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Chairman: Mr. Rafik ASHA (Syria).

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Rivas (Venezuela), Vice-Chairman, took the chair.

AGENDA ITEM 31

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/2651, A/2652, A/2653, A/2654 and Add.1 to 3, A/2655, A/2656, A/2657 and Add. 1 to 4, A/2658, A/2729) (*continued*):

- (a) Information on economic conditions;
- (b) Information on other conditions;
- (c) Transmission of information;
- (d) Participation of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories

1. Mr. JACKSON (United States of America) said that his delegation considered that part two of the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/2729) was a worthy supplement to the report compiled in 1951 (A/1836, part three). As in the case of the earlier report, the Committee on Information's task had been facilitated by the analyses of special economic problems in Non-Self-Governing Territories prepared by the Secretariat. The Administering Members were to be congratulated on the quantity and quality of the information they were transmitting. He was sure that they were all aware of the importance of maintaining reliable and up-to-date statistical services in their Territories. He thought that more complete information could usefully be provided on developments in the private sector of the economies of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

2. He noted the emphasis placed in the Committee's report on participation by the population in the economic development of the Non-Self-Governing Terri-

tories as part of the fundamental concept governing the entire range of developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the relationship between their administrations and people. The United States delegation attached the greatest importance to such participation in the planning and execution of economic development programmes, which was one of the quickest ways of helping a people to achieve self-government. The United States delegation was gratified by the progress that had been made in that field, and urged the administering Powers to pursue the course that they had adopted.

3. One of the main problems of development in all under-developed areas was the financing of development programmes. The information available showed that the administering Powers had sought in varying degrees and with varying success to mobilize local capital for that purpose. Although such capital was not always readily available in Non-Self-Governing Territories in sufficient quantity, successful efforts to mobilize it could increase the inhabitants' sense of participating in development as well as give them a personal stake in the future of the Territory. In that connexion he reaffirmed the interest of the United States in expanding the investment of international private capital in under-developed territories. He did not wish to minimize the need for public investment in the development of basic facilities or for the mobilization of local capital, but he felt that a marriage of public and private capital would provide the best answer to the present requirements. The potentialities for development through the investment of international private capital were such that it would be well worth while for countries to make real efforts not only to remove the more obvious impediments to the flow of private capital but also to attempt to create the favourable climate necessary to attract it.

4. It was particularly noteworthy that at the 1954 session of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, six members had included specialist advisers on economic affairs in their delegations. Those specialists had made a solid contribution to the Committee's report and it was to be hoped that the Committee would have the benefit of such technical advice at future sessions also. The opportunity which the Committee on Information provided for administering and non-administering members to exchange their views and experience in dealing with similar problems could be of great value in contributing to the welfare of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

5. The United States delegation would urge the General Assembly to approve the report on economic conditions in its general terms, to bring it to the attention of the specialized agencies and other organizations interested in the economic advancement of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also to recommend it to the consideration of the Administering Members.

6. Turning to the educational and social fields, he wished to draw the Fourth Committee's attention to two recent developments in United States Territories which he felt might be of practical value to other peoples. The members of the Fourth Committee were well aware of the tremendous efforts required even to begin to meet the problem of providing facilities for higher education in many of the small under-developed dependent territories. For that reason, the recent development of the Virgin Islands programme for the improvement of teaching was significant. There was no institution of higher education on the Virgin Islands and approximately 80 per cent of the teaching staff had had no training beyond high school. A twofold programme had therefore been instituted by the Hampton Institute in Virginia, with the co-operation of the Ford Foundation, for the improvement of the quality of teaching. First, intensive training sessions had been instituted on the Islands and, secondly, all-expense scholarships had been granted to a select group of ten high-school students from the Virgin Islands to enable them to take a special teacher-training course at the Hampton Institute. Another select group of ten scholarship students from the continental United States also participated in the special programme. The training to be given would be broad enough to enable the teachers to be leaders in the community as well as good teachers.

7. The second development concerned the Territory of Hawaii, which was remarkable for the multiracial composition of its population. As an example of how peoples of different ethnic origins could learn to live and work together, it had a significant contribution to make to international understanding. The Governor of Hawaii had recently appointed a foreign aid trainee programme committee to set up a training centre for United States students and technicians going out to the Far East, Asia and the Pacific Islands and for students and other visitors coming from those areas to the United States mainland. A short orientation programme for students coming to the United States had already been established and the committee was working towards the establishment of long-term training and observation programmes. In launching the Hawaiian training centre, much use had been made of the experience gained and methods used in Puerto Rico in the development of training programmes in that island. In the period from June to October 1954, the centre had served 305 persons from eighteen countries as far apart as Nicaragua and Thailand.

8. Those two developments were examples of the type of activity carried on in many countries. Information on worth-while action of that sort should become increasingly widespread, and the Fourth Committee and the Committee on Information afforded a valuable opportunity for the exchange of such information and for an appreciation of the constructive developments which were taking place in many countries, in accordance with the principles of co-operation and good-neighbourliness set forth in Articles 73 d and 74 of the Charter.

9. In conclusion, he wished to comment briefly upon the general work and responsibilities of the Fourth Committee. He was impressed by the fact that representatives of sixty nations should gather together to discuss the problems of the 200 million people living in Non-Self-Governing Territories, many of them in remote areas and unaware that they were the subjects of international discussion. It was still a relatively new

concept that the fate of peoples "not yet able to stand by themselves under the strenuous conditions of the modern world," as they had been described in Article 22 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, should be the concern of the international community. It was not surprising, therefore, that there should be differences of opinion over the way in which those people should be assisted to play their full part in the world. Nor did it detract from the importance of the Fourth Committee that its functions should be limited to discussion and, where appropriate, the formulation of recommendations. In that connexion, he wished to utter a warning against the intensity with which some delegations urged the acceptance of their convictions. Such concepts as nationalism were inevitably laden with emotion, and intemperate language might threaten the essential co-operation of the Members responsible for bringing about the desired progress, i.e., the Administering Members. He therefore appealed for moderation in the Committee's debates. The United States Government was convinced that orderly transition from colonial to self-governing status should be carried out resolutely, but such transition required solid economic, social and educational foundations. Although the international community was right to insist that the need for sound foundations must not be used as an excuse to delay political progress, the responsibility for building those foundations rested almost entirely with the Administering Members, in co-operation with the colonial peoples themselves.

10. In the free world, a genuine and accelerating trend towards increasing self-government could be seen. He therefore wondered whether the indignation expressed by certain representatives was wholly justified. Rather strong language had been used in regard to the administering Powers, including a reference to certain European nations as hypocritical in their attitude towards the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Since such statements had been made in regard to nations which had made tangible progress in ending the old system of colonialism, he wished to redress the balance by saying that some attention might well be devoted to the new colonialism of the Soviet orbit. The success of the Fourth Committee's work would not be judged by the extent to which any one viewpoint prevailed. It would be judged by the extent to which the dependent peoples actually advanced along the road to stable and secure self-government or independence, a goal that would not be brought nearer by disunity in the free world.

11. U HLA AUNG (Burma) said that his delegation, which had served on the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, considered that the Committee had done solid and useful work within the framework of its terms of reference. His delegation was deeply opposed to colonialism in all its forms, and it had pleasure in acknowledging the concrete assistance given to the Committee by all the Administering Members, represented on it. Its satisfaction in that respect would have been deeper if the same degree of assistance had been afforded by the Belgian delegation. It hoped that as the circumstances to which the Belgian Government had objected in 1953 had since changed in some particulars, that Government would be able to assist the Committee on Information with explanations on the points brought up during the examination of the information on the Belgian Congo.

12. The Burmese delegation approved, in general, of part two of the report on information from Non-Self-

Governing Territories (A/2729). Although it had not been represented on the Sub-Committee on Economic Conditions, it had taken an active part in the economic discussion in the Committee on Information. It had voted in favour of the report then and intended to do so in the Fourth Committee. However, that did not mean that it endorsed the entire report, for it did not consider it to be an entirely adequate statement on the needs of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the field of economic development, or on the drawbacks of colonial rule.

13. Part two of the report devoted some attention to the serious problems which arose when alien communities settled in Non-Self-Governing Territories. Burma itself had experienced the tensions that could arise when non-indigenous immigrants, supported by the administering Power, monopolized the finance and trade of a territory, and obtained control and possession of much of the best land. That subject was dealt with in general terms in paragraphs 25 to 28, and again in paragraphs 63 to 70 of part two of the report. Those paragraphs were of course a balance of the views expressed in the Committee and had been accepted as such by the Burmese delegation. It would accept them in the Fourth Committee in the same spirit. He emphasized that the question of the use and distribution of land was of vital importance in East and North Africa and many parts of Central Africa. The administering Powers were being compelled to pay increasing attention to the basic problems involved and he hoped that the legitimate grievances of the indigenous peoples would be removed and equitable systems of agriculture developed.

14. The Burmese delegation had been encouraged in its support of the report on economic conditions by the statements made by some of the Administering Members. Those Members had informed the Committee on Information that they had used the 1951 report as a guide in the formulation and implementation of plans for economic development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The recommendations adopted by the General Assembly should therefore be so drafted as to obtain a wide measure of support among the Administering Members.

15. In regard to social conditions, his delegation attached much importance to the programme of work proposed for the Committee in 1955. In particular, the Committee should pay close attention to problems of race relations. Social tensions of a serious character were to be found in some Territories, resulting from the discrimination exercised against the indigenous inhabitants of those Territories. The unhappy results of colonialism were multiplied when discriminatory policies were followed which prevented any co-operation between the various groups of the inhabitants. In the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, some administering Powers had on several occasions indicated that, wherever possible, reference should be made to all the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, with no special emphasis on the indigenous inhabitants. The Burmese delegation sympathized with that view to a certain extent. It recognized that the expression "indigenous inhabitants" was often unscientific and obscure. However, the realities of the situation in certain parts of Africa could not be concealed by avoiding particular words. On the other hand, the Burmese delegation did not wish to over-emphasize the problem of race conflicts and to avoid the positive side of the question of race relations. It hoped

that in 1955 the Committee on Information would be able to draw attention to forms of co-operation among the various groups of the population which could lead to abiding personal friendships and, what was more important, to common feelings of loyalty to the Territory in which the various groups lived.

16. In connexion with education, the Burmese delegation, together with the delegation of India, had submitted to the Committee on Information a draft resolution (A/2729, part one, para. 33) intended to encourage the offer of educational assistance for the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories by countries, such as India, which had no administrative responsibilities for those Territories but possessed a very keen interest in their welfare and advancement. That draft resolution was before the Fourth Committee in the form in which it had been adopted by the Committee on Information (A/2729, part one, annex II, draft resolution A). It included certain amendments accepted by the Committee on the proposal of the United Kingdom delegation (A/2729, part one, paras. 41-42). In so far as they provided that specialized agencies should interest themselves in the offer of scholarships and fellowships, they were an improvement. However, they failed to take account of the constitutional relationship between the Secretary-General and the Technical Assistance Administration, and, at the 410th meeting, the representatives of Haiti and Indonesia had rightly expressed certain misgivings on that score. He hoped that the United Kingdom delegation would join in seeking to remove the more unsatisfactory features of the draft resolution as adopted by the Committee on Information.

17. The economic, social and educational information provided for in Article 73 e was intended to be an indication of how far the economic, social and educational objectives of the Charter were being put into effect. However, Chapter XI of the Charter was not limited to economic, social and educational progress. It was essentially a political chapter and its essence was the progress of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories towards a full measure of self-government. In resolution 144 (II) the General Assembly had referred to the voluntary transmission of information, including information on the government of Non-Self-Governing Territories. In resolution 327 (IV) it had expressed the hope that such Members as had not done so would voluntarily include details on the government of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the information transmitted by them under Article 73 e. Those proposals, and the value of receiving information on the government of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, had been the subject of lengthy debate in the Fourth Committee. The Burmese delegation did not wish to revive any debate of that kind. However, it felt compelled to point out that the political advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was now more than ever a matter of urgent international concern. In general, the advance of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the years since the San Francisco Conference had been considerable. There had been a basic change in the attitude of the peoples and Governments of the Administering Members. The Burmese delegation recognized and welcomed that change, and was particularly pleased at the evidence of co-operation provided by the 1954 session of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was in that spirit that it would support the Committee's report and the necessary compromises involved in that report. At the same time,

in connexion with the general work of the Fourth Committee, it suggested that the Administering Members should reconsider their past opposition to transmitting political information and also take further steps for the political advancement towards full self-government and independence of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their control.

18. The Fourth Committee had heard objections and reservations made by various delegations regarding sovereignty over many Non-Self-Governing Territories. He hoped that the United Nations would help to settle those disputes speedily and successfully, thus furthering peaceful co-operation among all Member States.

19. Mr. RAMADAN (Egypt) commended the spirit of co-operation that had prevailed in the Committee on Information and deprecated the absence of the Belgian representative from that Committee.

20. The Committee's detailed report and the figures given in it indicated that the administering Powers had made praiseworthy efforts to promote economic, social and educational advancement in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. More important, the report showed just what remained to be done and the particular shortcomings to be made good. It stressed the need for increased vigilance by the administering Powers in certain Territories where there was a very low standard of living coupled with poor resources and inadequate means to develop them and emphasized the principle that the paramount interests of the indigenous inhabitants must be the determining factor in all cases.

21. The Administering Members supplied copious information on the number of schools, teacher-training programmes and educational progress in general. Details on the place given to the education of women in each educational programme, their aptitude for study and the means used to eliminate prejudice against such education would be helpful. Education must be as widespread as possible, but teaching methods must be adapted to the particular circumstances of each Territory, or even of each group of pupils. The teacher's main task was to gain the pupil's confidence; he should therefore be careful not to hurt certain feelings that they might have or wound their national pride. The results of an educational programme might be entirely negative if those psychological factors were ignored. Particular attention should be given to basic teaching in the vernacular; other languages could be taught later. The training of craftsmen with a knowledge of the simpler techniques was particularly important, since it would lay the foundation for more advanced technical studies and research. Lastly, it was of the utmost importance that every child should be taught international values such as liberty and tolerance, which were the common heritage of mankind and which were exerting an increasing influence on the values embodied in the laws, traditions and beliefs of each community or nation.

22. He whole-heartedly endorsed the fundamental aim of economic development in the Non-Self-Governing Territories set out in part two, paragraph 17, of the Committee's report, and the Committee's remarks on the necessity of indigenous participation in the planning of economic, social and educational programmes and the need for drawing up economic development programmes based on the individual needs of each Territory. Statistical services should be improved; more complete data on production, trade and the investment of private capital would be welcome.

23. In its reports submitted in 1951 (A/1836, part three) and in 1952 (A/2219, part two), the Committee had drawn attention to the importance of determining the standard of living in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The statistics showed that in most of the Territories the standard of living barely reached the subsistence level. In many of the Territories agricultural production was the main source of national income and one-crop economies were not uncommon. Modern technical developments had opened up new horizons, and it was in the interests both of the administering Powers and of the indigenous inhabitants to co-operate in diversifying agricultural production. The administering Powers should seek to introduce new crops and encourage the development of secondary crops; the credits allocated for agricultural development should therefore be increased, and courses on new methods and improvements should be started. As the Committee had noted, industrialization in the broad sense was impossible unless agriculture were modernized.

24. The report showed that during the post-war period, the metropolitan countries had resumed and even increased their imports of agricultural commodities from the Non-Self-Governing Territories. While the consequent saving in dollars was undoubtedly important, it was still more important that there should be a separate, long-term, economic policy for each Territory, based not on quick profits or immediate needs but on the necessity for raising the standard of living in the dependent territories and intensifying the production of crops for domestic consumption in order to ensure greater local prosperity. Only after that had been achieved could increased emphasis be placed on export crops, which would then become a source of profit.

25. Given the present world economy, economic development without industrial development was inconceivable. His delegation therefore joined with the Committee in welcoming the steps taken by the administering Powers to establish or to encourage the establishment of industrial enterprises as a part of the diversification of the territorial economy. Most of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly in Africa, had important mineral and other underground resources. Industrialization could take place only, first, if the administering Power provided the necessary technicians for prospecting, research, laboratory work and so on; secondly, if there was a supply of adequately trained manpower; and thirdly, if the natural resources of the country were exploited to the maximum, for example, by establishing hydroelectric stations wherever there were waterfalls. In addition, fiscal and other concessions must, as the report noted, be made to private companies introducing new industries or expanding existing industries. An ambitious policy of industrialization based on the geological potentialities and other conditions particular to each Territory and carried out in stages would promote the economic prosperity not only of the Non-Self-Governing Territories but of the world as a whole.

26. The report showed that in some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories private capital had been invested mainly with a view to obtaining high returns as quickly as possible, after which it was withdrawn. Private investment capital looked for adequate safeguards, particularly in the case of short-term investments. The administering Powers should pay particular attention to that problem. Steps should be taken to encourage the investment of private capital in the under-developed

countries, thus ensuring increased productivity and the maximum use of national resources. To that end the international banks should provide adequate guarantees against the risks incurred by the private investor. In addition, the administering Powers should indicate a long-term need for private capital and ensure private investors of the possibility of making a profit. Given such guarantees, together with previously determined provisions for the repatriation of both interest and capital after a certain number of years, the basis existed for fruitful economic co-operation between the administering Powers and the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their mutual advantage.

27. The report noted that investment capital tended to be attracted towards the export trade. The economic policies of the administering Powers must however, be dictated by the need, first, to ensure increased agricultural productivity and, secondly, to promote the expansion of national production in general. The dependent territories could reach their proper economic level only if agricultural productivity was increased, manpower properly distributed between agriculture and industry and the standard of living of each individual raised. Only then should steps be taken to expand productivity in the sectors most likely to find an outlet on the world market. When all three stages had been completed, the Non-Self-Governing Territories would be able to develop within the framework of economic co-operation laid down in the Charter.

28. Mr. CLAREY (Australia) said that his delegation had been gratified at the friendly and co-operative manner in which the Committee on Information had carried out its task. It appreciated the assistance given during the session by the economic experts attached to the various delegations.

29. In his delegation's view, part two of the report, which it had not yet had time to study in detail, gave a reasonably balanced outline of economic conditions, and it was in general agreement with it, subject to certain observations. The preparation of such a report was a difficult task and, in consequence, the report suffered from a certain degree of obscurity and oversimplification, so that it might not be entirely applicable to the particular circumstances of each Territory. The objectives of economic development set forth in paragraph 17 of part two were ideals which should be striven for, but the Committee would acknowledge that many territorial administrations were faced with considerable difficulties which rendered the realization of those objectives essentially a matter of long-term policy. In a territory such as Papua, physical difficulties were a substantial obstacle to development. The gradual transition from subsistence agriculture to the production of commercial crops, from a barter to a monetary economy, and the traditional forms of tenure of land and resources were important factors which must be taken into account in any realistic approach to the objectives enumerated. The generalization concerning economic "classes" in paragraph 26 of part two was not accurate, since clearly many other facts must be considered in connexion with it. Other inaccuracies and obscurities had been pointed out in detail by the United Kingdom representative, with whose statement (411th meeting) he was in general agreement.

30. With regard to the Territory of Papua, economic development was inseparable from the social and educational development of the indigenous people themselves. Unaided, they had neither the capital nor the

skill for the immediate tasks of such development. Approximately 80 per cent of them were still engaged in subsistence agriculture, but every assistance was being given to them to engage increasingly in commercial undertakings. Progress must, however, necessarily be slow, and economic, health and education programmes must be essentially of a long-term character.

31. With regard to agriculture, production of the principal export commodities, copra and rubber, had continued to increase, largely owing to the growth of the co-operative movement. At the same time the dangers of depending upon two crops were fully realized, and the Administration was taking steps to diversify production by providing agricultural advisory and experimental services, conducting land-use and other surveys, and investigating long-term market outlooks of commodities which appeared to have good production prospects. Production of new crops had already begun and was developing rapidly.

32. The Administration had encouraged and given much assistance to the formation of co-operatives, and as a result the development of that form of joint endeavour had been gratifyingly rapid. The report of the Committee on Information referred to that development.

33. Economic progress in the Territory had been steady and on the whole satisfactory. Many difficulties still faced the Administration, but for the most part they were gradually being overcome, and the Administration was confident that firm economic foundations were being laid on which future development of all kinds would depend.

34. Little need be said on the subject of social and educational advancement. The question of educational advancement had been dealt with the previous year, and those subjects would be dealt with by the Committee on Information in future years.

35. The report referred to the Australian Government's interest in the Colombo Plan and the South Pacific Commission, and he would like to clarify the general lines of policy from which Australia's interest in those organizations derived. Under the Colombo Plan, Australia was contributing towards the economic development of a group of under-developed countries in South-East Asia, including certain Non-Self-Governing Territories in that area. Part of Australia's contribution was to make available the services of technicians and to grant fellowships and scholarships to people from those Territories in the metropolitan technical institutions. In addition it made gifts of capital, either in cash or in kind, for the promotion of developmental projects.

36. In the South Pacific region the extent of social and economic development was greater and the problems of development even more striking. In that area, however, there were many common features which, as early as 1944, the Powers concerned had felt warranted collective and co-operative consideration. In 1947, therefore, the Australian Government had taken a leading part in establishing a framework within which consultation could take place and from which collective action would result. The South Pacific Commission had been the outcome of those efforts. The Commission, with the assistance of its Research Council and the South Pacific Conference, worked out and recommended to Governments practical measures affecting the economic and social problems and the welfare of the inhabitants of the Territories, for example, in agricul-

ture, communications, industry, public works, education, health and general welfare. Its role was largely advisory. All the Governments concerned were administering Powers and the purpose of their collaboration was to pool their experience and resources. The benefits of the organization were directed, through the administering Powers concerned, exclusively towards the indigenous peoples, who themselves played an important part in the Commission's operations through their participation in the meetings of the South Pacific Conference. Ten years previously the peoples of the many dependent territories in the Pacific had lived in isolation, if not in ignorance of their neighbours. Today, through the South Pacific Commission, they and their administrations had been brought into direct contact with one another. The Commission's development was a clear example of the practical fulfilment of the undertaking embodied in Article 73 d of the Charter.

37. Speaking on the general question of the obligations under Chapter XI of the Charter, he said that his delegation attached the utmost importance to the declaration contained in that chapter and, in respect of the Territory of Papua, Australia was happy to take all measures in its power faithfully and conscientiously to carry out the obligations it had freely accepted. To that end it was anxious to co-operate fully with other countries, as was evident from its participation in the Colombo Plan and in the South Pacific Commission. The obligations of a Power responsible for the administration of dependent territories were important and onerous ones. They required unceasing and sustained effort, expert knowledge, money and, above all, idealism and imagination. The administering Powers had responsibilities principally to the people of the territories, since the destinies of the inhabitants were in their hands.

38. The Administering Members, including Australia, welcomed the help and advice of all Members of the Assembly. There must however exist mutual respect and trust. In that connexion he associated the Australian delegation with the remarks made by the United States representative. The necessary co-operation and goodwill between the nations of the world could be built up only if every country regarded the others as honest in their activities and beliefs. If the criticism of the Administering Members was destructive and carried the imprint of bitterness and hostility, it would prevent the achievement of co-operation and destroy any possibility of establishing goodwill. There must in particular be a recognition of the authority of the Powers administering Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was recognized in the Charter, and of their ultimate right and duty to make decisions which they considered to be in the best interests of the Territories under their control.

39. Mr. Ali KHAN (India) recalled that at the 410th meeting the Philippine representative had criticized the Committee on Information for not dealing with political conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It should be pointed out that such a discussion did not fall within the Committee's terms of reference under General Assembly resolutions 146(II), 219(III), 332(IV) and 646(VII). Nevertheless, while a discussion on political conditions was beyond the terms of reference of the Committee on Information, there was nothing in the Charter to preclude such a discussion in the General Assembly or the Fourth Committee. The declaration regarding Non-Self-Governing

Territories in Chapter XI of the Charter spoke of "political, economic, social and educational advancement" and the development of self-government. It therefore brought political advancement, too, within the purview of the United Nations. There was, however, one handicap to a full and proper discussion of political advancement by the Fourth Committee, namely the lack of official information. In that connexion, he reminded the Committee of the terms of resolution 222(III). It would be useful and in the interests of all concerned for the Committee to be supplied with official information on changes in the constitution, legislature and other political conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories rather than to hear of them from non-official sources, which were very often not quite correct. He therefore appealed to the Administering Members to transmit such information as and when appropriate. That would, moreover, facilitate the General Assembly's task when it had to decide that the people of a Territory had attained a full measure of self-government and that no further information on that Territory need be transmitted.

40. The Philippine representative had also criticized the Committee for not paying sufficient attention to social and educational conditions. In resolution 333 (IV) the General Assembly itself had considered that the value of the Committee's work would be enhanced if special attention were given to one field each year. It should be stressed, however, that in the concentrating on economic conditions, the Committee had not neglected social and educational conditions; indeed, it had recommended a draft resolution on educational advancement. Had more time been available, the Committee would obviously have devoted much more attention to social and educational conditions. In 1955, however, the Committee would not be so hurried since it would be meeting in the spring, not in the autumn, when time was limited by the approach of the General Assembly session.

41. His delegation was concerned at the slow pace at which the Non-Self-Governing Territories were progressing towards self-government. It had been gratified to receive the Danish Government's communication (A/AC.35/L.168) announcing that Greenland had reached a stage of self-government and had become an integral part of Denmark. It noted that progress with satisfaction and would very much like to see other Territories, too, pass beyond the scope of Chapter XI. The concept of colonial or Non-Self-Governing Territories did not fit into the modern world; it was to be hoped that the process of development would be hastened so that those Territories could very shortly take their place as equal and independent Members of the United Nations.

42. His delegation agreed with the thesis maintained by the Ecuadorian delegation in the Fourth Committee at the previous session and at the 485th plenary meeting of the current session that Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter could not be invoked to claim that the facts relating to the administering of Non-Self-Governing Territories were a matter within the national jurisdiction of the administering States. Any such contention was invalidated by the very fact that the Administering Members supplied information about their dependent territories but not about their own sovereign States. The United Nations should be fully associated with the advance towards full sovereignty. For that, the full and unqualified co-operation of the Administering Members

was necessary. It was to be hoped that such co-operation would be forthcoming from all quarters in the future; it had not always been so in the past.

43. The Sub-Committee on Economic Conditions had had a difficult task. It had had to cover all the Non-Self-Governing Territories, big and small, situated in various parts of the world and at different stages of economic development. It had had to make recommendations in general terms without reference to specific Territories. Despite those limitations, however, its report marked another step forward. It should be considered as a supplement to the 1951 report and as a further step in the right direction. It should not be condemned as worthless because it was not and did not claim to be the last word on the economic development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

44. His Government had offered one hundred scholarships to overseas students to enable them to study in India, and in 1954-1955 twenty-nine of them had been offered to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. In an attempt to carry the purposes of General Assembly resolution 743(VIII) a little further, the delegations of India and Burma had submitted a draft resolution on educational advancement to the Committee on Information. The main objectives had been to stimulate interest among Member States in providing further facilities for education for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, to increase still further the confidence of those peoples in their respective administrations and to strengthen their sense of international awareness. Unfortunately, certain well-meant but perhaps misconceived amendments submitted by one of the administering Powers had so changed the draft resolution that even if it were passed by the General Assembly, it could not be carried out. His delegation had been somewhat surprised that a majority of the Committee on Information had recommended the draft resolution as amended for adoption despite the wise advice given by the Assistant Secretary-General. He hoped that any amendments introduced in the Fourth Committee would improve the original text.

45. His delegation had also submitted to the Committee on Information a draft resolution (A/2729, part one, para. 87) on the association of duly qualified indigenous persons with the delegations of the Administering Members and the participation of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Committee on Information. It had suggested that, in view of the importance of the subject and the shortage of time, the item should be postponed for early discussion at the next session of the Committee on Information. Nothing could be accomplished by the United Nations in connexion with the Non-Self-Governing Territories except with the co-operation of the Administering Members. His delegation therefore wished those Members to have more time to see the advantages of its proposal.

46. He paid a tribute to those Governments which had associated experts from the Non-Self-Governing Territories with their delegations to the Committee on Information. The inhabitants of the dependent territories were the best spokesmen of conditions there. It was to be hoped that more and more of them would be associated with the delegations of the administering Powers and that at some stage delegations from the Territories would take part in the Committee's work as associate members. That would be helpful to the Committee on Information and would be an education and an experience for the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, especially those who were nearing self-government and independence.

47. In conclusion, he drew attention to the fact that the present term of the Committee on Information would expire at the end of 1955; the question of its renewal would be discussed at the next regular session of the General Assembly. His delegation believed that the question of the Committee's continued existence should be discussed in a preliminary manner by the Committee itself before it came up in the Fourth Committee in 1955. It therefore recommended that the Committee's agenda for the next session should include a provision to that effect.

The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.