

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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Chairman: Mr. Frederick H. BOLAND (Ireland).

AGENDA ITEM 36

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/3806, A/3807, A/3808, A/3809/Rev.1 and Add.1, A/3810, A/3811 and Add.1, A/3812 and Add.1, A/3813 and Add.1, A/3814, A/3815 and Add.1, A/3816, A/3837) (continued):

- (c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information (A/C.4/374, A/C.4/375, A/C.4/385/Rev.1, A/C.4/390);
- (e) Report of the Secretary-General on developments connected with the association of Non-Self-Governing Territories with the European Economic Community (A/3916/Rev.1);
- (f) Offers of study and training facilities under resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954: report of the Secretary-General (A/3917/Rev.1 and Add.1, A/C.4/L.570, A/C.4/L.572 and Rev.1)

GENERAL DEBATE AND CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.4/L.570, A/C.4/L.572 AND REV.1) (continued)

1. Mr. RODRIGUEZ FABREGAT (Uruguay) said that if his delegation had been present at the previous meeting, it would have voted in favour of the joint draft resolution (A/C.4/L.569), as amended at the suggestion of the delegation of the Dominican Republic. It had always maintained that the General Assembly had the right to decide on how the provisions of Article 73 e of the Charter concerning the obligation to transmit information on Non-Self-Governing Territories should be applied.

2. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that the issue dealt with in the draft resolution had arisen because Portugal and Spain

had refused to carry out their obligations under Chapter XI of the Charter. There was no doubt that those Powers were duty bound to transmit information on the Non-Self-Governing Territories which they administered. The General Assembly should therefore censure Portugal and Spain and demand that they respect the provisions of the Charter. His delegation was of the opinion that the matter was perfectly clear and required no further study. It had voted in favour of the draft resolution, however, for the same reason as it had voted for the similar draft resolution at the twelfth session.

3. Mr. NOGUEIRA (Portugal) protested against the allegations made by the representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and said he had no right to call for the censure of Portugal by the General Assembly.

4. Mr. DE PINIES (Spain) agreed with the protest in as far as it concerned Spain.

5. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) said that, as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution, he was glad that the Committee had adopted that text since it would enable the General Assembly to give practical effect to the provisions of resolution 334 (IV), which had so far remained inoperative. He was also glad that the text of the operative paragraph 2 submitted by the Dominican Republic in its amendment had been adopted by a large majority. In view of the objections to establishing new committees, it was preferable to entrust the question of the transmission of information to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Contrary to what the United Kingdom representative had said (832nd meeting, para. 60), that text did not widen the Committee's terms of reference but simply gave the Committee an additional task which was entirely within its present terms of reference.

6. Mr. BOTHA (Union of South Africa) said he had voted against the draft resolution because he felt that the question dealt with was solely within the competence of the Member States concerned and that there did not seem to be any reason for the proposed study. He had also voted against the text of the operative paragraph 2 proposed by the Dominican Republic in its amendment, which merely changed the body which would carry out the study and, as pointed out by the representatives of the United Kingdom and Ceylon, seemed to widen the terms of reference of the Committee on Information.

7. Mr. DURAISWAMY (Ceylon) said that he had at first had doubts regarding the Dominican Republic amendment, but after consultation with the other sponsors of the draft resolution, had decided to accept it and to vote in favour of the draft resolution in its amended form.

8. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that at the fourteenth session she would deal with a number of points raised by the representatives of Spain and Portugal at the 832nd meeting. She announced that the Czechoslovak

delegation had joined her delegation as a co-sponsor of the draft resolution concerning study and training facilities (A/C.4/L.572).

9. Mr. KOCIANCICH (Italy) pointed out that his delegation had voted against the draft resolution because that draft had the same objectionable features as the similar text which had been discussed at the twelfth session. Those features were, first, that the summary which the Secretary-General was invited to prepare was of no value since it could not add anything very new to what was already known from the opinions given in the replies of Member States; secondly, that the action to be taken involved considerable expense; and thirdly, that that action would not help to improve the cordiality of the discussions in the Committee.

10. Mr. PROTITCH (Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) made a statement on the stage reached in the preparation of the report on progress achieved by the Non-Self-Governing Territories in pursuance of Chapter XI of the Charter. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1053 (XI), the Secretary-General had submitted to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories at its ninth session information on the stages of the preparation of the report on the progress of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/AC.35/L.285). The Secretary-General had given information on the co-operation of the United Nations Secretariat with the specialized agencies and on the agreements regarding the outlines, the time table and the length of the forthcoming documentation. He had indicated the arrangements under which the Committee on Information would, at its 1959 session, have before it the summaries of information for the period since the establishment of the United Nations, and under which the introduction and the substantive part of the report would be submitted to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session. The questions raised in the Secretary-General's report (A/AC.35/L.285) had been dealt with by the Committee on Information at its 184th meeting and had been referred to in the first part of its report (A/3837), paragraphs 76 to 83. On the basis of the discussion in the Committee and of the approved programme of future work (see A/AC.35/L.286 and Corr. 1, and A/3837, part one, section XIII), the report on progress in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was now being prepared by the Secretariat so as to be ready in time to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fourteenth session. The consensus of opinion that seemed to prevail during the debate in the Committee on Information had been that, while that Committee had offered its views on the various points relating to the preparation and consideration of the report, it should let the General Assembly decide on the procedure which it wished to adopt for the examination of the report. The Secretary-General felt that any guidance which the General Assembly might wish to offer would greatly assist the work of the Committee on Information and the Secretariat.

11. Regarding the financial implications of the printing of the report, he pointed out that section 12 of the budget estimates for the financial year 1959 (A/3825 and Corr.1), which were now before the General Assembly, contained an appropriation of \$16,250 for the publication of summaries of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories in three languages, such summaries to comprise about 400 pages. After the Committee on Information had considered them in

1959, the summaries would be published in the course of the year so as to be submitted to the General Assembly in that form, if possible at its fourteenth session. It was thought that the introductory and substantive parts of the report, which would be laid before the General Assembly at the same session, would comprise between 1,870 and 2,200 manuscript pages and would cost between \$24,000 and \$29,000 to print. As the latter part of the report was to be submitted to the General Assembly in mimeographed form during the second half of 1959, no printing of that part of the report was anticipated before 1960. The appropriation for printing it was therefore not included in the budget estimates for the financial year 1959.

12. In preparing the various sections of the report on progress in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the Secretariat and the specialized agencies would take full account of the recommendations contained in General Assembly resolution 1203 (XII) and in the previous resolutions concerning limitation of documentation. The Secretariat would also bear in mind the other resolutions of the General Assembly instructing it not to lose sight of the objectives of the report regarding the quality and standards required.

13. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) noted that according to the statement by the Under-Secretary the report on the progress achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories would obviously be very voluminous. It might be advisable, in order to facilitate the General Assembly's work at its fourteenth session, for the Committee on Information to consider the report and communicate its observations to the Assembly before the latter had the report before it. As the report would deal with problems concerning which information had already been communicated to the Committee on Information, that Committee would be able, without any modification or extension of its mandate, to consider the report and formulate an opinion.

14. In reply to questions from Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) and Mr. RASGOTRA (India), the CHAIRMAN explained that the report on the progress achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories would be prepared on the basis of the annual reports transmitted by the administering Powers over the past ten years and of additional information supplied by the specialized agencies and organs of the United Nations.

15. In reply to a question from Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), the CHAIRMAN said that the Under-Secretary's statement had been intended only to inform the Fourth Committee of the progress of the work in hand. The Committee was not called upon to make any decisions or to express its views on the subject.

16. Mr. PROTITCH (Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) explained that only that part of the report on the progress achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories which consisted of summaries of information would be communicated to the Committee on Information at its next session.

17. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to consider the question of offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was dealt with in sub-item (f).

18. Mr. COHEN (Chile) said that in view of the manner

in which some delegations had construed the draft resolution submitted by Chile and Ethiopia (A/C.4/L.570), the sponsors of that text had decided to withdraw it.

19. He hoped that the contribution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to the report on the progress achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories since the establishment of the United Nations would deal specifically with the question of study and training facilities available to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

20. Mr. GEBRE-EGZY (Ethiopia) associated himself with the statement made by the representative of Chile. He hoped nevertheless to be able at the fourteenth session to resubmit to the Committee the draft resolution which had just been withdrawn.

21. He was in a position to furnish additional information on the fund, to which he had referred (800th meeting, para. 27) during the debate on Trust Territories, established by his Government for the purpose of granting 200 scholarships to African students. Thirty-five of those scholarships had already been awarded for the 1958-1959 academic year, and the remainder would be distributed over the years 1959-1960, 1960-1961 and 1961-1962. Of the thirty-five original scholarship holders, two came from British Somaliland, three from the United Arab Republic, five from Ghana, twelve from Kenya, one from Nigeria, two from the Sudan, eight from Tanganyika, one from Uganda and one from Zanzibar. The scholarships were awarded for three or four years, according to the nature of the subjects taken by the students. Eighteen had been awarded for the University of Addis Ababa, eleven for the Engineering College and six for the Agricultural College. The scholarships, which were renewed annually for all students whose work was satisfactory, covered all their expenses and included a certain amount of pocket-money. Although they did not cover travel expenses, that question was taken into account in certain special cases.

22. Mr. SPACIL (Czechoslovakia) said that General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) was one of the means by which indigenous intellectuals could be trained from among the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in order to replace Europeans and by which the level of living in those Territories could be raised. In 1955, the Czechoslovak Government had offered ten scholarships for the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories; in 1956 the figure had been raised to fifteen, and in 1957 a large number of applications had been received. At the twelfth session of the General Assembly, the Czechoslovak Government had announced the establishment of twenty scholarships to institutions of higher learning in Czechoslovakia. Those scholarships, awarded for periods of four to six years, provided for a year's preliminary study of the Czech language and included free medical care and free transport for candidates, plus a clothing allowance. By 10 August 1958, the Czechoslovak Government had received 141 applications, ninety-one of them from Non-Self-Governing, Trust and other colonial Territories. Owing, however, to difficulties created by the administering Powers, in contravention of General Assembly resolutions, only ten of the students from dependent Territories had been able to benefit by the scholarships offered. Not one of the twenty-three

students expected at the beginning of the current academic year had been able to take up their studies, as the administering Powers were in some cases refusing to issue the necessary travel documents, and in others they were asking for a considerable sum of money as a surety or requiring the candidates to produce a return ticket. Some candidates had even been subjected to veiled threats of being unable to find work when they came back.

23. The General Assembly should draw attention to the situation. That was why the Czechoslovak delegation agreed to join in sponsoring the draft resolution submitted by Liberia (A/C.4/L.572). It thought that the adoption of that draft resolution would promote an increase in the number of scholarships offered. The Czechoslovak Government, for its part, had decided to raise the number of scholarships for inhabitants of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories from twenty to fifty from 1959 onwards. Fifteen would be for technical and secondary education and the remainder for higher education. He hoped that it would be possible for all those scholarships to be awarded.

24. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) stressed the importance of allowing Africans from Territories which were shortly to achieve independence to take advantage of all opportunities for training offered to them, so that when the time came they would be able to render their independent countries useful service. It was because the majority of scholarships offered were not utilized that the delegation of Liberia had submitted its draft resolution. She appealed to the administering Powers to do all they could to facilitate the travel formalities of students wishing to go to the countries which had offered them scholarships.

25. At the request of the representative of Ghana, and in agreement with him, she wished to add an operative paragraph 5 to the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.572), worded as follows:

"Requests the Secretary-General to include, in his future reports, detailed information concerning the actual use of scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States for the education of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories."

Mr. Rodzinski (Poland), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

26. Mr. MACQUARRIE (Canada) stated that his country had not yet found it possible to take any specific action to give effect to resolution 845 (IX), by which the General Assembly invited Member States to make awards available to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Canadian Government did, however, offer study and training facilities to qualified students from all countries, and it was open to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories to compete for those awards.

27. In the scientific field, scholarships were offered by the National Research Council of Canada and, in the humanities, by the recently-formed Canada Council. Students from the West Indies and Basutoland had already been awarded such scholarships, details of which had been communicated to UNESCO. Canada also awarded scholarships under the Colombo Plan and more than 1,000 students from South-East Asia, particularly from North Borneo, Singapore and Sarawak, as also students from Malaya at the time before

that country had become independent, had received such scholarships.

28. It had been decided in September 1958 to establish a new scheme for awarding scholarships to British Commonwealth students. Details of the plan had still to be worked out but some 1,000 students would benefit from it and Canada would be responsible for one quarter of them. Many students from the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Commonwealth would benefit by the scheme.

29. It should be borne in mind that Canadian educational institutions had had to meet the challenge of a vast increase in the enrolment of students. Nevertheless, as the representative of Panama had observed (821st meeting, para. 20), Canada had offered its assistance for the training of students from the federation of the West Indies. Canada was studying how it could best help that young nation to promote the educational development of its people; already more than a thousand West Indian students were studying in Canada, some of them being assisted from Canadian private sources.

30. Mr. KELLY (Australia) said that his country was able to make ample provision for such scholarships as were needed and could be taken advantage of by the inhabitants of all Territories under Australian administration. Australia's capacity also extended to the making of awards under the Colombo Plan and related scholarship plans by which scholarships were offered to students from Asia. Of some 7,000 Asian students at present in Australia, over 2,000 had been awarded scholarships under the Colombo Plan. The report of the Secretary-General (A/3917/Rev.1) gave details of the scholarships offered to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories by the Australian Government.

31. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) stated that since 1949 his Government had been offering scholarships to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories as part of a cultural programme of scholarships undertaken in 1949. Since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) in 1954, India had awarded just under 300 scholarships to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories under that programme. The scholarships offered by the Indian Government had been utilized to the full and the Indian Government hoped to extend its programme as means permitted and educational facilities expanded. India attached special significance to its programme of scholarships, for it considered that the training of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories was of the utmost importance if those countries were to attain the objectives set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter.

32. The report before the Committee showed that a considerable number of scholarships offered by various countries had not been taken up, despite the attraction they often presented for students. His delegation had in the past suggested the appointment of a small committee to study the reasons for the non-utilization of such scholarships. He himself attributed it to two reasons. The first was that some scholarships, favourable as they were, did not include travelling expenses; the Governments offering those scholarships could perhaps reduce somewhat the value of the benefits they provided and offer travelling expenses instead. The second reason was that some of the candidates had not been able to travel to the country which

had awarded the scholarship because they had had difficulty in obtaining passports or other travel documents. It was, of course, the responsibility of the Governments concerned to decide such matters, but as the administering Powers, who provided the largest number of scholarships, could not meet the needs of all the candidates, the best solution might be to provide some form of collective assistance through the United Nations. There was still much to be done with regard to study and training facilities for the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and he urged the administering Powers to do all they could to enable students from those Territories to take advantage of all the scholarships that were offered to them.

33. It was for those reasons that the Indian delegation would support the draft resolution before the Committee (A/C.4/L.572).

Mr. Boland (Ireland) resumed the Chair.

34. Mr. TURKSON (Ghana) announced that the Government of Ghana had decided to offer nine scholarships, tenable at the University College of Ghana and the College of Technology, to inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Those scholarships could be utilized during the 1960-1961 and 1961-1962 academic years. They would also cover the return fares of the beneficiaries. The Government of Ghana regretted that it could not offer a larger number of scholarships but hoped to be able to do so in the years to come.

35. He thanked the sponsors of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.572) for accepting his amendment and for inviting his delegation to join the list of sponsors of that text.

36. Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) thanked the Governments of Ethiopia and Ghana for the scholarships they were providing for students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Ethiopia's offer was already known and the details concerning it had been publicized in the Territories which were administered by the United Kingdom. The same would be done with respect to the offer made by the Government of Ghana.

37. The representative of India had rightly observed that it was the administering Powers which were making the greatest effort to extend facilities for study and training to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories for which they were responsible, for that was an important aspect of the obligations devolving upon them by virtue of the sacred mission they had undertaken.

38. During the past ten years the total number of students from Territories administered by the United Kingdom who had been received in educational institutions in the United Kingdom had amounted to 26,250, of whom 6,300 were scholarship holders. Of those scholarships 1,400 had been offered by the Government of the United Kingdom under the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. The others had been financed by the Governments of the various Territories. Most of the recipients were students of medicine or the sciences. A small number of scholarships were also granted to law students. A system of placement for scholarship holders was operated by the Colonial Office and covered all possible training facilities in the United Kingdom, for example architecture, veterinary medicine, dentistry, teacher-training and the arts and sciences in general. Moreover, a large number of

students, approximately 2,000, who were already employed in the civil services of the Territories, were attending advanced training courses in the United Kingdom.

39. He quoted a passage from the Secretary-General's report (A/3917/Rev.1, section IV, table C) which gave the number of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories who had studied in the United Kingdom during the academic year 1956/1957. Moreover, the Territories themselves were increasingly able to provide higher training for students. That tendency should be encouraged, but after the local facilities and the opportunities offered by the United Kingdom had been fully utilized the scholarships provided by Member States could play a useful part. For example, 131 of the scholarships offered by the Government of India were being used at present. Occasionally, however, certain practical difficulties had arisen. As the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom had pointed out in its letter of 31 October 1958 (see A/3917/Rev.1, para. 30), it would be helpful if donor Governments could furnish as much information as possible in the first instance about the scholarships they were offering to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

40. The United Kingdom delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.572), provided the wording was altered to conform more precisely with that in General Assembly resolution 1277 (XIII) on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories; he understood the sponsors were agreeable to that.

41. Mr. PROTITCH (Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories), replying to the question asked by the representative of the United Arab Republic (830th meeting, para. 57), said that some students from Non-Self-Governing Territories had participated in the special intern programmes. The Secretariat was unable to say, without further consultation, whether information on those programmes could be usefully included in future reports.

42. Mr. EL HAMID (United Arab Republic) thanked the Under-Secretary and hoped that the Secretariat would soon be in a position to answer his question.

43. Mr. URANOVICZ (Hungary) said that the Hungarian Government had offered five scholarships to students from Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories and that all Hungarian universities and educational institutions were open to students from those Territories.

44. Mr. DURAISWAMY (Ceylon) was glad to note that many students from Non-Self-Governing Territories had taken advantage of the scholarships offered by Member States, and he hoped that the administering Powers would encourage students from those Territories to profit by those offers of scholarships. He was glad to know that, as the United Kingdom representative had said, the Non-Self-Governing Territories were able to meet some of their own educational needs. It

was to be hoped, however, that administering Powers and Member States which provided scholarships would try to help students from Non-Self-Governing Territories to make use of the scholarships which were offered. The transmission of the candidates' applications should also be speeded up.

45. The Government of Ceylon had offered some scholarships which covered the students' travelling expenses also.

46. With respect to the United Kingdom representative's observation concerning the information which should accompany offers of scholarships, it might perhaps be advisable to add the following phrase at the end of operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.572): "and the necessity of furnishing complete information about the scholarships offered".

47. The Ceylonese delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

48. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) said that he would vote in favour of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.572). He thought that the phrase the representative of Ceylon wished to add to operative paragraph 3 of the draft resolution should be inserted after the words "to take into account".

49. Mr. TURKSON (Ghana) thanked the representatives of Ceylon and Haiti for their suggestion, which would be included in the draft resolution.

50. Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) said that he was glad that the suggestion of the representative of Ceylon had been adopted, because it represented an improvement on the text of the draft resolution.

51. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that her delegation accepted the proposed amendment.

52. In reply to a question by Mr. ZULOAGA (Venezuela), the CHAIRMAN said that the draft resolution, as revised, had been issued as a new document, and that he would put the revised text (A/C.4/L.572/Rev.1) to the vote.

The revised draft resolution was adopted by 62 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

53. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) said that his delegation had abstained for the same reasons which had caused it to abstain at the twelfth session, when the General Assembly had adopted resolution 1154 (XII).

54. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) expressed the hope that the amendment which had been made to operative paragraph 2 at the proposal of the United Kingdom representative would not be used by the administering Powers as a pretext to prevent scholarship holders from making use of the scholarships offered to them.

55. Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) pointed out that his delegation had not proposed any amendment to the draft resolution which had just been adopted.

The meeting rose at 1.30 p.m.