



Thursday, 17 October 1957,  
at 10.40 a.m.

**NEW YORK**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
Requests for hearings (continued)	
Requests concerning agenda item 37 (The future of Togoland under French administration) (continued)	99
Agenda item 38:	
Question of South West Africa(continued):	
(a) Report of the Committee on South West Africa;	
(b) Study of legal action to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the Mandatory Power under the Mandate for South West Africa: special report of the Committee on South West Africa	
Draft report of the Fourth Committee (Part I) . . .	99
Agenda item 35:	
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 (continued):	
(a) Information on economic conditions;	
(b) Information on other conditions;	
(c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information;	
(d) Offers of study and training facilities under resolutions 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954 and 931 (X) of 8 November 1955;	
(e) Methods of reproducing summaries of information concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General	
General debate (continued) . . . . .	99

**Chairman:** Mr. Thanat KHOMAN (Thailand).

**Requests for hearings (continued)**

REQUESTS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEM 37 (THE FUTURE OF TOGOLAND UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION) (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Committee had received two communications, one from Mr. Messan Ahtson and one from Mr. Ben Apaloo, parts of which concerned the hearings granted to JUVENTO at the 651st and 652nd meetings. He suggested that those parts should be circulated to the Committee.

It was so decided.<sup>1/</sup>

**AGENDA ITEM 38**

**Question of South West Africa (A/C.4/L.496) (continued):**

- (a) Report of the Committee on South West Africa (A/3626, A/AC.73/L.10);
- (b) Study of legal action to ensure the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by the Mandatory Power under the Mandate for South West Africa: special report of the Committee on South West Africa (A/3625)

<sup>1/</sup> The relevant parts of the communications were subsequently circulated as document A/C.4/354/Add.3.

DRAFT REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE (Part I) (A/C.4/L.496)

2. Mrs. SKOTTSBERG-AHMAN (Sweden), Rapporteur, introduced the Committee's draft report on the question of South West Africa (A/C.4/L.496) and explained that it covered only sections (a) and (b) of that item. Section (c), concerning the election of three members of the Committee on South West Africa, would be the subject of a supplementary report to the Assembly.

3. The CHAIRMAN said that if there were no objections the draft report would be considered to have been approved by the Committee.

It was so decided.

**AGENDA ITEM 35**

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/3601 and Corr.1, A/3602, A/3603, A/3606/Rev.1, A/3607, A/3608, A/3609, A/3647 and Corr.1, A/C.4/360) (continued):

- (a) Information on economic conditions;
- (b) Information on other conditions;
- (c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information (A/C.4/357/Rev.1, A/C.4/359);
- (d) Offers of study and training facilities under resolutions 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954 and 931 (X) of 8 November 1955 (A/3618 and Add.1);
- (e) Methods of reproducing summaries of information concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/3619)

**GENERAL DEBATE (continued)**

4. Mr. PERERA (Ceylon) said that while his Government had always been opposed to colonialism of any sort it was not so unrealistic as to suppose that all the Non-Self-Governing Territories were ready for immediate self-government in the accepted sense of the term. For that very reason it welcomed the improvements in social and economic conditions in most of those Territories which the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/3647) revealed. Nevertheless, despite the fact that there had been a general increase in production and that the export trade of the Territories had expanded, much remained to be done in the way of accelerating their economic development. Increases in the supply of primary products and the value of exports were not in themselves a criterion of economic development, for if the Territories specialized excessively in certain types of production they might find themselves confined to the role of supplying raw materials to Europe and serving as a market for manufactured foreign goods.

That would constitute a continuation of the pattern of colonialism and economic dependence in a new guise, which his Government could not consider desirable from the point of view of either the inhabitants of the Territories or the objectives set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter.

5. In that connexion, he wished to state that his delegation, while recognizing the importance of economic progress in relation to the promotion of political and social advancement, feared that the association of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with the proposed European Economic Community might impede their development and prevent their industrialization by opening their markets to the influx of manufactured products from Europe. His Government could not subscribe to a course of action which would put those Territories in the position of contributing raw materials to Europe's industrial economy, to the detriment of their own economic and social interests.

6. While the administration of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was primarily the responsibility of the Administering Members, that did not mean that other countries should be excluded from contributing to their economic, social and educational advancement. The report showed that most of the specialized agencies were playing an important part in simplifying the task of the administering Powers while at the same time promoting the best interests of the Territories themselves. There had also been a welcome increase in technical assistance rendered by the administering Powers themselves. It was to be noted that most of the Territories receiving technical assistance in 1957 had been those under United Kingdom administration and his delegation hoped that the other administering Powers would soon follow that example. He wished to urge that greater advantage should be taken of international assistance in the development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to invite the administering Powers to facilitate such international assistance by providing fuller and more frequent information on technical assistance projects in Territories under their administration. With regard to international collaboration in the field of education it was to be regretted that up to June 1957 only twelve fellowships out of a total of 247 offered by Member States had actually been awarded. The situation revealed by the Secretary-General's report (A/3618 and Add.1) could not be viewed by his delegation with equanimity and it was to be hoped that the procedure for the awarding and acceptance of such fellowships would be altered so as to permit more of the offers to be utilized.

7. His Government viewed with concern the social conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The general situation of the labouring classes in regard to living conditions, social amenities, wage rates and labour standards left much to be desired and in that connexion his delegation welcomed the information given in paragraph 53 of the part One of the report (A/3647) that the International Labour Organization was making a broad survey of labour and social conditions in Africa South of the Sahara. The summaries of information transmitted to the Secretary-General under Article 73rd of the Charter<sup>2/</sup> unfortunately revealed no significant changes in social conditions. His delegation held that problems of economic and

social development were interrelated and that social change and cultural adaptation were as important to the achievement of a balanced development as was economic advancement. He therefore hoped that more encouraging information would soon be forthcoming on that important aspect of the question before the Committee.

8. While his delegation had every confidence in the Administering Members, *inter alia* France, Belgium, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, it regretted that the Government of Belgium had not shown more inclination to co-operate with the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories in its great humanitarian task and hoped that it would in future give that task the support it deserved.

9. He wished also to make a few observations on the operation of the Trusteeship System as it related to the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The virtue of that system lay in the fact that it provided for the eventual accession of dependent territories to self-government, the nature and extent of the co-operation offered by the Powers entrusted with their administration being the factor which ultimately determined when that goal could be achieved. The letter and spirit of the Charter called for such co-operation. Where there was opposition to that principle there was unnecessary delay in the attainment of self-government by those Territories. The resolutions adopted by the General Assembly in the matter brought the persistent pressure of public opinion to bear in such a way as to accelerate the process of accession to self-government. He would like to emphasize in that context that the role of the non-administering States should be to point the way to transition from the status of Non-Self-Governing Territory to that of Trust Territory. Two General Assembly resolutions which were especially important in that connexion were resolution 848 (IX) concerning the voluntary transmission of political information and resolution 850 (IX) concerning the dispatch of visiting missions.

10. When the question of revision of the Charter came up it would be advisable, in the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to bear in mind particularly Article 77, paragraph 1 c, Article 79 and Article 80, paragraph 2, of the Charter and to be guided by both the letter and the spirit of those Articles.

11. Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France), speaking on behalf of the delegations of Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and France, and with the consent of their European partner, the Federal Republic of Germany, which unfortunately was still not participating in the debates of the United Nations, said he was obliged to raise a point of order and to protest against the direction which the debate seemed to be taking.

12. His delegation had been surprised to hear the representative of Ceylon touch upon the question of the European Common Market, discussing its terms and computing its possible future effects on territories outside Europe. He would point out that the Committee was examining information relating to economic conditions transmitted by the Administering Members for the year 1955, at which time the European Economic Community had not even been in the process of formation. Under Article 73 of the Charter the United Nations was not authorized to discuss the economic policy of the Administering Members; it was entitled

<sup>2/</sup> A/3601 and Corr.1, A/3602, A/3603, A/3606/Rev.1, A/3607, A/3608, A/3609.

only to receive a posteriori "... statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions...". Since the information for 1955 did not include material on the Common Market the question was completely outside the Committee's agenda.

13. There was, however, something more serious. In accordance with their international obligations, neither France nor the other European countries concerned had any objection to international discussion. That implied reciprocal examination of the activities of the principal economic bodies and organizations set up for the purpose of integrating economies, increasing productivity and raising the level of living of peoples. He would not stress the point that the Common Market would probably be discussed elsewhere than in the Fourth Committee, or that the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade would shortly be studying its technical clauses, but would merely say that France and the other European countries concerned attached such importance to international co-operation that they had included an article in the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community—article 229—which unfortunately was not reproduced in the Secretariat document (E/C.4/360). That article read as follows:

"The Commission shall be responsible for ensuring all suitable contacts with the organs of the United Nations, of their specialized agencies and of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

"The Commission shall also ensure appropriate contacts with all international organizations."

That meant that the proposed commission would in due course be prepared to co-operate with the United Nations in general and with each State in particular. Common sense as well as international courtesy, however, required that time should be allowed for the commission to be established.

14. It would be paradoxical to discuss a treaty which had not yet come into force and whose effects would be felt gradually over a period of fifteen years. Three of the six signatory States, namely, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands, had not yet ratified the Treaty. It had therefore not been communicated to the Secretary-General or registered with the Secretariat. For the Fourth Committee to discuss the Treaty and pass judgement on it and on its effects while it was still being debated by the Parliaments of three sovereign countries would constitute undue pressure on the part of the United Nations, illegal interference in the internal affairs of States, a violation of Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter and a most unfortunate precedent.

15. He therefore appealed to the wisdom and sagacity of all delegations, whatever their opinions on the substance of the question might be, to examine the matter objectively. The French delegation was quite willing to discuss any problem that might be raised, including in particular the advantages the territories outside Europe would derive from the Treaty. Nevertheless he reserved the position of the signatory States with regard to a debate on the subject at the present session and to the consequences if such a debate were to take place despite their objections and in defiance of simple logic.

16. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), referring to the remarks made by the representative of Ceylon, stated

that his delegation had transmitted information to the Secretary-General with regard to the Belgian Congo.<sup>3/</sup> He would explain his delegation's position fully when the Committee came to consider sub-item (c). He asked delegations to suspend judgement on the matter until then.

17. Mr. PERERA (Ceylon), replying to the representative of France, pointed out that as far as Article 73 e was concerned the subject of the European Economic Community was within the Committee's terms of reference, since it was referred to in paragraphs 109 and 110 of part Two of the report of the Committee on Information.

18. In his opinion Article 2, paragraph 7, had no relevance to the question. He reserved the right to make a fuller statement on the subject at a later stage.

19. Mr. ESPINOSA Y PRIETO (Mexico) noted that when the Committee discussed information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was perhaps the most important topic regularly considered by it, too many delegations seemed inclined to take no part in the debate until they had heard what others had to say. It seemed to him that the members of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories should be heard first and that the representatives of the Administering Members should take the initiative in opening the general debate. The character of the discussions in the Fourth Committee must surely be disillusioning to the vast sector of world public opinion, which doubtless pictured the Committee as an efficient organ having at its disposal a well co-ordinated supply of maps, photographs and documentary films provided by the Administering Members. It appeared, however, that the Administering Members considered that once they had provided extensive written information in accordance with the provisions of Article 73 e of the Charter they had done their duty. That written material was extremely valuable and had enabled the Committee to achieve many positive results. Indeed, at the previous session his delegation had expressed the hope that all new Members of the United Nations would comply with the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter as punctiliously as the Administering Members had done since 1945. The fact remained, however, that the Fourth Committee's discussions would begin under much more auspicious circumstances if the Administering Members would take it upon themselves to open the debate.

20. In the twelve years which had passed since the United Nations had been established the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories had progressed so far towards full self-government that a complete revision of the Committee's approach was called for. It was no longer sufficient, as it had seemed ten years earlier, for delegations to declare that they were anti-colonialist, for indeed there was no longer anyone who would wish to be called a colonialist. Another consideration was that certain of the Administering Members had actually granted self-government to the Territories under their administration. Finally, the information submitted was of an increasingly technical nature, as in the case of economic advancement and the implications of the European Common Market for the development of the non-self-governing peoples, so that the members of the Committee were required to have

<sup>3/</sup> Subsequently circulated as document A/3601/Add.1.

a specialized knowledge of subjects dealt with. Any clarifications that the representatives of the Administering Members could add would therefore be most welcome.

21. The form in which the extensive written material placed at the disposal of the Committee was presented was so disconnected and confused that the members of the Committee found it difficult to assimilate. As a result, it appeared that although the provisions of Article 73 e were being complied with no useful purpose was being served. The Committee would do well to discuss the matter and he would like to offer a few concrete suggestions with a view to making its work more productive.

22. With regard to the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, he would like to observe in passing that considering the conditions in which it was obliged to work it was surprising that it had been able to produce something so constructive as the economic survey in its latest report (A/3647, part Two). Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 933 (X), paragraph 6, that Committee was precluded from dealing with matters referring to individual Territories. Thus one more limitation was imposed upon its work in addition to those set forth in Chapter XI of the Charter itself. Furthermore, the composition of the Committee on Information reflected not the membership of the General Assembly but only that of the Trusteeship Council. In any case, if it had been decided that that Committee could deal only with the Non-Self-Governing Territories as a whole, by the same token the members of the Fourth Committee had the right to propose measures which would enable it to obtain a complete picture of the problems of those Territories.

23. The report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, the summaries prepared by the Secretary-General and the information supplied by the Administering Members all gave the reader the impression that he was confronted with material either too extensive or too disconnected to be assimilable. It was accordingly natural to ask whether that was due to the magnitude and complexity of the problem of the dependent peoples, to lack of preparation on the part of the delegations and the short time they devoted to the matter, to the absence of political information which would make it possible fully to understand the meaning of the economic, social and educational development described, to the obvious insufficiency of some of the information given in the summaries, as in the case of economic problems, or simply to the form in which the information was presented.

24. Some of those faults could easily be corrected. In the first place, a convenient list showing how many Non-Self-Governing Territories there were was conspicuously lacking. It was true that General Assembly resolution 66 (I) gave a list of such Territories, but since that time a number of Territories had been withdrawn from the list; moreover, it was necessary to take into consideration the discussions during the eleventh session of the General Assembly<sup>4</sup> concerning the question arising from the Secretary-

General's letter of 24 February 1956 (A/C.4/331, para.1), including the position taken by Portugal and the fact that answers from some Member States were still being awaited. Furthermore, a newcomer to the Committee's discussions might well wonder if there were any Non-Self-Governing Territories in addition to those which had been studied or mentioned by the Committee. If, as appeared to be the case, there were not, that fact should be stated in the annual report of the Committee on Information. It might be well, for example, to open the report with a paragraph showing how many Territories had been added to the list since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 66 (I), to how many the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter had ceased to apply, and, above all, to which Territories the information in the report referred. He would also suggest that the report should include a map of the world showing at a glance where the Non-Self-Governing Territories were situated, as in the case of the reports of the Trusteeship Council. The fact that the Non-Self-Governing Territories, were more numerous than the Trust Territories, while making that task more difficult, also made it the more necessary. He did not think that the Administering Members could object to that suggestion, for such maps could hardly be regarded as constituting political information.

25. The Under-Secretary had unfortunately been correct in stating to the Committee at the tenth session (474th meeting) that the information received by the United Nations concerning the Non-Self-Governing Territories had been neglected by the Press, for the truth was that the information was not presented in such a way as to make interesting reading for anyone who was not obliged to familiarize himself with it. On that subject of such vital world interest the Fourth Committee had not done justice to its task and the reasons for its failure should be analysed.

26. The representatives of some of the Administering Members had said that they considered it useless to take part in a discussion in which they were subjected to unjust criticism. Their silence, however, only invited further criticism and gave rise to suspicion. In an international forum such as the United Nations it was inevitable and indeed wholesome that all views, whether favourable or otherwise, should be heard. Criticism, moreover, could be extremely beneficial. Finally, if such notable and decisive events as the accession to independence of Ghana and the Federation of Malaya were borne in mind it would surely appear that a full discussion of the subject would redound to the credit of the Administering Members. Their understandable desire that the final results achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be to their own credit should not lead them to characterize as interference in their plans the legitimate interest shown by other States, for it was hardly likely that anyone would seek to hamper a constructive plan which had for its object the granting of self-government to the peoples concerned. It was true that there were many roads to self-government, as General Assembly resolution 742 (VIII) had recognized, but a spirit of competition in the task of leading the greatest possible number of peoples to self-government was all to the good.

27. In view of the statement made by the French representative concerning the European Common Market he would refrain from commenting on that topic but would merely say that its economic implications for the Non-Self-Governing Territories were

<sup>4</sup>/ See Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Fourth Committee, 615th to 623rd meetings; and Plenary Meetings, 656th and 657th meetings.



of great and legitimate interest to the United Nations. Other important economic matters on which fuller information would be welcome included major investments of capital in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the way in which large-scale public works were financed. Such data, in conjunction with data concerning the sums spent on education and social services, would give the General Assembly a better idea of the pace at which such Territories were advancing towards attainment of the goals of the Charter.

28. It was as yet too early to comment on the failure of Belgium to submit information on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under its administration. As far as Spain was concerned, its major colonial undertakings were those which had resulted in the founding of the Spanish-American republics and the Philippines rather than in the few colonies which it still administered. The existence of those States constituted ample evidence that Spain's attitude with regard to the precepts of the Charter would be worthy of its great tradition.

29. Finally, he wished to refer to the procedure followed at the 657th plenary meeting, held during the eleventh session of the General Assembly. Several years previously, at the eighth session (459th plenary meeting) the Assembly had accepted his delegation's interpretation of the Charter in the sense that matters relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be subject to a simple majority vote rather than a two-thirds vote. Nevertheless, at the 657th plenary meeting that practice had been disregarded in a manner which his delegation did not feel was in accordance with the Charter. He would therefore reiterate the proposal his delegation had made at that meeting that the International Court of Justice should be asked for an advisory opinion concerning the voting procedure applicable to matters concerning the Non-Self-Governing Territories and he hoped that the representatives of the Administering Members would co-sponsor the relevant resolution. The records of the 459th, 656th and 657th plenary meetings, in which both sides had set forth their views, should be referred to in that connexion.

30. Mr. WESTERMAN (Panama) drew attention to Article 74 of the Charter, which was much less often referred to in the course of debates on the Non-Self-Governing Territories than was Article 73.

31. His delegation was glad to note the progress towards self-government in the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Caribbean region. Puerto Rico and the Netherlands Antilles would shortly be followed by the United Kingdom Territories in the area; the first Parliament of the British Caribbean Federation would be inaugurated in April 1958. The Federation would be the third State born of the union of various British colonies in the Americas. The islands of the Caribbean, which had at different times been colonies of Spain, France and the United Kingdom, would shortly be joined in a regional union. He offered his country's sincere congratulations to the metropolitan Powers concerned on the manner in which they had assisted the Caribbean countries to achieve their present position. Panama welcomed that development as a manifestation of the principle of good neighbourliness referred to in Article 74 of the Charter. Panama, like the other Latin-American republics, had progressed from colonial status to self-government and was there-

fore in a position to appreciate the full meaning of Chapter XI of the Charter. The interest of Panama, as of the other Latin American countries, in the Non-Self-Governing Territories of the Caribbean area was genuine, because of the spirit of liberty that inspired them all. In the case of Panama, that interest was all the greater because of the effective contribution the peoples of the Caribbean area had made to the construction of the Panama Canal. As the President of Panama had recently observed, the country's remarkable economic development in half a century of republican life had been due to contributions from various sources, not the least of which had been that rendered by people from the West Indies.

32. The inter-American regional system had been based upon the ideals of those who had founded the American republics. In the past the continent had been a fertile field for territorial conquest and colonialism on the part of European Powers but today the seed of liberty had grown vigorously and the residue of the colonial epoch had disappeared. An example of inter-national American co-operation was offered by the Panama Canal, constructed on Panamanian territory by the United States Government. In that strategic strip of land the American nations saw reflected the advantages of inter-American co-operation and the virtues of the good-neighbour doctrine.

33. The delegation of Panama looked forward with interest to the logical conclusion of the advance of its neighbours in the Caribbean towards complete independence. The peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the area could be assured of Panama's continuing interest in their development and sincere desire for their emergence to a state of complete independence and prosperity. The material and spiritual strength of the peoples of the Western Hemisphere constituted a reserve for the future of humanity upon which the United Nations could draw for the maintenance of world peace and security.

34. Mr. MENCER (Czechoslovakia) associated his delegation with the congratulations extended to the representatives of Ghana and the Federation of Malaya on their admission to the United Nations. The creation of those two independent States from two Non-Self-Governing Territories and a Trust Territory represented another success for the growing movement of national liberation. It was desirable that that movement should attain the same happy results in other Non-Self-Governing Territories as quickly as possible, and in that connexion it was to be regretted that the negotiations between the United Kingdom Government and the representatives of the people of Nigeria had not yet led to satisfactory results. In his delegation's opinion, the General Assembly might well express its interest in the matter, together with the hope that Nigeria would become a genuinely independent State in 1959. Czechoslovakia would support any draft resolution to that effect presented in the Committee.

35. In spite of the decrease in their number, there were still many Non-Self-Governing Territories; and the Administering Members were inventing and applying new forms of colonialism in an effort to hinder their development towards independence. Although new names such as "integration", "economic community", "common market" and so on had been given to those schemes, they remained forms of colonialism and as such were doomed to extinction.

36. The efforts of both the Administering Members and the Fourth Committee should be devoted to the achievement of the two main goals of Chapter XI of the Charter, which were the achievement of independence or self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their material and cultural advancement. One of the fundamental conditions for the Committee's work in that field was the transmission of information in conformity with Article 73 e of the Charter, and the efforts of some Administering Members to restrict or even eliminate that obligation threatened the very basis of the Committee's activities. In previous sessions his delegation had stressed the need for information on all aspects of development in the Territories, political as well as economic, social and cultural. In spite of the provisions of Article 73 of the Charter, the Administering Members refused to transmit information on political matters. In that respect the situation had grown worse during the past year, because of the dangerous tendency of some Administering Members to transmit less information or even none at all, a tendency which threatened both the system of transmission itself and the whole concept of international supervision and control of the Territories through the United Nations.

37. During the current session the Committee's attention would be concentrated primarily on the economic situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It would be unrealistic to deal with economic conditions and prospects in those Territories without taking into account the fact that under the Treaty signed in Rome on 25 March 1957 many of them had been associated with the European Economic Community. Considering that the United Nations was responsible for the development of those Territories and had an obligation carefully to examine any changes or circumstances which might affect their political, economic and social development, it was not merely the right but the duty of the United Nations to examine the effects which the creation of the European Economic Community might have on the Non-Self-Governing Territories. His delegation had noted the French representative's statement on the matter but nevertheless it remained convinced that the Committee was fully entitled, under Article 10 of the Charter, to discuss the effects of the European Common Market on those Territories. Moreover, neither his delegation nor that of Ceylon had been the first to mention the Common Market and its effects; other delegations had done so in the General Assembly, among them those of France and Italy. In the light of that fact his delegation felt that others were entitled to do likewise.

38. The basis of Chapter XI of the Charter was the recognition by the Administering Members that the interests of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were paramount and should take precedence over all other interests. Many States had expressed the fear that the Administering Members had not taken that fundamental principle sufficiently into account in associating those Territories with the European Community. They had also expressed the opinion that the provisions of the Rome Treaty were incompatible with the provisions of the Charter and that Article 103 of the Charter was therefore applicable.

39. There were a number of factors to be taken into account in considering the possible effects of the Treaty on the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Article 214 of the Treaty might serve as a pretext for refusing to

transmit information on economic development in the Territories.

40. Another important factor to be considered was that the Federal Republic of Germany, which was not a Member of the United Nations, would have a decisive influence, under the Treaty, on decisions concerning the economic steps to be taken in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Council of the European Economic Community had been so organized that a negative vote by the Federal Republic of Germany, together with an abstention by Luxembourg, would make it possible for that country, a non-Member State, to block any recommendation of the United Nations.

41. The European Economic Community was the result of a political decision and would have political implications, as had been recognized openly by official representatives of the signatory States. The political integration of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with the six countries of Western Europe would be contrary to the Charter and the goals laid down in Chapter XI for the development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Moreover, it would represent a serious obstacle to the development of those Territories not only towards political independence, but towards economic independence also. In recent months special attention had been devoted in the world Press to the economic prospects of the Non-Self-Governing Territories administered by France under the new arrangement. Once the Common Market was established those Territories would be compelled to reduce the prices of their agricultural commodities in favour of the five other member States and to include imports from those States in their preferential tariff system. Even without taking into account the discriminatory treatment which would thus be applied to other Members of the United Nations, the latter measure would undoubtedly have adverse effects on the local industries of the Territories and hinder their industrialization. The provisions of the Rome Treaty dealing with the question of migration had also aroused much unfavourable comment. The establishment of an investment fund would only be of importance for the development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories if decisions regarding investments were taken solely from the point of view of the interests of the indigenous populations. The provisions of the Treaty, however, offered no guarantee that that would be the case; on the contrary, they presupposed that investments would be made in non-productive fields only.

42. The Non-Self-Governing Territories had been associated with the Common Market without the consent of their populations and the Treaty contained no provisions by which the Territories could some day terminate the association. It therefore represented a violation of the right of self-determination.

43. In view of all those considerations, the United Nations should examine the possible effects of the Treaty on the Non-Self-Governing Territories with all the attention the problem merited.

44. His delegation appreciated the work of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories but considered that the circumstance which required that Committee to speak of some economic phenomena in general terms only sometimes prevented its reflecting the situation in some Territories accurately. For instance, although the exports of some Territories had risen, in most cases that represented

not economic progress but the reverse, because it increased the imbalance in the development of those Territories. Comparison of the rate of growth of exports from the Non-Self-Governing Territories and from the administering Powers made that imbalance even more obvious and showed that the real per capita income of the populations of the Non-Self-Governing Territories had not kept pace with that of the metropolitan countries.

45. As economic development could not be analysed in isolation from political, social and cultural development, his delegation wished to comment on some aspects of social and cultural conditions in the Territories. It was surprising that there were still many Territories in which 90 to 99 per cent of the population over the age of fifteen was illiterate. The situation called for immediate action by the Administering Members. The only solution of the problem lay in the institution of universal fundamental education and the provision of sufficient funds to make that possible.

46. The situation with regard to delinquency and criminality was also serious; it had in fact grown worse in many Territories rather than better. It was generally agreed that the solution to that problem lay in taking steps to improve the living conditions of the masses; nevertheless, the administering Powers were trying to deal with the problem by intimidation. Thus, for example, the number of cases of capital punishment had increased substantially in many Territories. Moreover, in spite of the fact that the Fourth Committee had on several occasions condemned the practice of corporal punishment, the number of penalties involving such punishment had increased in several Territories. The Committee on Information would do well to turn its attention to that problem.

47. Racial discrimination continued unchecked in many Territories. It was essential that that phenomenon should be brought to an end once and for all if children were to be spared the bitter experience of discovering the tragic contradiction between the theory of racial equality that they were taught in school and the experience of their daily lives.

48. Mr. CHAMANDI (Yemen) said that at the eleventh session (607th meeting) his delegation had pointed out to the Committee that despite the General Assembly's recommendation, in its resolution 845 (IX) that the Administering Members should take adequate measures to ensure the full utilization of scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States, there was a wide gap between the number of scholarships offered and the number granted. The present year's report concerning that item (A/3618 and Add.1) showed that the gap still existed. The number of scholarships offered during the period from May 1956 to June 1957 had been 247, the number of applications had been 103 and the number actually taken up had been 12, or 5 per cent of the total number offered. It was difficult to see any reason for that state of affairs and his delegation would be grateful to the representatives of the Administering Members if they would explain what had prevented the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories from taking advantage of the benefits offered.

49. He reiterated his previous appeal that more positive measures should be taken to remedy the situation and he hoped that the Administering Members would give more sympathetic attention to the matter.

50. Mr. JAIPAL (India), referring to the point of order raised by the French representative, said that his delegation did not share that representative's views regarding the competence of the General Assembly to discuss the question of the association of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the European Common Market. Before touching on the question of competence, he would deal with some of the other arguments put forward.

51. The French representative had referred to the fact that the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community had not been ratified by all the signatory States. The question of ratification, however, did not appear to be strictly relevant. The Fourth Committee was not concerned with the economic integration of Europe but with the proposal to associate certain Non-Self-Governing Territories with a European economic arrangement. Article 73 of the Charter laid down the principle that the interests of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories were paramount. Moreover, one of the legal obligations set forth in Article 73 was that of ensuring the economic advancement of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Clearly it was the duty of the General Assembly to examine every development which might have a bearing on the provisions of Article 73. The General Assembly should therefore know the extent to which the Non-Self-Governing Territories would be associated economically with the new arrangement, what advantages they would derive from it and whether that development was compatible with the provisions of Article 73.

52. In the opinion of the Indian delegation the General Assembly was competent to discuss the matter under the terms of Article 10, since the association of Non-Self-Governing Territories with the European Common Market was a matter within the scope of the Charter. The competence of the General Assembly was in no way restricted by the provisions of Article 73 e. Nor did his delegation accept the thesis of a *posteriori* control. To say that the General Assembly could discuss matters only after information had been given would be to restrict its competence. Members knew by experience that there was no guarantee that the information would be given in time, or that it would be given at all. In any event, many organs of the United Nations, including the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, had already discussed the question in a tentative way.

53. There could be no question of the application of Article 2, paragraph 7, of the Charter in that connexion, as claimed by the representative of France. Firstly, discussion was not intervention; secondly, a matter which was the subject of an international treaty and was clearly covered by the provisions of Article 73 could not be held to be essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State.

54. The French representative had made no formal proposal but only a general appeal to the members of the Committee. The Indian delegation would respond to that appeal; it would not, of course, refrain from offering general observations on the proposed association of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the European Common Market but it would be careful at the present stage not to make proposals which would be in the nature of judgements or opinions of substance.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.