.

Among the most striking examples of collaboration between FAO and the CCTA were the joint training centre set up at Bingerville for the training of agricultural statisticians and the joint Technical Conference on Bovine Pleuro-pneumonia held at Khartoum. FAO representatives had attended the special meeting of the Commission's Statistics Committee at Lisbon and had played an important part in its Statistics Conference at Lourenco Marques. FAO had sent observers to the Commission's regional meeting on fisheries at Luanda and its Extraordinary Session at Accra and expected to participate in the work of its forthcoming Forestry Conference at Pointe Noire. The Commission had been

(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

represented at FAO's Council Meeting in June and its biennial Conference in November and a member of the Commission's Scientific Council had attended the FAO seminar on nutrition held at Kampala. Joint FAO-CCTA projects for 1958 and 1959 included meetings on coffee, cocoa and grain legumes and seminars on brucellosis and nutrition.

The WHO Regional Office for Africa had been represented at the CCTA's Rural Welfare Conference and had participated actively in the more specialized meetings held by the Commission during the year, such as those on vectors of diseases, radio-isotopes, and applied ecology, as also the Commission's regional medical meeting at Luanda. The Commission in turn had been represented at the World Health Assembly at Geneva, the WHO Regional Committee at Brazzaville, and the meeting of the WHO Executive Board, at each of which programmes had been discussed in close co-operation between the higher authorities of the Commission and of the Regional Office. Under the joint auspices of the Commission and WHO important meetings were to be held in the near future, such as the Specialist Meeting on Mental Health at Bukavu, the subsequent seminar on the same subject and the seminar on brucellosis.

UNESCO observers had been present at the Commission's Rural Welfare Conference and its Conference on Education. The Commission's Secretary-General had discussed topics of mutual interest with UNESCO authorities in Paris, including the planned joint Symposium on Ecological Studies of Tropical Vegetation in its relation to soils. UNESCO had suggested to the Commission a further joint symposium of a regional nature to be held in West Africa. Finally, the Commission had been represented by a member of its Scientific Council at the meeting of the UNESCO Committee for Arid Zones.

Although the ILO had no regional organization in Africa, as yet, an ILO observer had attended the CCTA's Labour Conference at Lusaka. Similarly, the Director of the Inter-African Labour Institute had represented the CCTA at the annual ILO conference in Geneva and at the meeting of the ILO's Committee of Experts on Social Policy in Non-metropolitan Territories. The only joint project under consideration at present was a training course on agricultural co-operative societies to be organized by agreement between CCTA, FAO and the ILO.

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(Mr. Caston, United Kingdom)

The CCTA had had occasion to co-operate with many other organizations during 1957. Important joint meetings had taken place or were planned in collaboration with the Scientific Council, the International Geophysical Year, the World Federation for Mental Health, the International Children's Centre, the International Organization for Epizootic Diseases and the International Union for the Protection of Nature.

Mr. MITRA (India) said that he was puzzled by the United Kingdom representative's statement that it was difficult to see how technical assistance in the field of community development could be given from abroad; in his own country, where 70 per cent of the villages were covered by community development projects, international technical assistance in that field had proved extremely valuable. To invoke another example, Cambodia had been able to make good use of the services of a Belgian expert provided by UNESCO in connexion with its fundamental education and community development programmes.

With regard to the regional commissions, the fact that three of the eight members of the CCTA were countries which did not share the objectives of the Committee made him wonder if the spirit which animated that organization might not be somewhat different from that which underlay the work of the United Nations. While his delegation had no criticism of the South Pacific Commission in that regard and recognized that the United Kingdom had been willing to co-operate with the United Nations, it did not wish to see international collaboration supplanted by inter-regional collaboration among Governments, some of which were at variance with the guiding principles of the Committee.

Mr. KELLY (Australia) associated his delegation with that of the United Kingdom in emphasizing that the specialized agencies and the regional commissions effectively complemented each other's activities in promoting the welfare of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and neighbouring independent States. Australia welcomed the opportunities which its proximity to Asia afforded it in the sphere of international collaboration. Approximately five per cent of the students attending Australian universities were Asians. Under the Colombo Plan provision had been made for more than 2,000 Asian students to study in Australia, including 274 from the Non-Self-Governing Territories in South-East Asia. In addition, more than 160 students resident in

(Mr. Kelly, Australia)

those Territories were the beneficiaries of Colombo Plan correspondence scholarships awarded by Australia. Several students from Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Pacific held Australian scholarships under the International Scholarship Scheme. While his Government appreciated the generosity of the countries which had made scholarship offers, it felt that the Powers administering Non-Self-Governing Territories must maintain in principle the right and responsibility of reviewing candidatures for all scholarships offered. As far as the inhabitants of Papua were concerned, the number who were capable of profiting from scholarships made available by Australia was, for historical reasons, relatively small but it had been possible to award bursaries to twenty-three students of mixed racial origin and scholarships to fifty-four Papuans. Papuan girls were among those studying on scholarships at secondary schools in Australia. Australia would be able to meet any foreseeable demand for scholarships from the people of that Territory.

The South Pacific Commission had made a notable contribution to the prevention and cure of diseases and the promotion of the economic, social, cultural and educational progress of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in its area. The fact that Australia had undertaken to pay 30 per cent of the costs of the Commission reflected its concern for the welfare of the non-self-governing peoples under its sovereignty.

On the island of New Guinea, the neighbouring Australian and Netherlands Administrations had a history of fruitful co-operation which had recently found expression in the declaration of both Governments of their intention to pursue policies designed to advance the peoples in their Territories in a manner which would take into account the ethnographical and geographical affinity of the peoples of the two Territories. The Australian Government was well aware of the great technical and sociological significance of the work done by the Administration of Netherlands New Guinea and had already had occasion to benefit from it. It was chiefly as a result of the practical day-to-day collaboration of the two Administrations that immediate advantages accrued to the indigenous inhabitants. Only a few months previously, a Netherlands doctor had crossed the border at the request of the Australian authorities to help them deal with an outbreak of poliomyelitis, while an Australian veterinary scientist had recently been lent to Netherlands New Guinea to help combat an outbreak of disease in cattle. The conference scheduled for the current year between officials of the Territories

(Mr. Kelly, Australia)

administered by Australia and the Netherlands would still further promote and expand the co-operation of the two Administrations to the advantage of the indigenous inhabitants of the island as a whole.

Mr. COHEN (Under-Secretary) informed the Committee that in response to General Assembly resolution 1154 (XII) inviting States offering scholarships to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories to inform the Secretary-General of the use which had been made of them the Secretary-General had received communications from the permanent missions of Czechoslovakia, Greece, Poland, Romania and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Of the seven applicants to whom the Government of Czechoslovakia had granted scholarships three had arrived in that country to pursue their studies. The first two beneficiaries of the award made by Greece were expected to arrive there during the current year. Of the six beneficiaries of awards made by the Government of Poland, no students from Territories which were at present non-self-governing had as yet arrived in that country; the two students studying there as scholarship beneficiaries had been awarded their scholarships as inhabitants of the former Territory of the Gold Coast. The two beneficiaries of awards made by the Government of Romania were expected to arrive there before the commencement of the academic year in September 1958. Of six students to whom scholarships had been granted by the Government of the Soviet Union, one had arrived in the country and had started his studies. In some of the letters from the Permanent Missions it was stated that certain other beneficiaries had excused themselves from accepting their awards or had requested deferments. Further details concerning the use made of scholarship offers would be communicated to the thirteenth session of the General Assembly in the Secretary-General's annual report.

With regard to further scholarship offers, the Permanent Mission of Ceylon had confirmed the announcement made by the Ceylonese representative at the Committee's eighth session concerning the offer of three scholarships at the secondary level. The Government of Czechoslovakia had increased the number of its scholarship offers by five, bringing to twenty the total number of scholarships offered for the academic year 1958-1959 to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Government of Brazil had offered two scholarships to students at

(Mr. Cohen, Under-Secretary)

the university or post-graduate level. The Government of Israel had offered three at the post-graduate level to inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in Africa. The Government of Ghana had informed the Secretary-General that the question of scholarships was still under consideration. The Secretary-General had also received information from the Permanent Representatives of India and the United States concerning the national scholarships schemes inaugurated or being continued in their countries. Statistical data had been furnished by the Permanent Mission of Australia concerning the number of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories benefiting from training facilities provided under the Colombo Plan, the Colombo Correspondence Scholarship Scheme and the International Scholarship Scheme, which had formerly been known as the South East Asia Scholarship Scheme.

The number of applications for scholarships received and processed since 2 October 1957 was fifty.

The meeting rose at 12.50 p.m.