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PROGRESS REPORT
OF THE
UNITED NATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL
FOR THE
TRUST TERRITORY OF SOMALILAND UNDER
ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

Note by the Secretariat: In accordance with the decision of the Fourth Committee, the Progress Report of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration is communicated herewith to members of the Fourth Committee. The Report covers the work of the Advisory Council up to 31 July 1950.

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CHAPTER I

ESTABLISHMENT, TERMS OF REFERENCE, COMPOSITION, CHAIRMANSHIP, SECRETARIAT AND HEADQUARTERS OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Establishment

1. The General Assembly, to which the question of the disposal of the former Italian colonies had been referred in accordance with the terms of the Treaty of Peace with Italy, recommended, on 21 November 1949, in resolution 289A(IV), part B (see annex I), the establishment of the Advisory Council.

Terms of reference

2. The present terms of reference of the Advisory Council are contained in General Assembly resolution 289A(IV), part B, of 21 November 1949, and the draft Trusteeship Agreement (T/456)^{1/}

Composition of the Advisory Council

3. According to resolution 289A(IV), part B, the Advisory Council is composed of one representative appointed by Colombia, Egypt and the Philippines, respectively.

Members of the Council have found it extremely trying to be in permanent residence in an area which is notorious for its treacherous climate, where accommodation is scarce and living conditions difficult, and where the nearest "hill station" is 600 miles away. It is felt, therefore, that the question of providing for alternates or of relieving the representatives from the

^{1/} See Official Records of the fifth session of the General Assembly, Supplement No. 10 (A/1294).

obligation of prolonged residence in Mogadiscio is one meriting serious study. The provision of alternates would entail a change in the General Assembly resolution.

Chairmanship

4. The Advisory Council, at its first meeting, held in Cairo, elected as Chairman Amin Rostem Bey, the representative of Egypt, who remained in the chair until 13 May 1950, when he left for Cairo. Mr. E. de Holte-Castello (Colombia) took over as Acting Chairman until 25 May, when Mr. Talaat M. Ragheb, the representative of Egypt, took the chair. Mr. Manuel Escudero, the representative of the Philippines, assumed the chairmanship on 16 June 1950.

According to the rules of procedure established by the Advisory Council at its meeting of 3 April, the chairmanship is held in turn by representatives of Egypt the Philippines and Colombia. Each Chairman holds office for two months, provided, however, that the Chairman in office at the beginning of any session of the General Assembly or of the Trusteeship Council the agenda of which includes any item relating directly to the Trust Territory of Somaliland, shall remain in office until such items are disposed of at the session in question.

Secretariat

5. The secretariat assigned to the Advisory Council, totalling twenty-one members, including nine locally recruited personnel and guards, but not chauffeurs and service personnel, is headed by a Principal Secretary.

Headquarters

6. In accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 289A (IV),

part B, the Advisory Council set up its headquarters at Mogadiscio,

The secretariat assigned to the Advisory Council established its temporary headquarters at the "Lido" in a compound in which stand ten buildings. Three adjoining houses contain a Council Chamber and offices, the other houses are used as living quarters by the Principal Secretary and members of the secretariat.

This temporary establishment has the advantage of providing fair working quarters for the Advisory Council and the Secretariat. The fact that the offices stand in a compound ensures that the United Nations site is a separate entity.

A disadvantage of the location, on the other hand, can be found in the fact that it removes the Advisory Council somewhat from the centre of Mogadiscio. The compound lies over one mile from the centre of the town, a considerable distance under the equatorial sun during the entire day, without normal means of transportation. This has not, however, prevented many indigenous visitors and deputations from calling at the temporary headquarters.

As the Advisory Council will have its seat in Mogadiscio for ten years, it feels that, in view of this long-term operation, it may be desirable to establish, in the centre of Mogadiscio, on a scale comparable with the major buildings of the Italian Administration, its own headquarters. The local housing situation suggests, however, that the cost of renting a suitable building, if it could be found at all, might be excessive, and that the remodelling of one of the many dilapidated buildings in Mogadiscio would be disproportionately high, so that the only proper alternative to the Lido compound would be the erection of a new building in the centre of the town. The Council reserves the right to make, through its Chairman, suggestions to the General Assembly in this respect.

CHAPTER II

SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ACTIVITIES OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Activities and decisions of the Advisory Council

7. At its first meeting held in Cairo on 27 March 1950, the Advisory Council decided that it would be present at the ceremony of transfer of powers from the British Military Occupation to the provisional Italian Administration, fixed for 1 April 1950. As the date was only tentatively set at that time and changes in the schedule were possible, the Advisory Council agreed to proceed to Mogadiscio via Nairobi. It was felt that it would not be appropriate for the Advisory Council to be present in Mogadiscio for any length of time prior to the entering into function of the Italian Administration. The break of the journey in Nairobi would allow the Council to proceed to Mogadiscio immediately prior to the ceremony. The members of the Advisory Council arrived in Nairobi on 30 March, where they were informed that the ceremony would definitely take place on 1 April. The Council proceeded by chartered plane to Mogadiscio on 31 March.

8. At its 2nd meeting, held in Alexandria on 29 March 1950, the Advisory Council discussed certain problems regarding its presence at the ceremony of transfer in Mogadiscio. It expressed unanimously the wish that the United Nations flag be raised with the Italian flag at the ceremony of transfer of powers.

The Advisory Council took this view as the General Assembly had, by an overwhelming majority vote of 48 to 5, with 4 abstentions (resolution 325(IV) of 15 November 1949), requested the Trusteeship Council to recommend to the

Administering Authorities concerned to fly the United Nations flag over all United Nations Trust Territories.

While the Council was en route, the Trusteeship Council, on 30 March, failed to agree upon a resolution implementing the request of the General Assembly (actually a tie vote of 5 to 5, with 1 abstention). The Advisory Council, therefore, agreed to dispense with the raising of the United Nations flag and during the ceremony took its stand on a separate balcony of Government House draped with the United Nations flag.

9. At its 3rd meeting, the first held in Mogadiscio, on 3 April 1950, the Advisory Council adopted its rules of procedure.

10. At its 4th meeting on 5 May, the first to be held at the Council's temporary headquarters at the Lido, the Advisory Council heard a statement by the Administrator, Ambassador Fornari, on the steps taken by the provisional Italian Trusteeship Administration during the first month of Italian Administration (see annex II).

11. On 3 May 1950, the Advisory Council received a communication from the Administering Authority, which was circulated to the members of the Advisory Council, containing requests for advice on the composition and number of the Territorial Council provided for in the draft Trusteeship Agreement, on the principles to be followed in selecting its members, and on the question of the languages of instruction in the Territory. The full text of the requests is contained in annex III.

12. On 17 May 1950, Mr. E. de Holte-Castello, (Colombia), in his capacity of Acting Chairman of the Advisory Council, addressed a preliminary reply to the above-mentioned requests for advice submitted by the Italian Administration.

In this reply, the full text of which is reproduced in annex IV, Mr. de Holte-Castello expressed the belief that an examination of the methods used in other countries with comparable political problems might result in a reduction in the number of alternative solutions in the matter of the Territorial Council. Such studies would, however, be somewhat theoretical. The Administering Authority was consulting the peoples of the Territory upon this question and the results of this consultation would also permit of a more precise evaluation of solutions adopted elsewhere. As regards education, the adoption of written Somali was not favoured; the use of Arabic was considered to be preferable.

The secretariat has prepared for the Advisory Council studies on both the constitutional and educational questions.

13. At its 5th meeting, held on 31 May 1950, the Advisory Council formally approved the letter containing the preliminary reply addressed by Mr. de Holte-Castello, in his capacity of Acting Chairman, to the Administrator of Somalia. The relevant extracts from the summary record of this meeting are attached as annex V.

The Advisory Council was informed of an invitation addressed to Mr. de Holte-Castello by the Italian Government to pay an official visit to Rome, and charged the Colombian representative to undertake the journey as representative of the Advisory Council.

14. When Mr. Emanuel Escudero, representative of the Philippines, arrived in Rome on 16 June en route to Mogadiscio, as Chairman for the then current period he was invited by the Administrator, Ambassador Fornari, to remain in Rome in order to hold a series of conferences with high Government officials

on many problems concerning the Trust Territory. He accepted the invitation and arrived in Mogadiscio on 6 July, in the company of the Administrator and the representative of Colombia.

15. At its 6th meeting, held on 12 July 1950, the representatives of Colombia and the Philippines reported to the Advisory Council on their visits to Rome and on the conversations with high Italian Government officials regarding the progress of the peoples of Somaliland. Mr. De Holte-Castello also reported on discussions he had held in Cairo.

The Advisory Council considered various communications which had been addressed to it by individuals and representatives of tribes and of organizations (see the following section).

16. At its 7th meeting, held on 18 July 1950, the Council decided to make a progress report on its activities since its constitutional meeting in Cairo on 27 March 1950, for transmission to the Secretary-General.

17. At its 8th meeting, held on 3 August 1950, the Council adopted its draft report (A/AC.33/W.24/Rev.1).

Communications from non-governmental organizations
or individuals concerning the Trust Territory

Communications addressed to the Advisory Council

18. Communications which do not contain a request for a specific action by the Advisory Council are, in accordance with rule 45 of the rules of procedure of the Council, transmitted to the Secretary-General for submission to the Trusteeship Council.

In regard to communications requesting a specific action by the Advisory Council, the comments of the Italian Administration have been invited. The

Advisory Council has, up to 27 July, received and considered certain communications of the above nature. As one of these communications refers to the question of the boundaries, the Council decided to refer it to the Secretary-General for distribution at his discretion.

Communications addressed to other United Nations bodies

19. One Communication was received addressed to the President of the Trusteeship Council. It was transmitted to the Secretary-General.

Communications of which the Advisory Council received only copies

20. The representatives on the Advisory Council took note of these communications; in some cases informal inquiries were made by different representatives.

Field trips

21. For an appreciable part of the time during which the Advisory Council has been established in the Territory, weather conditions have rendered difficult field trips involving road travel for any great distance. During the rainy seasons, considerable stretches of the road become virtually impassable for wheeled traffic.

Nevertheless, members of the Council have undertaken field trips to points of interest in the vicinity of Mogadiscio and even, as shown below, to places relatively far in the interior of the country.

22. In company with officials of the Administering Authority, representatives visited the large agricultural development, some 80 kilometres from Mogadiscio, run by the Societa Agricola Italo-Somalo and located in the Villaggio del Duca d'Abruzzi, where most of the sugar consumed in the Territory is produced and processed. This is the biggest and most ambitious single agricultural development in the Territory. Visits have also been made to

settlements along the Webbi Shebelle river, which runs parallel to the coast about 20 kilometres from Mogadiscio, and to points along the coast to the south of Mogadiscio.

23. During the recent visit paid to the Territory by Mr. Brusasca, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Italy from 25 May to 10 June, the representative of Colombia, who was for part of that time the only representative present in Mogadiscio, accompanied him on a number of lengthy field trips through the Territory in the course of which they visited Afgoi, Villagio del Duca d'Abruzzi, Bulu Burti, Belet Uen, Fer Fer and Gallacaió.

When Mr. Talaat M. Ragheb (Egypt) arrived in Mogadiscio he was also invited by Mr. Brusasca to accompany him in a number of field trips.

Mr. Manuel Escudero (Philippines) was absent from Mogadiscio during the period of Mr. Brusasca's visit.

24. The representative of Colombia was particularly struck, when he visited Fer Fer, by the difficulty which the present temporary boundaries with Ethiopia have created in some locations. At Fer Fer it is the inhabitants of Somalia who suffer inconvenience since the only well there is nine yards inside the Ethiopian frontier and is therefore, inaccessible to the herdsmen on the Somali side, while the nearest well on the Somali side is some considerable distance away.

Relations with inhabitants of the Territory and the Press

25. The representatives on the Advisory Council, at times accompanied by members of the secretariat, received visitors representing all groups and strata of the Somali population and the Arab and Indian communities, at their residence, the Hotel Croce del Sud, as well as in their offices at the

Lido. Moreover they attended meetings, celebrations and anniversary gatherings of different groups and of all political factions in Mogadiscio and other places in Somaliland they visited.

26. In this manner and during their field trips, the representatives on the Council have established friendly and cordial relations with the inhabitants of the Territory. An outstanding example of the result of this policy was displayed when the representative of Egypt, Amin Rostom Bey, on 12 May gathered together in the Council Chamber representatives of important political factions and induced them to make a solemn pledge that they would not act without consulting each other (see annex XII). Mr. Talaat M. Ragheb, representative of Egypt, has continued his predecessor's policy of establishing close relations with the indigenous inhabitants.

27. Both the inhabitants and the Italian Administration have welcomed these activities. An increasing demand has been shown for the conciliatory influence which the representatives on the Council can exercise.

28. Communications received by the Council from non-governmental organizations or individuals concerning the affairs of the Trust Territory are dealt with in the present chapter, paragraphs 18-20.

29. There is only one daily local newspaper in the whole of Somaliland, the Corriere della Somalia. This paper is issued by the Administration and the editor is a Government official. Each issue contains, apart from the Italian text, a column in Arabic.

For the first two months there was a weekly paper, the Nuovo Giornale, published by the Catholic authorities, but publication has since ceased. This was a well-informed paper with very good articles written by prominent local

men. There is also a weekly military paper.

A large number of Italian newspapers are available, but none of any racial views. No newspapers from other countries are on sale.

30. Some Italian newspapers maintain correspondents in Mogadiscio, most of them covering Somaliland as a professional sideline. Reuters maintains a correspondent. Apart from this, no foreign correspondent or agency is permanently represented in Somaliland. Special events such as the transfer of administration from the British Government to the Italian Government, the visit of Under-Secretary of State Brusasca, etc., were covered by special correspondents of Italian agencies and newspapers who were dispatched to Mogadiscio for the purpose. A "roving correspondent" from the New York Herald Tribune visited Somaliland.

Press releases issued by the Advisory Council during the period under review were reproduced in full by the Corriere della Somalia, which gave continued prominence to all official and non-official statements made by members of the Advisory Council. It is very unfortunate, however, that the great experiment initiated in Somaliland has found so little coverage in the Press of the Members of the United Nations.

31. The Secretariat issued, between 7 April and 27 July 1950, fourteen press reviews containing translations of interesting material and comments appearing in the local Press, and translations of excerpts from comments and opinions expressed in the Italian Press.

CHAPTER III

SITUATION IN THE TRUST TERRITORY AND

THE POSITION OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

A. Situation in the Trust Territory^{1/}

POLITICAL AFFAIRS

Law and Order

32. The Advisory Council is not in a position to quote official facts and figures relating to law and order which might perhaps give some indication of the political atmosphere. It has, naturally, formed opinions from daily contact with and observations of life in Mogadiscio, where the population contains representatives of most of the peoples of the Territory;

from conversations with members of the Administration; from impressions gained on field trips; from the Press; and, lastly, from the various members of the community who have approached it with complaints, requests and suggestions.

33. The general impression is certainly one of an improvement in public security, particularly in Mogadiscio, and of a noticeable diminution in

the Territory of the tension which was most marked at the time when the provisional Trusteeship Administration began. The conduct of the Administration's armed forces and of the carabinieri and Somali police appears to be correct and their relations with the population good.

34. As stated above (chapter II, paragraphs 18-20), the Advisory Council has received many oral or written complaints or copies of complaints addressed to the Administration either by individuals or representatives of one political party, the Somali Youth League (SYL), or other groups.

^{1/} For a detailed description of the political, economic and social life of the Territory, see annex VII.

Roughly speaking, the following points were made in these communications:

(a) That there had been unlawful assaults on individuals and that there had been serious civil disorders at Baidoa owing to the negligence or culpability of the authorities, which involved injury to individuals and loss of property.

(b) That Somalis known for their opposition to Italian rule prior to 31 March 1950 were not fully protected by the Italian Administration, and that discriminatory acts committed by Italian officials are de facto retaliatory measures in respect of 11 January 1948, when a number of Italians were killed in Somalia in a sort of "Sicilian Vespers"; that people were being arrested without warrant and/or without a charge being communicated to the person involved, and that a large number of persons were being held in prison without being brought to trial.

(c) That political discrimination was being practised against members of SYL in the matter of engagement of personnel either for the Administration or for public works, and that the leaders of SYL were refused admittance to the offices of the Italian Administration officials or kept waiting an unreasonable time.

35. In the light of personal observation and additional information received from private persons and members of the Administration, the members of the Advisory Council gained the impression that some of the complaints were exaggerated and could not be sustained by any proof, and that some accusations were dictated by prejudice or anti-Italian bias on the part of certain elements. Further, it must be remembered that the criminal procedure in use for nearly ten years has been the British criminal procedure. The Administering Authority has now reverted to the Italian

criminal procedure and it is likely that members of the population involved in criminal proceedings, not understanding the difference between the two systems, may bear an unreasonable resentment against the changed methods.

36. On the other hand, representatives on the Advisory Council gained the impression that some of the basic facts underlying the complaints were not entirely without foundation. It is known to the Council, for example, that civil disorders occurred in Baldea and at other places between factions of the indigenous inhabitants; no effort was made to conceal the fact and the disorders were reported in the Press. Two truckloads of men and children, who alleged that they were refugees from the area, appeared on more than one occasion at the gates of the United Nations compound. The Council has, of course, no means of knowing the extent of the disturbances nor their origins.

The Council is fully confident that the Administration, personified in the Administrator, Ambassador Fornari, is doing everything to investigate all the bona fide complaints in a spirit of equity and with the desire to redress any justified complaint.

Trusteeship Administration

37. During the first weeks, the Italian Authorities were chiefly occupied with settling down in the cadres created by the British Occupation Authorities and adapting the machinery of administration (military as well as civilian) to Italian working methods and concepts of administration. After his return from Rome, the Administrator, on 7 July, announced to the Administration plans for a reorganization of the Trusteeship Administration.

His plans provided for the following administrative structure:

The Administrator's Office; Chief Secretary's Office; International Affairs; Internal Affairs; Personnel and General Affairs; Financial Affairs; Agriculture and Zootechnical Affairs; Industry, Internal Commerce and Labour; Currency and Commerce with Foreign Countries; Judicial and Legislative Affairs; Health and Public Education; Public Works and Communications; Office for Studies and Statistics; Press; Accounts.

This system, which differs greatly from the former system, is particularly interesting inasmuch as it is clearly meant to be a nucleus for the ministerial organization of the future independent Somali State.

38. The Administrator has informed the Advisory Council that he intends "to establish district councils to enable the local authorities (District Commissioners) of the Italian Administration to have the benefit of an advisory body which would improve the collaboration between the indigenous population and the Administering Authority as well as encourage the people's evolution towards political progress". He stated that he had prepared a circular on this subject to be sent to all District and Provincial Commissioners and he communicated the contents of it to the Council so that the representatives might be informed thereof before it was circulated. The contents of this circular are set out in annex XIV hereto.

39. The Administering Authority requested the advice of the Advisory Council (see chapter II, paragraph 11) concerning the composition and number of the Territorial Council provided for in the draft Trusteeship Agreement. In its reply (see chapter II, paragraphs 12 and 13 and annex IV) the Council suggested that an examination of solutions adopted

elsewhere, though theoretical, would no doubt be of value and that a more practical evaluation could be made of them when the results were known of the inquiry which the Administering Authority was making amongst the peoples of the Territory upon these questions.

The Council has now been informed by the Administering Authority of the results of the consultation with the representatives of the peoples of the Territory; the full text of the Administering Authority's report to the Council is contained in annex IX hereto.

40. In transmitting its report, the Administering Authority pointed out that in spite of the fact that its officials had emphasized to the peoples the great importance of the consultation, which was the first time that the indigenous population had participated in the study of matters of concern to the whole Territory, it appeared that elements of the population consulted did not appreciate the character of the system which was to be established and, consequently, the significance and importance of the Territorial Council.

It appears that the response evoked from the population ranged from indifference to uninstructed enthusiasm, an example of the latter being a proposal that the Council should be composed of between 400 and 700 members, who would discuss all the unimportant daily disagreements between the tribes.

41. The Administering Authority reports, however, that a great number of people interrogated, and by no means only the most prominent among them, fully appreciated the value of the referendum and expressed satisfaction, in their own name and on behalf of their community, with the fact that the Administration had consulted them and was prepared to give them a voice

in matters which concerned them.

The creation of a Council which would provide a further link between the Administration and the people was welcomed. The opinion was wisely held that such a Council should not be too large; a number thought that it should be composed of one representative from each district of the Territory, i.e. twenty-two members. Some doubts were expressed, however, that one member could satisfactorily represent districts with mixed populations.

42. As to methods of choosing representatives, the political bodies urged that these should be chosen from among their ranks, in which they claimed, the most progressive elements of the population are to be found. On the other hand, the Chiefs and Notables pointed out that three-quarters of the population live in the bush and have little contact with the political parties. Furthermore, it is recognized that, among the chiefs of the tribes are to be found many persons of great culture, with a profound knowledge of, and a deep influence over, their peoples.

There was unanimous rejection of the idea of a system of suffrage, in view of the general cultural level of the population and of their lack of political education.

There appears to be a great unanimity of opinion that, at least in the beginning, there should not be separate representation in the Council of indigenous economic interests.

43. The question of limiting the discretionary power of the Administrator in the choice of members of the Council was not raised. The District Commissioners, however, made it clear to those they consulted that, even if the Administrator has complete freedom of choice, he intends to take into consideration the wishes of the people.

44. In some places the people were ready at once to nominate their representative, but in others the desire was expressed that the District Commissioner should choose a name from a list submitted by the people.

Legislation and Judicial System

45. As regards legislation and the administration of justice, the position in the Territory, up to 1 April 1950, was that in civil and commercial cases judgment was given in accordance with Italian law by the Judge of the Territory (who is an Italian) and in accordance with Koranic law and customary law by the Kadis. In penal cases the Italian penal code, as amended by British proclamations, was administered. A new system of criminal courts had, however, been set up by the British, which used British penal procedure.

46. On 1 April 1950, the Administering Authority published its first proclamation stating that Italy had assumed the administration of the Territory which it undertook to carry out in accordance with the provisions and in conformity with the principles and spirit of the United Nations Charter. The rights of man, the fundamental liberties, and full equality before the law without distinction of race, sex and political or religious opinion were guaranteed in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Constitution and legislation of the Italian Republic. Until the issue of new regulations, the present legislation was to remain in force in the Territory, as far as compatible with the principles of the Trusteeship Administration.

47. By an Ordinance (No. 5) of 19 April, which was declared to be effective as from 1 April, various British proclamations were cancelled. These proclamations had, inter alia, established British procedure for dealing with offenders between the ages of eight and eighteen, new jurisdiction for the Kadis' courts and a new system of Criminal Courts. They were replaced by the former Italian system, in particular by the provisions of the Judicial Ordinance approved by Royal Decree of 20 June 1935, (No. 1638), until new judicial ordinances might be issued in accordance with the terms of the Trusteeship System.

48. By an Ordinance (No. 29) of 8 June, the Administrator granted pardon in some cases, and a reduction of sentence in others, to persons sentenced to imprisonment in the Territory prior to 1 April 1950. By an Ordinance (No. 40) of 17 July, he granted amnesty for all imprisoned in the Territory for political crimes committed there during or after the exchange of powers and up to the date of the Ordinance. The amnesty is not only a step of internal pacification, but reflects, and has been accepted as reflecting, the spirit in which the Administering Authority intends to carry out its work.

49. A new monetary system was instituted by Ordinances (Nos. 14-19) of 16 and 18 May, which are more fully described in paragraph 67 below. This step has very important political implications since, for the first time, it gives a Trust Territory a currency of its own, undoubtedly one of the principal bases for future sovereignty.

The new currency bears Arabic and Italian identification.

50. There have been a number of other Ordinances, some of very recent date, to which the Advisory Council has as yet been unable to give detailed

consideration. They deal with a variety of subjects, including payment of arrears of pay for ex-soldiers, exchange control, rent control, assessors in the Courts of Assize, insurance to be carried by operators of public vehicles, nomination of a price controller, tax returns, social insurance, etc.

Political Parties

51. It is difficult to estimate the strength of the influence of the political parties.

There are two main groups in the Territory, the Somali Youth League and its adherents on the one side, and the parties comprising the Conference Party on the other hand. SYL, which was founded in 1943, has a programme for the economic and social betterment of the country and for its independence; it opposed Italian trusteeship and is inclined towards a radical nationalism. The Conference Party has a very similar programme but wishes to work toward the independence of the Territory under Italian trusteeship; it is more conservative than SYL.

According to the claims made before the Four Power Commission of Investigation in 1948; SYL had about 93,000 members, with 300,000 adherents, and the Conference Party 180,000 members, with 360,000 adherents. This meant that the parties between them claimed an active membership amounting to nearly one-third of the population and an adherence totalling nearly two-thirds of the population.

By contrast, the British authorities estimated that the two parties together amounted, in 1949, to about 110,000 active members.

52. There are indications that, since the assumption of the provisional trusteeship by the Italian Government, there has been an increase of popular interest in the political parties in view of the coming independence.

53. As far as is known, the Conference Party group, the Arab community and the other minority groups are well satisfied with the state of affairs since 1 April 1950. None of their component organizations approached the Council with complaints.

54. SYL was formed in 1943. Its leadership gradually assumed an anti-Italian attitude, which first became apparent in 1947 and, at the time of the debates on the Trust Territory in the General Assembly, they professed the most violently anti-Italian sentiments, to the point of threatening to use force if the Italian Government was appointed the Administering Authority.

Since the arrival of the Italians, SYL leaders have expressed their willingness to co-operate with the Administration. They have appeared on the same platform with Administration officials and with Conference Party leaders, and have exhorted their followers to co-operate with the Italian Authorities. Nevertheless, as an examination of the complaints received by the Council will show (see chapter II, paragraphs 18-20, and chapter III, paragraph 34), they are perhaps hypersensitive in their relations with the Authorities. They are quick to suspect that they are being discriminated against and they undoubtedly act as leaders of the "opposition" here. Although they may exaggerate their grievances, there is no doubt as to the bitterness of their feelings and it is a tribute to the diplomacy of the Administrator and to SYL's belief in his integrity that their relations

with the Administration have not been entirely unharmonious and that they still express their willingness to co-operate. The Council considers that, in this connexion, mention should be made of the devoted work of the representatives of Egypt, through whose good offices many misunderstandings between the political parties themselves and between the Administration and the political parties were removed.

55. As for relations between the two main political groups, these appear to have been, outwardly at least, calm in Mogadiscio. The Council, however, understands that there have been conflicts in towns and villages outside Mogadiscio. Such instances, of course, are not necessarily an expression of political views; but may simply be repayment of old scores by one side or the other, which imagines that it has gained an ascendancy with the Administration.

Visit of Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Brusasca to Somaliland

56. There existed in Somaliland, chiefly among the Somali population proper^{1/}, prior to and at the time of the changeover from British to Italian administration certain doubts about the intentions and motives of the Italian Administration. The Italian Government had every interest in dispersing this uneasiness as quickly as possible. The decision, therefore to send Under-Secretary of State Brusasca to Somaliland was dictated by great political wisdom and comprehension of the situation existing at the time in Somalia.

^{1/} i.e., not including the Arab and Indian communities who did not oppose the assumption of trusteeship by Italy.

Under-secretary Brusasca arrived from Rome on 25 May 1950. When he left after a two-weeks' visit, a noticeable change in the political "climate" of Somaliland had occurred. It may be said that the Italian statesman has rendered to Italy and to the world a major service by this visit, which covered practically the whole of the Territory as far as it was accessible, despite rains and floods.

57. The first and most important objective of the visit was to make an appeal to the population of Somaliland to collaborate with the Italian Administration, and to assure them that the Administration would undertake its task in Somaliland with impartiality and in the spirit of the United Nations Trusteeship Agreement. Under-Secretary Brusasca's sincerity and his deep respect for the religious feelings of the population, which he made manifest by references in speeches and by gifts of Korans and of money to Moslem religious institutions, made a considerable impression upon the Somalis. As an immediate result of his visit a sensible relaxation of tension and amelioration of the relationship between the Italian Administration and the anti-Italian strata of the Somali population could be noticed. These appeals will have lasting consequences, however, only if that part of the population which is inimicable to the Italians or sceptical regarding their intentions receives tangible proofs of change in mind or methods.

58. Mr. Brusasca's second important task was to appeal to the Italian officials and to the Italian permanent colony in Somaliland for comprehension of Italy's task in Somaliland. An outstanding feature of practically every speech he made was the stress he laid upon Italy's role as an agent of the United Nations, and the emphasis he placed upon the fact that

Italy's performance in Somaliland would be an important element in the judgment the world will pass on Italy's post-war role in world affairs.

In asking the representatives of Colombia and Egypt to join him on his trip throughout Somaliland, Mr. Brusasca wished to give special prominence to the United Nations in the eyes of the people of Somaliland.

It is already apparent how greatly Under-Secretary of State Brusasca's visit has strengthened the hand of the Administrator, Ambassador Fornari, within his own Administration.

The Frontier Situation

59. The Advisory Council is not called upon to pass judgment upon the territorial questions pending between Somaliland under Italian Administration and adjoining territories. It is obvious, however, that the successful work of the Administering Authority will depend upon the frontier situation, to the extent that trouble or difficulties on the frontier would absorb energies which are needed for internal reconstruction; on the other hand, pending a definite settlement by the international authorities charged with the question, calm would naturally constitute a positive element in the over-all situation and would be a tribute to the handling of the external situation by the Administering Authority.

60. The journey to Belet Uen by Mr. Brusasca gave the representative of Colombia an occasion to observe personally, on behalf of the Advisory Council, the frontier situation at Fer Fer. The village, over which an Ethiopian flag was hoisted, is entirely on the Ethiopian side. Neither soldiers nor frontier guards were visible. The frontier was marked only by a removable roadblock.

On the Somali side there were neither Italian civilians nor Italian

military outpost is about 2 kilometres behind the front. The frontier itself is guarded by a platoon of Somalis, without heavy arms. They are under the command of a Somali.

61. On the occasion of his visit, Under-Secretary Brusasca made a speech to the Somalis garrisoned at the frontier station, in which he stated in effect: "You are here not as soldiers with the task of giving battle, but as representatives of the Somali population. It is your duty to live in good neighbourly relations with those on the other side of the frontier and to establish such good relations that they will endure when your country has become independent."

62. The Council has received some communications from Somalis on the question of the present delimitation of the frontier between Ethiopia and Somaliland, requesting that the tribes of the writers be reunited with Somaliland.

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

Statement of Policy by the Administrator^{1/}

63. On the occasion of the 4th meeting of the Advisory Council, the Administrator, Ambassador Formari, made a report on the work done by the Italian Administration during the first months of its stewardship. He expressed the opinion that the majority of the Somali population trusted in the Administration and wished to collaborate with it. His policy was one of goodwill and understanding, on the basis of the maintenance of public order and of the punishment of those guilty of infringing the law.

^{1/} For full text, see annex II.

The first step was organization of the public services, and immediately afterwards consideration of the most urgent problems. He considered that public health was the first of these problems with veterinary problems closely linked with it. Next in importance ranked the question of unemployment. Public works, which had already been initiated, led to an absorption of unemployed. Wages were insufficient. It was the Administration's policy to increase wages whenever possible, while taking the necessary steps to counteract a concomitant rise in the cost of living. Other matters examined included hunting problems, locust destruction, meteorological services and detailed consideration of the agricultural question. The question of extending the benefit of insurance against labour accidents to indigenous labour was considered in the light of the recommendation of the International Labour Organisation.

The Administrator further reported that the Administration was studying the most rapid means possible of providing to Somalis the education essential to their future independence.

The immediate problems on which the advice of the Advisory Council was requested were those of the alphabet and the language of instruction in addition to Italian (see also chapter II, paragraph 11). Italian was considered absolutely necessary to permit contact between Somalis and the Italian Administration.

Economic Situation

64. As the Administering Authority has not yet requested the advice of the Advisory Council regarding article 8 (b) of the draft Trusteeship Agreement (economic and financial development), the Council has not yet initiated any systematic studies on these subjects as it has, for instance,

in the case of article 8 (a) (establishment and development of organs of self-government), upon which the Administering Authority has asked its advice (see chapter II, paragraph 11).

There is evidence of the extension of public works and a notable absorption of idle persons who were roaming the streets of the capital when the Council arrived. Signs of road repair work and road building and house repair work can be found in many places.

The Council realizes, however, that much remains to be done to restore the economic level of the country to its pre-war state and to raise the present standard of living, and that the task of reaching a stage where the budget can be balanced is formidable. Mogadiscio is no longer an entrepot for Ethiopia, and the revenue derived from handling supplies for Ethiopia at the port and from the industries associated with the trade with that country will have to be sought elsewhere. The damage done to plant and communications in the course of the war and the subsequent deterioration must be made up. Some means must also be found to offset the loss of many skilled and productive Italian workers who have left the country.

65. The Council has been made aware that at the outset of the Trusteeship Administration, difficulties existed in connexion with the system of licences for imports into the Territory. The Administering Authority felt that, in view of the number of licences issued by the outgoing British Authority, it could not accede to all the new applications for licences presented to it. Some sections of the trading community found this attitude unduly restrictive and did not wish to be diverted to Italy as the only source of supply. The Council understands, however, that these difficulties have now to a large extent been surmounted, to the general satisfaction of all.

66. According to official statistics, the cost of living in the Territory rose in the decade between the beginning of the war and the inception of the provisional Trusteeship Administration by some 500 per cent. No official statistics are available for the period since 1 April 1950, but from the personal observations of the representatives on the Council the rise appears to have continued and it is estimated that prices are some 25 per cent higher now in Mogadiscio, at least for goods consumed by the non-Somali community, than they were when the Council first arrived. On the other hand, the costs of basic food products for the indigenous population (meat and dura) have diminished.

New currency

67. The Administering Authority agreed with the British Authorities that the currency in circulation in the Territory at the time of the hand-over, which consisted of notes and coinage in denominations of East African shillings, should be withdrawn and that a new currency issued by the Administering Authority should be substituted therefor. By an Ordinance (No. 14), which became effective on 18 May 1950, a new monetary unit was instituted, the "Samalo", which has a gold parity of 0.124414 gr. of fine gold. As from 23 July (later amended to 22 August) it will be the only legal monetary tender in the Territory.

The privilege of printing bank-notes and of minting and issuing coinage has been granted to the Cassa per la Circolazione Monetaria della Somalia, with its head office in Rome.

The Bank of Italy acts as the agent of the Cassa. The Cassa is obliged to carry guaranteed reserves in gold, silver and other currencies equal to the whole amount of bank-notes and coins in circulation, and is authorized to maintain a reserve of "Somali" of an amount not greater than

one-third of the notes and coinage in circulation.

The Italian laws in force regulating the printing, minting, issuing and circulation of coinage are applicable to the Territory. Normally the operations of the Cassa in Somaliland are supervised by an official appointed by the Administrator.

Education

68. In the year previous to the hand-over, the British Administration maintained twenty-eight indigenous schools (twenty-seven elementary and one higher) with a total of sixty teachers and 1,862 pupils.

In addition, there were two Indian schools and nine Italian.

The whole educational project covered thirty-nine government and grant-aid schools, with eighty-nine teachers and 2,414 pupils, and 150 small private schools, organized by religious leaders, with 2,500 pupils.

In government schools for the indigenous population, the language of instruction was Arabic. English was included in the curriculum of schools which had a fourth-year course.

Elementary education was, practically speaking, free.

69. The plans which the Italian Administration proposes to carry out for the education of the indigenous population in Somaliland were set out by the Administrator in a memorandum which he submitted to the Advisory Council. The Administrator drew the attention of the Advisory Council in particular to the proposed 1950-51 educational budget of 4 million Somali, as compared to 480,000 Sh.E.A. spent by the British Administration during the last year.

The number of schools in Mogadiscio and other important centres will total thirty-one. Seventy-four Somali teachers will be appointed. Special training and refresher courses have been instituted to make an increase

in this number possible. By these measures, the Italian Administration hopes to increase the number of pupils to about 3,500. The languages to be used in the classes are Arabic and Italian. This policy is in accordance with the preliminary advice given by the Advisory Council (see chapter II, paragraph 12). Further provision is being made for secondary schooling and for a technical school for artisans.

70. The Council notes with particular interest the proposed establishment of a school for specialized training in administrative and political matters. In this way, a class capable of leadership will be formed for the future State of Somaliland. These measures, as well as the large budget involved, are in the eyes of the Council a substantial proof of the Administration's comprehension of its task of bringing the Somali people to a standard of education which will fit them for independence within ten years.

B. POSITION OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Three-cornered Relationship

71. General Assembly resolution 289 A (IV), part B and the draft Trusteeship Agreement envisage a bilateral relationship between the Advisory Council on the one hand and the Administering Authority on the other, in which the latter furnishes information and the former assistance and advice. From the very first, however, the Council has found that to some extent it is involved in a three-cornered relationship, the other two parties of which are the Administering Authority and the population. In a territory like Somaliland, with a primitive population unversed in political refinements, it is inevitable that complainants should look to the Advisory Council for redress of their wrongs, real or imagined, and that malcontents

should seek to play off the Council and the Administering Authority one against the other. The Council has received many requests raising questions of human rights, and has taken the necessary action with the Administering Authority.

Relationship with the Italian Administration

72. The Italian Administration started its work in Somaliland on 1 April 1950 only. Four months are an insufficient period to organize and set into motion the administration of a whole territory. They are also insufficient to draw up a balance sheet of this first stage of the experiment. Evidence of the work done in the first stage has convinced the Advisory Council, however, of the Italian Administration's resolve to carry out its task in the spirit of the lofty mandate received from the United Nations, and that it is making a great and successful effort to lay down the basis for its tremendous task, namely, to guide primitive peoples steeped in customs belonging to a past stage of human development, and to a great extent still in the nomadic state, to independence within the time limit stated by the Assembly.

73. Generally speaking, the relations between the members of the Advisory Council, the Italian Administration and the population have been characterized by the greatest mutual courtesy and comprehension. This is particularly the case since the arrival of the Administrator, Ambassador Fornari, in Mogadiscio on 6 April 1950.

74. In emphasizing its belief in the good faith and resolve of the Administering Authority to fulfil its task in Somaliland in the letter and spirit of the Trusteeship Agreement, the Advisory Council must, however, state the fact that it feels that it has, during the first stage of the Administration,

not been as fully informed and consulted by the Administering Authority as the draft Trusteeship Agreement would appear to stipulate in accordance with articles 6 and 8.

75. The Council realizes that, during the first four months of its provisional administration, the energies of the Administering Authority have been fully devoted to organizing the administrative machinery of the Territory and that, in consequence, it may not have been possible to perfect arrangements for keeping the Council fully informed of its plans as they matured and of the rapid sequence of developments. The Council is pleased to record that since the return of the Administrator from Rome in July the flow of information from the Administering Authority has embraced every important decision.

CHAPTER IV

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PHILIPPINE REPUBLIC

76. I do not intend to sign the Progress Report in spite of my concurrence with most of its contents, and I desire to give to the Advisory Council an explanation of the reasons which prompted me to take this serious step.

77. Two major reasons have led me to take this stand after a mature consideration of all the elements involved. Foremost in my mind was the consideration that circumstances have compelled me to be absent from Mogadiscio during the major part of the time covered by the report, and that the few weeks which have passed since my return to the seat of the Commission have not been sufficient for me to familiarize myself with the aspects covered by the Report in their totality and to examine, as thoroughly as is my habit to do, the information and facts which have led the Council to take, or abstain from taking, certain conclusions.

78. The confidence which I place in the judgment of my colleagues from Colombia and Egypt, however, might have induced me to overcome my doubts and hesitations had I not felt, and this is the second major point I desire to make, that four months of provisional administration are not a sufficient period in which to make a report. Our words will be carefully read and weighed, and I wonder whether after only four months of functioning we can assume the responsibility of passing judgment upon the situation in this Territory at this early stage. During these four months the Italian Administration has had to step in and replace an Administration founded on a military occupation. It had, after ten years, to re-familiarize itself with the situation in Somaliland, to build up an administration, to organize the security forces and to formulate policies. It is therefore undeniable that

only now are the outlines of the Administering Authority's policies becoming visible. The same applies, in a certain degree, to the Advisory Council, for it constitutes an experiment without precedent in the history of the United Nations; it, too, is only beginning to establish its working procedures and shape its policy.

79. I feel a strong reluctance to tackle and pass a judgment upon political affairs now when some of the most important matters, namely the composition, selection and functioning of the Territorial Council, are still in a preliminary stage and when some major questions relative to the educational system in Somaliland are still in the preliminary stage of blue-printing. Moreover, the Advisory Council has not yet had any occasion to deal with economic and social affairs. No request for advice nor any official information on these subjects beyond the statement made by the Administrator at the Council's 4th meeting has reached the Council yet.

80. In order to avoid any misunderstanding, however, I would like to place on record that I am well satisfied with the Administering Authority's intention to carry out its tremendous task of guiding a primitive people, the majority of which is still in the nomadic state, to an early independence. Everything which I have observed points to the serious resolve of the Italian Administration to fulfil its obligations toward the United Nations in the letter and the spirit. As stated above, I am therefore in agreement with a good deal of the contents of this report which I cannot, however, sign as I would very much have desired to do, for the reasons outlined in this memorandum.

1st August 1950

Mogadiscio

(Signed) Manuel Escudero

* * *

81. This Progress Report, of which the memorandum by the representative of the Philippines, Mr. Manuel Escudero, forms an integral part, has been done in a single copy in the English language at the Villagio Roma, Lido, Mogadiscio, Somaliland, this third day of August in the year nineteen hundred fifty.

(Signed) E. de Holte-Castello

(Colombia) (Chairman)

Talaat M. Ragheb

(Egypt)

M. Escudero

(Philippines)

Egon Ranshofen-Wertheimer

(Principal Secretary)

ANNEX I

EXCERPTS FROM RESOLUTION 289A(IV) ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AT ITS 250TH PLENARY MEETING ON 21 NOVEMBER 1949

"The General Assembly,

"In accordance with Annex XI, paragraph 3, of the Treaty of Peace with Italy, 1947, whereby the Powers concerned have agreed to accept the recommendation of the General Assembly on the disposal of the former Italian colonies and to take appropriate measures for giving effect to it,

"Having taken note of the report of the Four Power Commission of Investigation, having heard spokesmen of organizations representing substantial sections of opinion in the territories concerned, and having taken into consideration the wishes and welfare of the inhabitants of the territories, the interests of peace and security, the views of the interested Governments and the relevant provisions of the Charter,

. . .

"B. With respect to Italian Somaliland, recommends;

"1. That Italian Somaliland shall be an independent sovereign State;

"2. That this independence shall become effective at the end of ten years from the date of the approval of a Trusteeship Agreement by the General Assembly;

"3. That, during the period mentioned in paragraph 2, Italian Somaliland shall be placed under the International Trusteeship System with Italy as the Administering Authority;

"4. That the Administering Authority shall be aided and advised by an Advisory Council composed of representatives of the following States: Colombia, Egypt and the Philippines. The headquarters of the Advisory Council shall be Mogadiscio. The precise terms of reference of the Advisory Council shall be

determined in the Trusteeship Agreement and shall include a provision whereby the Trusteeship Council shall invite the States members of the Advisory Council, to participate without vote in the debates of the Trusteeship Council on any question relating to this territory;

"5. That the Trusteeship Council shall negotiate with the Administering Authority the draft of a Trusteeship Agreement for submission to the General Assembly if possible during the present session, and in any case not later than the fifth regular session;

"6. That the Trusteeship Agreement shall include an annex containing a declaration of constitutional principles guaranteeing the rights of the inhabitants of Somaliland and providing for institutions designed to ensure the inauguration, development and subsequent establishment of full self-government;

"7. That in the drafting of this declaration the Trusteeship Council and the Administering Authority shall be guided by the annexed text proposed by the Indian delegation;

"8. That Italy shall be invited to undertake provisional administration of the territory

"(a) At a time and pursuant to arrangements for the orderly transfer of administration agreed upon between Italy and the United Kingdom, after the Trusteeship Council and Italy have negotiated the Trusteeship Agreement;

"(b) On condition that Italy gives an undertaking to administer the territory in accordance with the provisions of the Charter relating to the International Trusteeship System and to the Trusteeship Agreement pending approval by the General Assembly of a Trusteeship Agreement for the territory;

"9. That the Advisory Council shall commence the discharge of its functions when the Italian Government begins its provisional administration.

"D. With respect to the above provisions:

"1. Invites the Secretary-General to request the necessary facilities from the competent authorities of each of the States in whose territory it may be necessary for the Commission for Eritrea to meet or travel;

"2. Authorizes the Secretary-General, in accordance with established practices,

"(a) To arrange for the payment of an appropriate remuneration to the United Nations Commissioner in Libya;

"(b) To reimburse the travelling and subsistence expenses of the members of the Council for Libya, of one representative from each Government represented on the Advisory Council for Somaliland, and of one representative and one alternate from each Government represented on the Commission for Eritrea;

"(c) To assign to the United Nations Commissioner in Libya, to the Advisory Council for Somaliland, and to the United Nations Commission for Eritrea such staff and to provide such facilities as the Secretary-General may consider necessary to carry out the terms of the present resolutions".

ANNEX II

STATEMENT BY H. E. AMBASSADOR GIOVANNI FORNARI, ADMINISTRATOR OF SOMALILAND
UNDER ITALIAN TRUSTEESHIP, AT THE 4TH MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON

5 MAY 1950

I must first thank the Chairman and the Council for the welcome they were kind enough to extend to me.

I feel certain that I can rely upon the wholehearted collaboration of the Council. The spirit of collaboration which has been evident from the outset has been constantly proved by the activities of each member and by the confidence which has reigned on both sides.

I wish also to address a special salute to the United Nations which has entrusted us with the very important task of guiding Somaliland to independence. I address at the same time a special greeting to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who is represented here by the Principal Secretary.

And now I come to the subject of my statement which I propose to divide into three parts.

I shall first deal with the general situation as it appears at the moment throughout the Territory under our administration. The situation is good, because the great majority of the Somali population have placed their trust in the Italian Administration and wish to collaborate with it. Certain inevitable events have taken place during the first month of our Administration. They represent symptoms of adjustment; they are due to the fact that certain elements have but an insufficient knowledge of what is meant by democratic collaboration towards total independence. I repeat that the Italian wish is to fulfil every duty laid upon it by the Trusteeship

Agreement. The first of the tasks entrusted to us by the Agreement is to guide Somaliland to independence. The Trusteeship also imposes upon us, however, another duty, which is to ensure public order. Our policy is certainly one of understanding, and by this I mean that both on my part and on that of my collaborators there is wholehearted goodwill. It is nevertheless our duty to see that law is respected and that those who violate it are punished. That is in the interest of Somaliland, since it is only in an atmosphere of peace, of confidence and of calm that it will be possible to work for the good of the country.

I now come to the work which has been accomplished during this first month, work done in the interest of the indigenous population and based on plans for the progressive establishment of self-government.

After we had organized the public services, we immediately considered which were the fields in which the change of administration posed the most urgent problems, public health for instance. The number of physicians in Mogadiscio is, I think, sufficient; on the other hand, there are but few doctors in the interior of the country. We have already asked the Italian Government to send us eight or ten medical officers and one health inspector to reorganize the health services and to re-establish the system of mobile medical groups which operated previously in the country. In Mogadiscio there is a very important medical unit, the De Martino Hospital. We are considering the possibility of freeing the sections of that hospital which are now used by Europeans, civilian or military, and placing the whole hospital at the disposal of the indigenous population.

We are also dealing with veterinary problems. There are three veterinary surgeons in Mogadiscio, but there are very few up-country, I

have visited the Institute where vaccines are being prepared at Merca. It functions in a satisfactory way, but it needs to be enlarged. We have asked the Italian Government to send us a certain number of veterinary officers to reorganize the "zootechnical" services.

There is another question which has taken a great deal of our attention because of its size, and that is the problem of unemployment. I do not propose to deal now with the whole question of employment and labour in Somaliland. The problem is far too complex and far too deep to be discussed in this meeting. We have looked for the simplest remedy, which was to develop public works. In one month we have undertaken works of that type involving an amount of 2,507,000 shillings. The number of persons employed has increased from 450 to 1,880 since our arrival.

Also in the field of labour, you have been conscious that wages were in no way sufficient to ensure an adequate standard of living. We are fully aware that increases in salary must involve an increase in the cost of living. We have nevertheless considered it our duty to provide for an immediate increase in wages which would afford to the Somalis the possibility of living decently. This increase in wages is already operating in several departments; it will gradually be extended to other trades and crafts.

A Price Control Commission has been instituted. Its duty is to see that increases in wages and salaries do not cause an excessive rise in prices, and that the "spiral" - namely, an increase in salaries and an increase in cost of living - does not become a danger to the country's economy.

The way we hope to avoid this increase in the cost of living is by

increasing the flow of consumer goods on the local market, either by developing the production and the circulation of local goods, or by importing goods from abroad within the limits of the available foreign exchange. A commission has already examined 177 import permit and 58 export permit applications. The Exchange Control Office has already granted 150 permits to enable goods to be imported.

In addition, we have considered many other questions, namely, hunting problems, destruction of locusts, meteorological services, detailed consideration of agricultural questions which are so important for the country and problems of social services.

As regards the last of these questions, I must mention that a delegate of the National Institute for Insurance against Labour Accidents has just arrived in Somaliland. We already had a system of laws governing that field, but we are resolved to extend the benefits of that type of insurance to indigenous labour, in accordance with the recommendations made by the International Labour Organisation, in particular during one of its recent General Conferences. It will be the first social welfare service to be extended to the Somalis and we propose to extend other social insurance schemes gradually.

This is what we have done and what we propose to do for the material and moral welfare of the indigenous population. There are, as you know, two other essential fields which have claimed our attention. We are studying the most rapid means possible of providing for the education of the Somalis and the methods which should enable them to achieve self-government in ten years. These are the two questions on which we have asked the advice of the Advisory Council.

First, let us take education. The reopening of schools has been scheduled for the first of July; the problems which need the most urgent solution are those of the alphabet and the language of instruction in addition to Italian. The latter is absolutely necessary to permit contact between Somalis and the Italian Administration. The question as a whole is extremely important, since it is one of the bases of the country's future. It is essential indeed that a section of the population should have had sufficient education if the independence which they are to receive, and which we desire with all our hearts for them is to be established on a solid basis.

The second problem is that of the composition of the Territorial Council provided for in the Trusteeship Agreement which we propose to establish as soon as possible. We are asking the Advisory Council's opinion as regards the number of members and the composition of the Council.

I am an idealist, and I believe in a better world to come. I believe in international collaboration. I have great faith in the United Nations and I am confident that there is hope for the betterment of the world through that great Organization. What I believe for the future of the world, I believe still more strongly for the future of Somaliland. I am convinced that, with earnest goodwill, we will succeed in producing a happy and independent Somaliland. As far as I am concerned I shall work with all my heart and I know that I can rely upon the collaboration of the Advisory Council to help me in that task, as well as on all the agencies which derive from it.

ANNEX III

(Original text: French)

REQUESTS FOR ADVICE PRESENTED TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL BY
THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY

I. Territorial Council of Somaliland

1. Article 4 of the Annex to the draft Trusteeship Agreement provides for the appointment of a Territorial Council, composed of inhabitants of the Territory and representative of its people. That article does not give, however, any precise indication of the composition of the Council nor of the principles to be followed in the selection of its members.

2. The Administration considers that the Territorial Council, without being too numerous, should nevertheless be large enough to include representatives of all the chief ethnic groups of Somaliland, of the principal political parties, of the various communities, and representatives of commerce, industry and agriculture.

3. In order to meet the wishes of interested parties, as far as possible, the Administration has given instructions to all Provincial and District Commissioners to consult with all Chiefs, Notables and heads of political parties and of communities in each district, to ascertain their ideas in regard to the composition of the Council and the selection of its members.

4. The Administration requests the advice of the Council in the matter.

II. Education in Somaliland. Language and Alphabet to be Used

1. During the school year 1949-50, twenty-four elementary schools were operating in Somaliland. Sixteen hundred pupils attended the courses and the teaching staff comprised about sixty Somali teachers and five Arab teachers (who had been brought in especially by the British and have since been repatriated), under the direction of three British teachers.

2. The opening of a secondary school had been planned for the year 1950-51. It even began to operate before the scheduled date. Twenty-four students belonging to various communities attended the courses given by a British teacher with the help of a specialist in Arabic and in mathematics.

3. The Italian Administration for the Trust Territory of Somaliland has taken measures for the reopening, on 1 July, of all former primary and elementary schools, as well as the secondary school mentioned in paragraph 2 and an additional preparatory secondary school.

It is proposed to open, in the near future, another secondary school (technical) and a training college for the preparation of teachers, technicians and students who wish to attend Italian universities. A training college for teachers is already operating.

4. In order to have the most accurate data possible which would enable the preparation of a definite programme, and to conform to the principles contained in article 4 of the draft Trusteeship Agreement, the Administration has given instructions to the Provincial and District Commissioners to:

(a) Submit a detailed report on the condition of school buildings, the prospective number of pupils, and the number and qualifications of teachers required;

(b) Make a preliminary inquiry among the various groups of the population in order to ascertain their wishes in regard to the language to be taught, in addition to Italian, and the alphabet to be used, in consultation with the Chiefs, the Notables, the heads of parties and of communities in each district.

5. The administration requests the advice of the Council in the matter.

ANNEX IV

(Original text: French)

REPLY TO THE REQUESTS FOR ADVICE PRESENTED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR,
AMBASSADOR FORMARI BEFORE THE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON 5 MAY 1950

Mogadiscio, 17 May 1950

May I take this opportunity of expressing once more the gratitude of the Advisory Council for the general review of the situation in Somaliland which you made before it. Your presence among us was a token of the goodwill which inspires our relations.

The confidence which your Administration has bestowed upon our Council was shown on this occasion when you asked its advice on two problems of major importance which are engaging your attention; namely, that of setting up the Territorial Council provided for in the Trusteeship Agreement, and that of choosing the language which should be used, besides Italian, as the official language for teaching.

As regards the Territorial Council, you informed us that under your guidance the views of the leaders of the Somali communities and of the major political parties in the Territory were being ascertained. For its part, the Advisory Council is studying closely the complex problems relating to this question, and with the assistance of its secretariat, has embarked upon comparative studies in the technical field, and results of which are communicated to you from time to time. Indeed we believe that it will be possible, by taking stock of the experience already acquired by countries with comparable political problems, to reduce the number of alternative solutions before us and then to weigh the advantages and

disadvantages of each system.

Whatever the outcome of these studies, they run the risk of being somewhat theoretical in character. It also appears to the Council that it would be difficult to give a comprehensive answer on this problem before knowing the result of the consultations undertaken by your Administration. The trends revealed by these consultations would in addition permit a more precise evaluation of the extent to which solutions adopted elsewhere may be adapted to the needs of the Territory.

Turning now to the problem of education, the Council has noted with the greatest interest the programme established by the Administration for adapting the structure of the educational services to suit the principles enunciated in the Trusteeship Agreement and more especially article 4 thereof. The Council has been particularly struck by the steps envisaged for the creation of a body of teachers, the extension of secondary or technical education and the creation of a university elite.

The only way to create a class capable of running this Territory in the future is to increase the access to university disciplines. This is, therefore, one of the essential goals of the Trusteeship System, to which the Council attaches the greatest value.

Your Administration's request for advice concerns the choice of a teaching language to expand side by side with the Italian language. After having considered this problem the Council is of opinion that, in arriving at a solution, high political considerations should have more weight than purely technical arguments.

The attachment for their mother tongue which fills the population of this Territory in its nascent and enthusiastic nationalism might lead some

minds to see in the Somali tongue the official language of the future. There is need, however, to emphasize that there are important dialectal variations in the Somali language and that, in some parts of the Territory, exogenous languages of Bantu origin are in current usage. The languages or dialects used in Somalia have one factor in common; they are not written.

Apart from the European languages, especially Italian, the only widespread written language in Somalia is Arabic. Geography and century-old traditions have established it as the language of economic relations, the language of culture and as a sacred language. Somaliland, it may be said, turns its back on the interior of the African continent. It is with the Arab world and the Islamic world that the currents of every type of interchange have constantly and naturally been established. Is it not important for the future of this country that its official written language, instead of confining it within its own boundaries, should permit it to maintain economic and political bonds with the outside world and in particular with this part of the world towards which it is drawn spiritually and by material interests?

The Trusteeship Agreement only bears witness to a condition for which it asks respect. While article 8 of the Annex on Constitutional Principles proclaims the freedom of religion, article 4 of the Agreement calls for the establishment of an educational system with due regard for Islamic culture and religion.

The Council itself has been in a position to assess the extent to which knowledge of Arabic is already widespread among the Somalis, since up to this time all communications addressed to it have been written in that tongue.

It is of interest to note at the same time that the widespread adoption of Arabic has not prevented the birth here of certain manifestations of indigenous culture, for example in the domain of the arts.

For all these reasons, the Council would find it difficult to understand the creation of an alphabet based phonetically on the Somali language, the official acceptance of which would raise a number of technical questions. Among these questions, and one of the most serious, would be the necessity of re-educating all the educated class. This would be, moreover, a new problem added without obvious usefulness to the already sufficiently complex task of ending illiteracy. An even graver disadvantage would be the risk of prejudicing the essential aim of the Trusteeship Agreement: namely, the creation within ten years of a State which shall possess, along with the means of independence, those of an international personality.

The adoption of an alphabet for writing Somali carries the implication that the Somali language will be adopted as the official means of teaching. Such a step might come about as a result of a popular inquiry. The validity, however, of such an inquiry, if it took the form of a widespread plebiscite, could be challenged. If it were not confined to those with the education how could it be argued that illiterates could weigh up the immediate repercussions or perceive the ultimate consequences of the choice they might make in this respect.

The Council requests, Mr. Ambassador, that you will accept the foregoing ideas as a preliminary and tentative expression of its views. We feel that it is necessary that before formulating a definite reply we should enlarge our present bases of information by travelling through the country. We are convinced that contacts made during the course of

such visits will enable us to perceive the extent to which the principles laid down by the Trusteeship Agreement regarding decentralization and education may be implemented in a manner conforming most with the interests of the peoples of the Territory, and to estimate the speed with which such steps should be taken.

(Signed) E. de Holte-Castello

Acting Chairman of the United Nations

Advisory Council for the Trust Territory

of Somaliland under Italian Administration

ANNEX V

Extract from the summary record of the 5th meeting of the
Advisory Council held at Mogadiscio on 31 May 1950

(Original text: French)

Présent:

Chairman: Mr. Talaat Mohamed MAGHEB (Egypt)
Mr. E. de HOLTE-CASTELLO (Colombia)

Secretariat: Mr. E. RANSHOFEN-WINTHELMER, Principal Secretary

III. REQUEST FOR ADVICE PRESENTED TO THE ADVISORY COUNCIL BY THE
ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY (A/AC.33/R.2 and A/AC.33/R.3)

11. Mr. de HOLTE-CASTELLO (Colombia) requested the insertion in the summary record, in the most precise terms possible, of the statement which he was about to make on a matter which was essentially political in character.

12. After the Administration had requested the advice of the Council on two problems, that of a teaching language and alphabet, and that of the constitution of a Territorial Council, the representative of Egypt, Rostem Bey, and the representative of Colombia had agreed upon the terms and scope of the reply to be given to the Administering Authority.

13. It was on account of their complete accord and by virtue of rule 42 of the rules of procedure, whereby the President represented the Council in its official relations with the Administering Authority, that a preliminary reply had been given to the question on education. He wished to emphasize the clarity and imperative meaning of the phrase, in English "shall represent" and in French "représente" the Council.

14. The Colombian representative then stated that he wished to make clear the attitude of his Government regarding the position of Colombian delegates in the Councils and Commissions of the United Nations.

15. Amongst persons with official duties at United Nations one could distinguish those whose appointment was entirely at the pleasure of the country which had granted them its total mandate to represent it in a definite position. In such cases it was normal that the tie of the representative should be double - national and international - and one could say that it was of second importance in matters which concerned the international organization, while his position put in first place the country which he represented and which undertook to support him in the accomplishment of a particular task.

16. In the present case, the choice of Colombia to occupy one of the three seats on the Advisory Council should not be confused with the trust with which the national Government invested an official of the Foreign Office when he occupied this post.

17. This tie was the origin of a bond, the existence of which was constantly manifested, for example, in the duty of a Government to support its representative in whatever field necessary to accomplish the purposes agreed by the General Assembly for his mission. It was clear, however, that the existence of trusteeship administrations established relations between States and that the administering countries, and those whose duty it was to help them, entered into an arrangement of a normal and political order with the Trust Territory. The countries honoured this obligation or arrangement through their representatives.

18. Further, the national Government had the right to change its representative on the Council, which proved a direct relationship of dependence on the part of the latter.

19. Having regard to the interpretation of rule 42 and the position taken by

the Colombian Government, and to clarify whatever doubt there might be on the position taken when the reply had been made to the Administering Authority, it was evident that the President had exclusive responsibility before the Council and that as regards the political views which supported this opinion, the Colombian representative was exclusively responsible before the Colombian Government.

20. Finally, he requested the President's approval of the form in which the preliminary reply on education had been made to the Italian Administration. In fact, it had fundamentally expressed only ideas on which he had reached full agreement with the former representative of Egypt, Mostafa Bey.

21. Mr. RACHEB (Chairman) thanked the Colombian representative for his statement and said that, in the name of his predecessor, he associated himself with the letter addressed to the Administrator of Somalia.

The letter was a preliminary reply to two questions which had been submitted for the Council's advice, and had merely affirmed the point of view of his predecessor. He himself agreed with what had been said on the spirit of collaboration which should animate relations with the Italian Administration, and about the cultural evolution of the Somali people.

ANNEX VI

STATEMENT TO THE PRESS BY AMIN ROSTEM BEY, CHAIRMAN OF THE
ADVISORY COUNCIL, ON 12 MAY 1950

(Original text: Italian)

(As reported in the "Corriere Della Somalia", 15 May 1950)

The day before yesterday, H. E. Rostem Bey, Egypt's representative on the Advisory Council for Somaliland, expressed the desire to see all Press representatives in Mogadiscio, in order to make a statement before his departure for Cairo, where, as we have announced previously, he has gone to confer with his Government.

The following interesting statements were made by His Excellency. They reveal not only a very friendly feeling towards the Italian Administration - which augurs well for a fruitful collaboration in the future - but they describe also the work accomplished by the eminent Egyptian diplomat to bring into contact the various Somali political factions.

This activity, which was known to us already, was especially valuable in so far as it guided the efforts of the more responsible elements among the main political groups, and competent authorities of the Administration followed and supported it closely.

H. E. Rostem Bey stated that when he arrived in Somaliland he thought the best way to eliminate the tension which existed between the various political groups was to see first of all that the tribal chiefs and the heads of the political parties should meet and get together.

With this end in view, he began by interviewing them separately, quietly and with patience. He soon became aware that they were completely

ignorant of what was meant by a Trusteeship Administration and a Trusteeship Agreement. They knew nothing of the question and were completely unaware and unprepared.

In reply to a question, His Excellency stated that he had not contented himself with seeing the heads of tribes and of parties in Mogadiscio, but that a great number of persons coming from the interior of the country and such places as Buracaba, Baidoa, Kismayu and Gallacalo had also come to see him. The work he had had to do was long and had required much patience; he had lost no opportunity to meet Somalis and to talk to them. Very often he had addressed them at the Mosque after prayers. He had also been to the headquarters of the political parties and had kept up his efforts until he had obtained their promises to meet each other. He had appealed to their religious faith. As a Moslem, addressing Moslems, he had often referred to the teachings of the Koran and told them, for instance, that if the Prophet had taught that kindness must be shown to infidels and to idolators, when they had to deal with them, it was wrong that Moslems should kill their brothers because they had different political opinions.

After the Baidoa incidents, the Arab community had invited him to attend a party in his honour, he had refused because, he explained, he felt he was in mourning, as that day some of his brothers had died. He had, however, attended the party and addressed those present, without taking part in the festivities.

The climax of his efforts had been a meeting at the Lido, on the previous Friday afternoon, of representatives of the Somali Youth League, of the Conferenza Party and of the Hamar Club.

The Arab community did not attend, but had pledged themselves to agree to the decisions taken by the Somalis, placing their faith in Rostem Bey. Those who attended have certainly not eliminated the divergence of their views; but it was already a great step forward that they had met, that they had shaken hands and that they had promised on the Koran to meet in future to exchange their ideas and their opinions. A significant fact was that they had arrived at the Lido separately, in their cars, but when they left they all mixed together going home in a friendly mood.

On this occasion, some of those present expressed the fear that some members of their parties might think that they were betraying them if they saw them in the company of opponents. Rostem Bey replied that he understood this feeling, but that they should endeavour to explain to their friends the necessity of meeting those who had opposite views and of maintaining contact.

He also told them that he thought it was absurd that there should be such grave differences of opinion among Somalis, now, when Somaliland was to be under Trusteeship Administration for ten years. He compared the matter to that of an agricultural enterprise in process of development and to be handed to its owners after it had been put into production. "It is useless to quarrel now", he said, "it is better to leave the job to those who have the task of developing the farm. At the end of ten years, when they have taken over the farm, the proprietors can then discuss the best way to settle things".

Replying to a question whether the Arabs were afraid that the Somalis would turn them out of Somaliland, Rostem Bey replied that he had heard a rumour to that effect, but he had already explained to the Arabs that

their rights were safeguarded by the Trusteeship Agreement. He had advised the Somalis to consider other nations, Egypt, for instance, where Moslems, Christians, Jews and people of all nationalities live together peacefully and all are equal before the law.

To the question whether it was true that the Somalis felt animosity towards Arabs because they held all the trade of the territory in their hands, he replied he had heard about that too; but he had told the Somalis it was their fault if they had not succeeded in getting the control of trade themselves. One must work the soil to make it produce.

Rostem Bey was then asked what he thought about the Italian Trusteeship Administration and what were its prospects of succeeding in its task. He replied he felt sure that the Italian Administration would be successful, especially under the guidance of a man like Ambassador Fornari.

He said he could speak with knowledge of the Italian Trusteeship Administration, because he was at Geneva when it came into being and he had taken part in the discussions which had created it. He had met Under-Secretary Brusasca there.

He considered that the Ambassador had thrown himself wholeheartedly into his job; he was a new man, of democratic principles, who had an open mind, and was anxious to leave a task well done behind him in Somaliland.

Rostem Bey concluded by saying:

"My personal relations with Ambassador Fornari are such as to make me feel that we have worked together and known each other for twenty years, although I had never met him before. We understand each other very well and I can say that, often, we do not even need to talk to have had the same thought. We understand each other perfectly."

ANNEX VII

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF SOMALILAND

UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

I. Population, its Composition and Social and Political Structure

1. The following material has been compiled from the report of the Four Power Commission of Investigation, supplemented by more up-to-date information from the Italian Trusteeship Administration. Some of the statistics on population published in the report are different from those given by the Administration and in these cases both sets of figures are given, those of the Administration being the one in parentheses.

Population and its composition

2. The population of the Trust Territory is estimated to be 971,000 (992,500) of which about 940,000 (977,200) are of indigenous origin. It may be roughly divided as follows:

(i) Main tribes

(a) Darot, Hawiye, and Dirr numbering about 560,000 (572,000).

These are mostly nomads, though the Dirr and a small number of the Hawiye have taken up mixed farming. They speak Somali.

(b) Sab, numbering about 292,000 (256,600), engaged in mixed farming. Most of them speak Sab, a dialect closely related to Somali, and are of similar stock, with perhaps some admixture of negroid elements.

(ii) Negroid peoples

Engaged in pure agriculture along the rivers, numbering 44,000 (70,000). These use the languages of their neighbours except along the Juba river where the Gosha speak a Bantu dialect.

(iii) Low Caste tribes

Numbering about 17,000, who are scattered among the other tribes, engaged in hunting, weaving, iron work and performing menial tasks.

(iv) Somali-Arabs

Numbering about 19,000, engaged mostly in agriculture but also in stock-raising and fishing.

(v) Some 8,000 persons who do not fall into any of the above groups.

(vi) The urban and village population

This is estimated to number about 170,000, of whom some 74,000 (68,850) live in Mogadiscio. About 142,000 of these are of indigenous origin and are considered as deriving from the following tribal groups:

Darot, Hawiye and Birr.....	75,000
Sab	38,000
Negroid	9,000
Low caste	3,000
Somali-Arab	17,000

(vii) The alien community

In the Territory this is not large. It is approximately as follows:

(a) Arabs, of whom there are 25,000 (about 12,000) mostly merchants and shopkeepers, but including some who also farm by modern methods;

(b) The Italian community, which was estimated at 10,000 in 1939, numbered 3,774 in 1948 and has since increased;

(c) There are about 1,000 (650) Indians and a few Ethiopians, Eritreans and others.

Social structure and component groups

3. The nomadic inhabitants are divided into three main tribal groups,

Darot, Hawiye and Dirr, which are further divided into tribes and lower divisions of tribes referred to as "sub-tribes", "sections" and "rers" (families). The social unit is that division of a tribe which pays and receives blood-money (dia). The nomad tribes have chiefs and headmen who are chosen by their tribes, sub-tribes or sections, as the case may be. Succession in the case of the greater chiefs, however, usually passes by heredity, if agreeable to the tribe. The appointment of elected chiefs is confirmed by the Administration. Important decisions regarding the life of the tribe are taken or confirmed in the "shir" or tribal council, at which all tribesmen may attend and have their say, though weight is attached to the opinion of the Elders.

4. The more important of the mixed farming tribes are contained in the Sab confederacy and the Abgal. They are organized on a tribal basis, similar to that described above, but since they have permanent settlements they have evolved a more settled policy than the nomad tribes. Each sub-tribe is ruled by a chief who is chosen by the tribe and confirmed by the Administration. He is assisted and controlled by a Council of Elders. Chief and Council deal with all matters such as the distribution of land (which is owned by the tribe), control of water supplies and settlement of internal disputes.

5. The settled agriculturalists are mostly negroid. They are organized into tribes, but their social life is based on their villages. They have village headmen and councils, chosen by themselves and confirmed by the Administration.

6. As regards the Native urban population, the permanent Native inhabitants of Mogadiscio are detribalized to some extent, but there are

"dia-paying groups". Members of the same tribe have a bond of sympathy and help each other in distress. The Rer Hamar in Mogadiscio, Somali-Arab in origin, is a community bound together by ties of interest, and is organized as an "urban" tribe. Similarly, the inhabitants of Brava, who speak a Bantu dialect, form a separate community.

7. Pre-war Italian legislation provided for consultative bodies of chiefs meeting for zones and districts with the District Commissioners. There were a series of municipal councils which collected and expended revenue. The British Administration, in 1946, formed Advisory Councils for zones and districts, composed of about fifteen chiefs and notables designated by the authorities. In 1947, Provincial Councils were formed consisting of 15 members elected by councils of zones and districts. These councils were of a purely consultative character and had no executive power.

8. Chiefs and headmen have a triple role: they have authority in internal matters within the tribe; they represent the tribe before the Administration, and they act as agents of the Administration within the tribe. The more important ones receive a small salary for their services in the last capacity.

Political parties and other organizations

9. The Four Power Commission collected the following information about political parties and other organizations within the Territory:

(i) Somali Youth League

Claiming 93,000 members and 300,000 followers, with headquarters in Mogadiscio and 79 branches outside. One of the states objectives of the SYL is to unite all Somalis generally, and the youth especially, with the

consequent repudiation of all harmful prejudices as, for instance, distinctions of tribe, race, religion, etc.

(ii) Hamar Youth Club

Claiming 1,587 members of Hamar youth in Mogadiscio. In accordance with its statutes the Club has no political aims.

(iii) The Somalia Conference

Asserts that it represents the following organizations claiming between them 180,000 members and 360,000 supporters:

(a) Patriotic Beneficence Union, claiming 80,783 members in Mogadiscio and branches outside the town. At first the Union included numerous Arabs but these left it after the Somali-Arab riots of October 1947.

(b) Hisbid Dighil Mirifle, claiming 60,871 members and 300,000 supporters. The activities of this organization are mainly concerned with the Dighil and Mirifle tribes (part of the Bahaan Mein tribes).

(c) Union of Africans in Somalia, claiming 5,000 members.

(d) Somali Young Abgal Association, claiming 30,000 members and confined to the tribes of the Abgal; with two branches outside Mogadiscio.

(e) The War Veterans, whose organization had not yet been constituted at the time of the Four Power Commission's visit. They claimed to represent the opinion of 25,000 veterans, 5,000 families of those killed and 700 wounded.

(f) The Eidait al Islam Shidle and Mobilen, claiming 10,818 registered members together with their families, a total of 60,000 persons, and with six branches outside Mogadiscio. The programme of this party is the welfare of the Shidle and Mobilen tribes.

(g) The Bimal Union, claiming 300 members of the Bimal tribe.

(iv) Somali Progressive Committee

Is claimed by the Somalin Conference but about which only little information was received.

(v) There are seven Italian political parties affiliated to the corresponding parties in the homeland. In 1947, an Italian Representative Committee was formed to represent before the Four Power Commission all Italians living in Somaliland.

(vi) The Arab Community

Claiming to represent the whole of the Arab population of the Territory and the Local Born Young Association claiming 1,800 members.

(vii) The Indian Association

Does not take part in local politics.

(viii) The Association of Ethiopian Youths

Has no political aims.

10. As regards trade and labour organizations the European trade unions in the territory do not exercise any real influence on account of their limited membership, and there are no native trade unions. There is one Chamber of Commerce with its offices in Mogadiscio, in which European members are in a majority.

II. Economic Structure at Present Existing

11. Information in the following section is taken partly from the report of the Four Power Commission of Investigation, and partly from those portions which are available for publication of the annual report on the British administration of Somaliland for the period 1 January - 31 December 1949.

Natural resources

12. Approximately one half of the territory is waste land. About 80 per cent of the other half is pasturage, the remainder being arable land. Stock-raising, therefore, forms the principal means of livelihood for about three-quarters of the entire population.

13. Two types of agriculture are practised in the Territory; that of the European, which clings closely to the courses of the two rivers for the purpose of artificial irrigation, and that of the Native, which generally relies on rain-fall or any other natural means of irrigation. Only two rivers intersect the Territory, the Webbi Shebelle (maximum flow of water 120-200 cubic metres), and the Juba (maximum water flow 600-700 cubic metres). Both originate from the southern part of the Abyssinian highlands.

The land cultivated by Europeans though less extensive than that under indigenous cultivation plays an important part in the economy of the country. Sugar cane, bananas and cotton, the only agricultural products which were exported on a commercial basis, are grown on such land. Maize and millet, grown mainly by the Natives are adequate in a good year to meet local requirements. The principal agricultural crops of the Territory are maize, millet, oil seeds, sugar cane, rice, fruit and vegetables.

14. The forests only cover a small area and are not exploited commercially. Aromatic wood substances from the Territory form a large part of the world supply of these products, but they are of small absolute value and consequently their part in the economy of Italian Somaliland is limited.

15. There are a number of valuable fishing areas, particularly off the coast of the Mijertein.

16. Prospecting has revealed neither large mineral resources nor deposits of coal and oil.

Trade and industry

17. At the outbreak of the war there were a substantial number of industrial enterprises, consisting in the main of transport and buildings as well as light industry for manufacturers using local produce. Amongst these, in particular, should be mentioned the Dante Salt Works in the Mijertein Province which exported in 1939 more than 150,000 tons of salt.

A number of the light industries in the Territory, especially those associated with transport, were dependent upon the incorporation of Ethiopia as an economic unit with the rest of the Italian East African possessions. During the early stage of British Administration, while the war was still being waged, the authorities, to meet the requirements of war, requisitioned equipment and materials, including that of the salt works, agricultural machinery and the rolling stock of the Mogadiscio-Villabruzzi railway. Economic conditions also deteriorated owing to the fall in the Italian population.

18. The value in external trade has declined by comparison with pre-war figures and although this is the result of present-day conditions, the fact remains that the country has always had a large adverse trade balance, even though in pre-war days the port of Mogadiscio handled and obtained revenue from a great amount of supplies destined for Ethiopia.

19. Before the war, the Italian Government financed the deficit in the balance of payments. In the same fashion, the British Government was forced to meet the deficit for the period of occupation although the amounts involved were smaller.

The grant-in-aid for the four years ending 30 June 1947 averaged £433,031; in 1948, it was £276,864, in 1949, £291,085 and it was estimated that £418,000 would be required for 1949/50.

20. The British administration believed that the adverse trade balance might be eliminated or, at least, greatly reduced if considerable expenditure of a capital nature were undertaken, particularly in relation to the extension of the irrigation system of the Webbi Shebelle river and to the harnessing of the water of the fast flowing Juba river.

21. In addition, it was thought that the present high cost of production and transportation must be reduced, and better methods of farming, including improvement in the drying and curing of skins, must be adopted before the external trade of the Territory could be balanced. Exports of produce such as bananas and cotton to Italy have shown a gratifying increase.

The following are the figures for the total imports, exports and re-exports for the years 1945 to 1949:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Imports</u> <u>£</u>	<u>Total exports</u> <u>and re-exports</u>	<u>Trade</u> <u>Deficit</u>
1945	770,249	£230,266	£539,983
1946	983,031	441,955	541,076
1947	1,113,816	692,545	421,271
1948	1,113,423	780,501	332,922
1949	1,378,477	878,964	499,513

ANNEX VIII

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE TERMS OF THE DRAFT TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT

Note by the Secretariat: In accordance with rule 44 of the rules of procedure for the Advisory Council, the Principal Secretary has the honour to transmit herewith to the representatives on the Advisory Council a draft circular to be sent to all District and Provincial Commissioners, received by the Chairman of the Advisory Council on 21 July 1950 from the Administrator.

The Administrator made the following observations in his letter of transmittal:

"... I intend to establish District Councils to enable the local authorities (District Commissioners) of the Italian Administration to have the benefit of an advisory body which would improve the collaboration between the indigenous population and the Administering Authority as well as encourage the people's evolution towards political progress.

"I have therefore prepared the draft of a circular to be sent to all District and Provincial Commissioners and a copy of which I enclose as I wish you and your colleagues of the Advisory Council to see it beforehand." To the District and Provincial Commissioners

SUBJECT: DISTRICT COUNCILS

District Councils have always been in existence in Somaliland, at first as a de facto organization which was imposed by political and social exigencies and accepted by the common sense of our former administrators,

and was later embodied in the legal and political organization of Italian East Africa.

Their functions and terms of reference were never clearly defined; the members preferred to trust to the judgment of the District Commissioners in all matters related to the constitution, convocation and functions of the Council, in accordance with the traditions, customs and exigencies of the country.

It must be noted that the vagueness of this method offered undeniable advantages, since it enabled the Council to adapt itself to any particular conditions, however varied. Many District Commissioners, however, who did not understand the political value of such institutions, were inclined to neglect them when they did not ignore them altogether.

I propose, now, to restore these Councils and to adapt them to the political conditions prevailing in Somaliland, giving them the widest field of action possible.

The Trusteeship Agreement mentions, in fact, that one of our specific duties is to encourage and develop free political institutions, and to promote the evolution of the population by increasing the part played by it in the various organizations of the administration of their country.

You will no doubt, realize that the District Councils can become a most efficient medium for political education, as they can stimulate the interest of the indigenous population in political, administrative and economic questions of interest to the Territory and assimilate indigenous elements in the task of the administration.

The District Councils will be composed of:

- (a) All paid chiefs and elders;
- (b) Village and market headmen (Capi paese e Capi mercati) who receive no salary;
- (c) Section secretaries, and in the case of Mogadiscio, chairmen of political parties legally recognized;
- (d) Prominent persons of the Territory, no more in number than the salaried chiefs and elders, to be selected by public opinion as persons of culture, education and possessing special qualifications.

The members mentioned in paragraph (d) will be appointed by the District Commissioner, subject to the approval of the Provincial Commissioner who will advise the Department of the Interior in the Administration of these appointments together with all others constituting the Council.

Members will hold office for one year.

In the case of death or of disqualification of one or more members (for moral indignity, condemnation to prison, etc.) their seats will be filled in the same manner as that used for the first appointments.

The following questions will be referred to the District Councils which will have, for the moment at least, only an advisory capacity:

- (a) All questions related to agriculture, stock raising, animal husbandry, fisheries and the economic development of the Territory;
- (b) Problems of a general nature related to trade, industry and exploitation of the resources of the country;
- (c) Public works, communications, building plans, construction of markets, etc.;
- (d) General problems related to education, public health and labour, (utilization of labour, unemployment, etc.)

- (e) The fixing of all local and municipal rates and taxes;
- (f) All problems arising from the delimitation of frontiers;
- (g) Any alterations which may appear necessary in local customs, (testur);
- (h) All matters related to the property, allocation and use of tribal land;
- (i) All agreements dealing with grazing, cattle moving and water rights, between sections of the population in the same district or between the population of one district and that of others;
- (j) Any matter of interest either to the whole or part of the population.

The District Commissioner may ask the advice of the Council on all matters he may deem advisable. He may also call a section of the Council together in order to hear its opinion on specific questions of interest only to some particular group or to the inhabitants of the chief town.

The District Council must assemble at least four times a year, and must meet before the draft budget is approved.

Under exceptional circumstances, the District Councils can assemble on their own initiative, if they have to submit to the District Commissioners matters of extreme importance and of general interest.

No fee will be paid to members, but in the event of the Council having to meet at a place distant from the main town of the district, members will receive a daily allowance of six senali, and their travelling costs will be reimbursed.

I request the District Commissioners to attend to the composition of these councils without delay, so as to be in a position to have an inaugural meeting as soon as possible, in any case not later than 15 August.

THE ADMINISTRATOR

ANNEX IX

INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH
THE TERMS OF THE DRAFT TRUSTEESHIP AGREEMENT

TERRITORIAL COUNCIL

Note by the Secretariat: In accordance with rule 44 of the rules of procedure for the Advisory Council, the Principal Secretary has the honour to transmit herewith to the representatives on the Advisory Council a copy of a memorandum on the results of consultations with the representatives of the Somali population, in regard to the composition of the Territorial Council, received by the Chairman of the Advisory Council on 27 July 1950 under cover of the letter from the Administrator reproduced hereunder.

(Original text: Italian)

"In reply to your letter No.A/AC.33/R.3 of 17 May 1950, I have the honour to attach for your information a copy of the report on the results of the consultations which the various officials of the Italian Administration have had with the chiefs, elders, and heads of the various parties and communities in regard to the wishes of the Somali people concerning the composition of the Territorial Council.

"Although the inquiry was carried out with great diligence by these officials viewed as a whole it does not enable us to visualize very clearly what are the wishes of the majority of the inhabitants of the Territory in this matter.

"That is due, less to the well-known differences of opinion among the persons consulted, than to actual lack of political training, and it unfortunately shows how arduous and difficult will be the task which Italy

has assumed, to guide the population to autonomy.

"I believe, however, that although it may not give sufficiently precise information on the method to be followed in order to fulfil the desires of the population itself, the information communicated herewith to the Advisory Council may be useful to help them form an opinion on the question of the Territorial Council, which will be of great value to me in the decisions I have to take.

"I am happy to have an opportunity to repeat, Mr. Chairman, and my dear friend, my most cordial greetings, etc."

(Original text: Italian)

RESULTS OF CONSULTATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOMALI
POPULATION IN REGARD TO THE COMPOSITION OF
THE TERRITORIAL COUNCIL

The Advisory Council, in its note A/AC.33/R.3 of 17 May 1950, replying to the request presented by the Italian Administration for advice concerning the Territorial Council to be constituted in accordance with article 4 of the Declaration of Constitutional Principles annexed to the Trusteeship Agreement for the Territory of Somaliland, reserved to itself the right to express its opinion when it had received the results of the consultation by the regional organs of the Administration with chiefs, notables and the most important personalities of the parties and of the communities. The Council remarked that the practical results of the inquiry would enable it better to evaluate how far solutions chosen elsewhere could be adapted for the needs of this Territory.

In transmitting to the Advisory Council the results of the above-mentioned consultations, which have just been completed, it is necessary to

call attention to the fact that, in spite of the solemnity conferred by the regional authorities on the inquiry since it represented the first attempt to let the indigenous inhabitants participate in the examination of matters concerning the whole Territory, it appears that some of those consulted did not appreciate the nature of the system proposed to be established and, consequently, the significance and the importance of the organ to be set up.

For example, the tribes of the Lugh Ferrandi territory did not display great interest in this question, being always unreceptive of every proposal which cannot give them an immediate benefit of a material character. Also, among the peoples of the lower Webi Scebeli, not a few of their representatives absolutely refused to discuss such a problem, limiting themselves to saying that the Administration already knows the peoples of the Territory and their interests and needs, so that it does not require any advice.

Here and there in this vast Territory proposals have been made which are completely inadequate to the realities of the present situation and to the objectives sought through this new organ. The representatives of the population of Bolet Uen and Bulu Burti even proposed that the Council be composed of a total of between 400 and 700 members, a number based on the application of a percentage to the whole population of the Territory, showing thereby that they thought that the Council would be a forum wherein all the trivial daily disputes between tribes would be discussed.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, it must however be noted that a good number of the persons interrogated, and not only the most prominent among them, have understood the value of such a referendum and have in fact

expressed their satisfaction in their own names and on behalf of their communities at having been consulted by the Administration and for the fact that it wants to give them the opportunity of expressing their opinions on all matters concerning the community as a whole.

They are in favour of the institution of an indigenous advisory organ which will assist the central Administration in its activities and which will in this manner ensure a stronger link between these activities and the interests and needs of the population.

Considering, however, that very few are really prepared to participate in such an Assembly and that, moreover, a council would be of little value if its great size rendered its convocation difficult and its functioning uncertain, most of them proposed criteria restricting the number of members.

Among these criteria one received much support, namely, that there should be at least one representative for every district of the Territory so that each province would return a number of representatives equal to the number of its districts, which would mean that the Council would be composed of 22 members.

Two reservations were made as regards this criterion, which was finally approved after long discussion, especially amongst the representatives of the populations of the territories of Baidoa and Bardera.

1. The population of every district must have the satisfaction of being represented by a person who can best defend its interests in the Council and keep the people directly informed of any matters dealt with.

2. Some problems treated in the Council may be of interest to the district only. For example, all matters concerning production of and trade in "dura" are of great importance for the territory of Baidoa which is

called "the centre of dura" of the whole of Somaliland. Some persons, however, for example, the representatives of the populations of El Bur, expressed their doubts that in some districts where different sections of the population differ widely as to traditions and numbers, it would be possible to obtain the nomination of only one member as representative of all the groups who would be accepted by all the chiefs.

In the territories of Benadir and Upper and Lower Juba, the criterion which has been accepted by the majority is that the representation of ethnic groups must not be equal but proportional, that is to say, that the principal ethnic groups of every district could express their opinion through from one to four representatives, according to their numerical importance.

The most important difference of opinion between those consulted appeared when they gave their opinion concerning criteria to be applied in the choice of members.

They were unanimous in rejecting a system of suffrage in consideration of the level of culture of the population and of their lack of political education. Two schools of thought emerged, which are a reflection of the present ferment in Somali society, where the progressive elements are endeavouring to replace the traditional tribal organization by one with a territorial basis.

The representatives of political parties desire that the members of the Council be chosen from among members of the parties. They claim that these would in fact be more qualified to assist the Administration to comply with the task assigned by the United Nations, as they have a certain degree of culture and desire very strongly the independence of their country.

On the other hand, the chiefs and notables pointed out that such a criterion would sacrifice the interests of the populations living in the bush, which represents about three quarters of the whole population, to those of the urban centres, where the parties have the greatest part of their supporters. Many of them, however, recognising that among chiefs of the noble tribes are often to be found persons with a high level of culture, entitling them to govern and lead their own tribes but not giving them the necessary qualifications to discuss general problems concerning the whole Territory, have expressed the opinion that in the choice of the members of the Council, the fundamental criterion of "nobility" of the tribe of a candidate must also be taken into account, together with considerations of personal competence such as education, influence on the population, special knowledge of customs, habits and needs of the different communities.

All have been of the opinion that, at least at the start of the Council, indigenous economic interests should not be represented, as they are not yet well determined and defined.

The problem of the limitation of the discretionary power of the Administrator in regard to the choice of members of the Council was not raised.

The District Commissioners, however, drew the attention of those interrogated to the fact that even if the administrator has exclusive competence to nominate the members, he intends to take into consideration the desires of the population concerning the choice of their representatives.

Some gatherings, as for example that of Bardera, quickly and unanimously nominated their representatives.

In most cases, however, the people would like to ask the District Commissioner to choose, from a list of persons designated by the different groups of the districts, the member or members to be proposed to the Administrator for final nomination.

Finally, the proposal was made that in order to obtain a good selection of persons to be chosen for nomination, this should be done in two steps.

The "noble" tribes of every district would designate their representatives; these would in their turn designate between them a more restricted number of members, one of whom would be chosen by the Administrator.

