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MEETING**

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

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

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the Trusteeship Council (A/3822, A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1, A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1, A/C.4/L.545, A/C.4/L.547, A/C.4/L.548, A/C.4/L.549) (*continued*)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.4/L.542/REV.1, A/C.4/L.543 AND ADD.1, A/C.4/L.545, A/C.4/L.547, A/C.4/L.548, A/C.4/L.549) (*continued*)

1. Mr. USMAN (Indonesia), commenting on the amendments (A/C.4/L.551) proposed by the United Kingdom representative to the draft resolution on the dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545), said that the third of those amendments would entirely alter the intent of the draft resolution, which was to provide for greater participation by the indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories in the dissemination of information on the role of the United Nations and the Trusteeship Council in promoting the advancement of those Territories towards self-government or independence. That the existing arrangements for the dissemination of such information were inadequate was shown by the various earlier resolutions mentioned in the preamble. The purpose of the present draft was to state the means whereby the increase in the flow of information called for in those resolutions could be brought about. In view of the important phase of development which many of the Trust Territories had now reached, the inhabitants not only should have access to information about the United Nations but should also participate directly in its work. In order to ensure that such information reached them, their own representatives should be entrusted with the direction of the proposed information centres, which would supplement the flow of information provided through existing channels. The use of the word "representatives" in operative paragraph 2 was not intended in any way to imply identification or affiliation with any political tendency or group. The first United Kingdom amendment would minimize the importance attached by the sponsors to the changed conditions in certain Trust Territories which in their view necessitated the establishment of an entirely new kind of information centre. If, however, the majority favoured that amendment his

delegation was prepared to accept it. The replacement of the word "could" by "might" in paragraph 1, as proposed in the second United Kingdom amendment, suggested the possibility of a number of alternatives, which was not the intention of the sponsors. Similarly the third amendment seemed to provide for various possible ways of increasing the flow of information instead of making a specific provision, as did paragraph 2 of the draft resolution.

2. With regard to the draft resolution on the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1), he stated that as some of the Administering Authorities still seemed reluctant to set intermediate targets and dates for political, economic, social and educational development it was appropriate that the General Assembly should reaffirm its previous resolutions in that regard. In view of the fact that some of the Trust Territories were now on the threshold of independence, the setting of targets and dates for political development was particularly important. His delegation could not accept the argument that the fixing of such dates might impede progress; on the contrary, it was convinced that a broadly outlined programme tentatively envisaging a date for the attainment of self-government or independence would have the effect of accelerating political evolution.

3. The views expressed by his delegation at the twelfth session on the far-reaching consequences which association of the Trust Territories with the European Economic Community was likely to have both in those Territories themselves and in other parts of the world were all the more valid now that some Trust Territories were approaching the attainment of the objective of the Trusteeship System. He therefore hoped that the draft resolution on that subject (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1) would be unanimously approved.

4. His delegation would vote in favour of the Chilean draft resolution on the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/C.4/L.547) and the draft resolution concerning offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.548). It would also vote in favour of the draft resolution on economic aid for Somalia (A/C.4/L.549) because it understood that the purpose of the financial aid and technical assistance referred to was solely to consolidate the independence of the Territory. Paragraph 2 might give rise to apprehension that in the period preceding the Territory's accession to independence bilateral agreements would be negotiated which might prevent Somalia from reaching the fullest degree of self-sufficiency. His delegation felt, however, that since the draft resolution as a whole should be approved in order to facilitate the Territory's accession to independence, that consideration must not prevent it from casting a favourable vote.

5. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti), referring to the draft resolution on the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1), said that the question was by no means a new one for the League of Nations itself had held that measures should be taken which would lead the Mandated Territories towards the attainment of those objectives. As a number of Trust Territories had been brought to the threshold of self-government or independence, the sponsors of the draft resolution had hoped that the Administering Authorities might now take a different stand on the matter of fixing targets and dates. They had therefore been disappointed to hear the Belgian representative say at the previous meeting that he would vote against the draft resolution. As some of the Administering Authorities actually had set such targets and had reported on the steps taken to meet them he could not help feeling that their opposition was based on principle rather than on factual considerations. When the General Assembly at its sixth session had first adopted a resolution on the subject (558 (VI)) the Administering Authorities had probably not foreseen that so many Trust Territories would be ready for self-government or independence by 1960. In view of the changing situation, he was unable to see why the Administering Authorities which had not yet reported on targets and dates for the remaining Trust Territories should refuse to change their stand. In the case of Tanganyika dates had been set for elections to the Legislative Council and the Administering Authority had informed the Committee that because of the satisfactory outcome of the first part of those elections it had been decided to advance the date of the second part, thereby making it possible to establish ahead of schedule the constitutional committee which was to study measures for the political development of the Territory. That circumstance illustrated the practicability of establishing flexible targets and dates for political evolution.

6. He could not agree with the Belgian representative that the draft resolution concerning the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1) was an expression of discourtesy to the Administering Authorities. He did not doubt that the Administering Authorities would in any case, as the Belgian representative had said, include information on the subject in their annual reports but he felt that if the General Assembly drew their attention to the importance of the matter they might submit such information in greater detail.

7. In principle, he was in favour of the draft resolution on dissemination of information in Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545). He had gained the impression during his visits to those Territories that, while opportunities for the inhabitants to acquire such information did exist, they were inadequate. Nevertheless, his delegation would not take a definite decision about its vote until later in the debate.

8. His delegation had no comments to make on the Chilean draft resolution (A/C.4/L.547), which it found acceptable. It was also favourably inclined to the draft resolution on study and training facilities (A/C.4/L.548); there were arguments on both sides, but he knew how great the needs of the Trust Territories were, and felt that a way out of the difficulty could certainly be found. He appealed to the Administering Authorities to

give favourable consideration to the grant of such scholarships.

9. He supported the draft resolution on economic aid for Somalia (A/C.4/L.549); indeed, he would be glad if his delegation might be allowed to join those sponsoring it. The request for assistance from the Special Fund and from the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance could lead to useful results and he hoped that it would be sympathetically received by those agencies.

10. Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) said that he supported the draft resolution on the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1), for the question of target dates was one which his delegation had always considered to be of fundamental importance. Nevertheless he wished to make two comments which should not be taken as criticisms, since there was no difference of view between his delegation and the sponsors on the main question. In the first place, paragraph 1 of the draft resolution contained a reference to the achievement by certain Trust Territories of the objective of the Trusteeship System in 1960. However, the United Kingdom representative had said in the Trusteeship Council that a date for the attainment of independence by the Cameroons under British administration had not been fixed and would be communicated later; while, in the case of Western Samoa, a visiting mission would be proceeding to the Territory in 1959 with a view to ascertaining the extent to which the aims of trusteeship had been achieved there. The statement in the draft resolution therefore seemed somewhat premature. His other point concerned paragraph 3 of the draft resolution: he felt that it would have been strengthened if it had referred to the contents of previous resolutions on the subject of target dates for achieving the final objective of trusteeship. He hoped that the sponsors would take account of his comments and thus enable his delegation to vote for the draft resolution without any qualms.

11. He wished to emphasize that he and the other sponsors of the draft resolution on the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1) had no intention of withdrawing it, as the Belgian representative had suggested at the previous meeting. It merely restated what had already been said on the subject. The Administering Authorities concerned had not provided the information for which the General Assembly had asked in resolution 1210 (XII), and the Trusteeship Council had therefore been unable to comply with the request addressed to it.

12. His delegation supported the draft resolution on the dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545). The request which it contained would enable the Secretary-General to achieve more co-ordination in the field of information. He had no objection to the first of the three amendments proposed by the United Kingdom (A/C.4/L.551), more particularly as one of the sponsors had also accepted it. He would await the opinion of the sponsors on the second of those amendments; with regard to the third, he was firmly opposed to it. The draft resolution did not contain a request to the Administering Authorities which might give rise to action by the Trusteeship Council, but a general directive to the Secretary-General.

13. He would vote in favour of the Chilean draft resolution (A/C.4/L.547) provided that it meant that the Trusteeship Council would also take into account the observations of Member States and the statements of the petitioners. He would also vote in favour of the draft resolution on study and training facilities (A/C.4/L.548) since the statement that the major part of the scholarships offered by Member States remained unutilized was fully corroborated by the report of the Secretary-General (T/1377).

14. His delegation was glad to note that the question of financial aid to Somalia was well on its way to being solved. It had also been glad to hear the Italian representative's statement at the 782nd meeting listing the various sources from which assistance would be forthcoming, but felt that all Member States should be called on to contribute. The representative of the United Arab Republic had suggested at the twenty-second session of the Trusteeship Council (929th meeting) that all contributions should pass through a United Nations joint fund for Somalia created for that purpose, and had also suggested that a special committee should be set up to consider financial questions. Those suggestions could be taken up once the Trusteeship Council had considered them; meanwhile, his delegation supported the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.549).

15. Mr. PIETERS (Netherlands), referring to the draft resolution on the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1), said that he shared the views expressed by the Belgian representative at the previous meeting. The European Economic Community would be taking no practical steps towards a customs union before 1 January 1959, and the effects of the modest reduction of 10 per cent in customs duties which would then be brought into force would clearly not be felt until a later stage. The Administering Authorities would undoubtedly include all available information in their reports in due course. It was therefore premature to voice concern on the subject and his delegation would be unable to vote in favour of the draft resolution.

16. His delegation supported the United Kingdom amendments (A/C.4/L.551) to the draft resolution on the dissemination of information (A/C.4/L.545).

17. With regard to the draft resolution on economic aid for Somalia (A/C.4/L.549), his delegation appreciated the aims of its sponsors. Notwithstanding recent encouraging trends, all members of the Committee were concerned about the economic future of that Territory, both before and after independence. His delegation hoped that international assistance would continue to be provided on an increasing scale. He shared the desire expressed by the sponsors that the needs of the Government of Somalia would receive consideration by those responsible for the management of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance and the Special Fund. It had to be borne in mind, however, that the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance was governed by certain procedures based on the principle laid down by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly that funds should be distributed on the basis of requests submitted by all Governments. That made it difficult to give priority to the requests of certain Governments at the expense of others. For that reason, he had some doubts on the draft resolution on assistance to Togoland adopted at the 788th meeting,

much as he appreciated the need for it. The sponsors of the draft resolution under consideration had referred to the principles of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance; he would mention that the Special Fund had new rules that were different from those of the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. The Governing Council of the Fund had not yet met; it would no doubt take into account all relevant factors, but he doubted whether the General Assembly could properly ask for assistance for a specific country, since it might appear to be prejudging the decision of the Governing Council. He did not wish to imply that the Committee should refrain from asking for assistance for former Trust Territories, but only to emphasize the fact that other issues were also involved. His delegation would nevertheless vote in favour of the draft resolution.

18. Mr. KANAKARATNE (Ceylon) stated on behalf of the sponsors of the draft resolution on information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545) that, together with the United Kingdom delegation, they were endeavouring to reach an agreed text. In the circumstances, he thought it would be desirable if discussion on the draft resolution could await the results of those negotiations.

19. Mr. EILAN (Israel) said that his delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution on economic aid for Somalia (A/C.4/L.549). There could be no doubt that timely technical and economic aid for countries that were on the threshold of independence would help them to overcome the many difficulties which often beset the path of new States.

20. His delegation had no objection to the terms of the draft resolution on the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1) but regarded it as superfluous. It was difficult to blame the Administering Authorities for not submitting information on the effects of a plan which had not yet come into operation. In fact it was likely that by the time the European Common Market began to function, three of the African Trust Territories would have already achieved independence. In that event the only Territory concerned would be Ruanda-Urundi and if in 1961 the Belgian authorities had not submitted adequate information on the effects of the plan on that Territory, then, and only then, would the Israel delegation perhaps consider supporting a similar draft resolution.

21. With regard to the draft resolution concerning the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1), he said that during the debate on a similar draft resolution at the twelfth session he had stated to the Committee (732nd meeting) that it was not within the realm of practical possibility to fix a final target date for all Trust Territories. After hearing the comments made at the present session, however, his delegation would support the draft resolution, the aim of which was to accelerate the movement towards self-government or independence.

22. The draft resolution relating to the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/C.4/L.547) was non-controversial and he would vote in favour of it.

23. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution concerning offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust

Territories (A/C.4/L.548). For Africa especially education was as necessary as economic aid; without education much economic aid to new States could not be fully utilized.

24. The draft resolution on the dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545) was laudable and at the present stage could have no financial implications. His delegation might have to reconsider its position on the subject at the next session in the light of general United Nations policy on the establishment of new information centres and its relation to the over-all financial situation, but it would support the present draft resolution. It considered that the possibility of establishing such centres should at least be explored. The amendments to the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom delegation (A/C.4/L.551) were in general acceptable to his delegation. He hoped the sponsors would be able to reach a compromise with the United Kingdom delegation so as to obviate the necessity of a separate vote on the amendments.

25. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran) said his delegation's failure to take part in the general debate was due solely to the heavy programme of work facing the Committee. In other circumstances his delegation would have liked to participate in the examination of conditions in the Trust Territories, which had taken on special importance at the present session in view of the imminent birth of five new and independent States. His delegation therefore wished to express to those future States the friendship and solidarity of the Iranian people and Government, who had always supported the cause of emancipation and independence for dependent peoples.

26. He noted that in a relatively short time there would be only four Administering Authorities on the Trusteeship Council and only one Member State would be elected to the Council by the General Assembly, with the result that the Charter might have to be amended in order to make the membership of the Council more representative. In that connexion, he suggested, for example, that, aside from the permanent members of the Security Council whose membership was provided for in Article 86 b of the Charter, the General Assembly should always elect as many members as there were members administering Trust Territories. Such a solution, or similar solutions, should be studied by the Assembly at its next session.

27. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution on the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1), which embodied a view that had long been held by a majority of the Members of the Assembly. He felt, however, that the words "Notes that" at the beginning of paragraph 1 might be replaced by "Notes with satisfaction that", which would be a more adequate expression of the feelings of most Members of the General Assembly.

28. With regard to the draft resolution concerning the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1) his delegation considered that any influx of foreign capital into new countries should be accompanied by precautions to guarantee their free development. Equality of rights between a strong and a weak party merely confirmed the situation of the former. In

the light of those considerations, the question of associating the Trust Territories with the European Economic Community was highly controversial and the Administering Authorities should be requested to submit information on the subject in their reports. He would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

29. With regard to the draft resolution on the dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545), his delegation considered that, for the reasons stated in the preamble, the task of disseminating such information could be greatly facilitated by the establishment of United Nations information centres in the Trust Territories. It would provide the people of the Trust Territories with information not easily available to them through existing channels and would constitute a new link between them and the present-day world and thus facilitate the attainment of the objectives of the Charter. He would therefore vote in favour of all efforts in that direction. He had, however, certain reservations with regard to paragraph 2, since he could not accept the suggestion that the centres should be directed by representatives of the indigenous populations. Such a suggestion was neither practicable nor desirable: it was impracticable for administrative reasons and it was undesirable because a citizen of a Trust Territory, in present circumstances at least, would not be able to dispose of the facilities which would be available to a director coming from another country, who would have *de facto* diplomatic status. Nevertheless it was important that the indigenous populations should participate in the functioning of such centres and he therefore proposed that paragraph 2 should be amended by replacing the words "to be directed by representatives of the indigenous populations" by the words "the staff of which should as far as possible consist of indigenous inhabitants". If that amendment were accepted by the sponsors he would vote in favour of the draft resolution. With regard to the United Kingdom amendments (A/C.4/L.551), he had no particular objection to what was explicit in them but rather to what was implicit, since they did not define the proposed task of the information centres.

30. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolutions on the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/C.4/L.547) and on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.548).

31. With regard to the draft resolution concerning economic aid for Somalia (A/C.4/L.549), he observed that considerable progress had been effected in the political and economic fields in that Territory, largely owing to the efforts of the Administering Authority. Despite the work that had been done, however, economic resources were very limited. Substantial assistance from the Italian and other Governments and from United Nations technical assistance had been needed and would continue to be needed for some time to come. In the light of that situation the draft resolution was timely and his delegation would support it. His delegation attached considerable significance to paragraphs 3 and 4, which closely resembled the draft resolution on assistance to Togoland under French administration adopted by the Committee at its 788th meeting. It was important that assistance should be provided to the young Somali State through the appropriate international channels with the guarantee that economic and

technical aid would be given free of any political conditions.

32. Mr. MARTIROSYAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) presented his delegation's amendments (A/C.4/L.552) to the draft resolution concerning the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1). Despite the opposition of some of the Administering Authorities it was essential that target dates should be set for all the Trust Territories. That fact was reflected in the draft resolution to some extent but not sufficiently, and he believed that the amendments proposed by his delegation would complete the text.

33. Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) associated himself with the remarks made at the previous meeting by the representative of Belgium concerning the draft resolution on the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1). In his delegation's opinion that draft resolution was entirely superfluous and he would vote against it.

34. Mr. VITELLI (Italy) said his delegation felt that the question of the establishment of information centres in Trust Territories deserved a more practical approach than that suggested in the draft resolution before the Committee (A/C.4/L.545). He considered it would be to the general advantage if the actual situation in connexion with the problem were first examined in each Trust Territory; then and only then could measures be adopted which would really be beneficial to the Territories and in harmony with the principle which had prompted the sponsors of the draft resolution. As far as Somaliland was concerned the dissemination of information presented no problem, chiefly owing to the presence of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, and no further measures appeared necessary. That fact was clear from the annual reports of the Administering Authority, the reports of the Advisory Council and the report on the Territory submitted by the 1957 Visiting Mission (T/1344). His delegation was, however, prepared to examine with interest the text to be worked out by the sponsors of the present draft resolution and the United Kingdom delegation.

35. His delegation would vote in favour of the draft resolution concerning the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/C.4/L.547).

36. Turning to the draft resolution concerning the effect of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1), he observed that at the previous session his delegation had voted against General Assembly resolution 1210 (XII), because it had felt that the request to the Administering Authorities to supply information on the effects of association of the Trust Territories with the European Economic Community was both premature and unwarranted. Furthermore, it had felt that by agreeing to such a request the Administering Authorities would have implicitly admitted that they were otherwise unwilling to submit in due

course pertinent economic information concerning the Trust Territories under their administration. The Italian delegation was well aware of the significant impact which association with the European Economic Community might have upon the development of Trust Territories and it was precisely for that reason that Italy had wished Somaliland to be associated with the European Common Market. The question was of such importance that Italy would certainly not withhold any information that could contribute to the assessment of the impact of the Common Market on the Trust Territories. For those reasons, and also for the reasons stated by the representatives of Belgium and France, he would vote against the draft resolution.

37. He reserved his delegation's right to express its views on any other draft resolutions that might be submitted.

38. U ON SEIN (Burma) said that his delegation had been glad to join in co-sponsoring the draft resolution concerning the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.542/Rev.1). It had always been in favour of the establishment of intermediate and final target dates for the attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories, as he had already said in his speech in the general debate (783rd meeting). He would comment later on the amendments submitted by the USSR delegation (A/C.4/L.552), which he had not yet had time to study.

39. He hoped the Committee would support the draft resolution concerning the effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.543 and Add.1).

40. His delegation had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution on the dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.545) because it felt that the present dissemination of such information was inadequate and that in order to ensure the efficient working of an information centre the director should have a thorough knowledge of the region and the language spoken. In the light of what had been said by the representative of Ceylon he would refrain from commenting for the time being on the amendments proposed by the United Kingdom delegation (A/C.4/L.551) and hoped that an agreed text would be forthcoming.

41. He would support the draft resolution on the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/C.4/L.547).

42. His delegation would also support the draft resolution concerning offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories (A/C.4/L.548).

43. He would be glad to vote in favour of the draft resolution concerning economic aid for Somalia (A/C.4/L.549), as he would support any suggestion for giving economic and technical aid to Trust Territories about to achieve independence.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.