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**Chairman: Mr. Luciano JOUBLANC RIVAS
(Mexico).**

Requests for hearings (continued)

1. The CHAIRMAN said that the Secretariat had received a telegram from the Secretary of the Togoland Reformation Movement requesting permission for Mr. Asare to represent that organization during the Committee's debate on the future of Togoland under British administration. He suggested that, in accordance with the Committee's usual practice the telegram should be circulated to members of the Committee.

There being no objections, it was so decided.

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the Trusteeship Council (A/2933, T/L.500, T/L.579 and Add.1, T/L.591, T/L.602, T/L.609, T/L.617) (*continued*)

HEARING OF THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOMALI YOUTH LEAGUE

At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Abdirazak Haji Hussen, representative of the Somali Youth League, took a place at the Committee table.

2. The CHAIRMAN welcomed Mr. Hussen and asked him to confine his remarks to questions directly affecting the Trust Territory.

3. Mr. HUSSEN (Somali Youth League) thanked the Committee for granting him a hearing on behalf of the organization which he represented and the Somali people. He also wished to express his gratitude to the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration, which was doing invaluable work in the Territory and contributing towards its advancement.

4. He had been instructed to make clear the aspirations of the Somali people, who were aware of the difficult problems involved in the economic development of the Territory and who intended to do their utmost to co-operate with the Administration in seeking a solution. Obviously the Territory needed considerable technical and financial assistance to place its economy on a sound foundation. It would therefore be desirable for the praiseworthy work which Italy was undertaking at the present time to be supplemented by an extensive programme carried out with United Nations assistance. Practical steps must be taken to

ensure that the new Somali State was not too severely handicapped from the start. He thanked the Administration for having approached the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the Territory's behalf. He also thanked the United States and Italian Governments, which had contributed \$1,200,000 to an economic development scheme.

5. He hoped that the next Visiting Mission, which would be the last, would spend more time in the Territory than the previous ones. Neither the 1951 nor the 1954 United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa had been able to visit the important grazing area between Galcaio and Mogadiscio. That was the area in which the nomads were most numerous and where tribal warfare was most serious; it was also the area which had been affected the most by the establishment of the provisional administrative boundary.

6. The main crops at present raised in Somaliland were bananas and sugar cane. Bananas were sold to Italy at prices higher than those prevailing in the world market and the price obtained for sugar was also higher than the open market prices in the neighbouring sterling areas. The Somalis were anxious to find means of reducing the cost of production. They would like to grow bananas and enter into partnership with Italian concessionaires in order to market the fruit under the advantageous conditions enjoyed by the present exporters. The Somalis also believed that there was much land on which millet could be grown apart from the irrigated plains. They hoped that the possibilities of developing agriculture in those areas could be examined with a view to establishing agricultural communities, and considered that the system best suited to the economic and social development of the Territory and particularly beneficial to the nomadic population would be a scheme which combined ranching and farming.

7. He had been instructed to emphasize the need for a technical college or high school, because the country required technicians and could not afford to send many students abroad to study.

8. Lastly, he referred to a problem which he thought caused the greatest concern to the people—the frontier between Ethiopia and the Trust Territory of Somaliland. It was in urgent need of solution as it affected thousands of nomadic Somali families and had been the subject of many petitions. The Visiting Missions, particularly that of 1954, had been impressed by the situation, as had the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly; the latter had adopted a number of resolutions on the subject, and in particular, resolution 854 (IX). Under that resolution, the General Assembly had urged the two Governments concerned to exert their utmost efforts to achieve a final settlement by direct negotiations and had recommended that if those negotiations failed to achieve any results by July 1955, the two Governments should have re-

course to mediation. Four months had elapsed since the expiration of that time limit and no action was being taken. He found an explanation for the delay in a passage he quoted from the 1954 Visiting Mission's report (T/1143, para. 98), which indicated that Ethiopia and Italy were approaching the problem from completely different points of view. He also quoted a letter addressed to the Secretary-General by the Permanent Representative of Ethiopia,¹ which confirmed that matters had reached a deadlock and that the fault lay with Italy, the Administering Authority. The Somali people, for their part, did not think that direct negotiations between the two States concerned would be successful and feared that, unless the General Assembly intervened, the problem would remain unresolved after 1960. Accordingly, they hoped that the General Assembly would adopt a resolution calling upon the two parties to have recourse to mediation.

9. He emphasized that the Somali people did not consider as valid any international agreements relating to their country which had been concluded before Somaliland had become a Trust Territory. They felt that it would be unrealistic to consider the present "provisional" administrative frontier as a basis for negotiations. Referring to the map which he proposed to circulate to members of the Committee, he named thirteen Somali tribes which occupied areas situated on the other side of the provisional boundary, namely in Ethiopia. He hoped that, in its efforts to settle the question of the frontier between the Territory and Ethiopia, the United Nations would bear in mind the need for ensuring that the Somali tribes were given access to grazing land, water, trading centres and transport, so that they could advance as rapidly as the settled inhabitants. Care must also be taken to ensure that the frontier did not divide a tribe into two parts, as the provisional boundary had done, because an artificial and arbitrary division of that kind had a demoralizing effect and might lead to extremely serious disturbances.

10. The CHAIRMAN requested the petitioner to confine his remarks to the existing situation in the Territory and to refrain from inadmissible observations.

11. Mr. HUSSEN (Somali Youth League) went on to mention the reported proposal to establish a neutral zone along the existing frontier line. He said that the tribal frontier which he had described and which had existed before the war should be taken as a basis.

12. He concluded by affirming that the Somali people had faith in the United Nations and was grateful to it for the historic part it had played in promoting their advancement.

13. Mr. GARCIA (Philippines), speaking for the United Nations Advisory Council for Somaliland, thanked the Committee for having granted Mr. Hussen a hearing, and the petitioner for the kind words he had used with reference to the Advisory Council.

14. Mr. ASHA (Syria) asked whether the petitioner was aware of resolution 1257 (XVI) adopted by the Trusteeship Council on 21 July 1955, and whether that resolution had been implemented.

15. Mr. HUSSEN (Somali Youth League) said he was aware of the resolution but did not know whether it had been carried into effect.

16. Mr. FRACASSI (Observer of Italy to the United Nations) said that he knew what the position was and would explain it to the Committee the following day when commenting on the petitioner's statement.

17. Mr. EGUIZABAL (El Salvador) requested that the petitioner's statement should be circulated to the Committee in full, including the passage which he had not been permitted to read. The Committee was entitled to know everything that was either directly or indirectly relevant to the matter.

18. The CHAIRMAN said that the statement would be distributed to the Committee,² but that he could not permit publication of the passage he had held to be inadmissible.

19. Mr. SERAPHIN (Haiti) requested that the statement should also be distributed in French.

20. Mr. ESPINOSA Y PRIETO (Mexico) asked whether the Somali Youth League had an economic programme.

21. Mr. HUSSEN (Somali Youth League) explained that his party had no economic programme of its own but that it gave every assistance to the Administration in its development plans.

GENERAL DEBATE (*continued*)

22. Mr. GARCIA (Philippines) was glad to note that the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/2933) was complete, accurate and consistent.

23. Turning to Somaliland under Italian administration, he said that the country had made progress in all fields, and particularly in the political field. The Somalization of the administration was progressing and seemed likely to be complete before the period of trusteeship ended in 1960. The four leading political parties had recently formed the Somali National Front to promote the interests of the population. He agreed with the Council's recommendation (A/2933, p. 113) that the Administering Authority should strengthen the National Front by active encouragement and advice and make the best possible use of it in the interest of the Territory.

24. He noted with satisfaction that the Territorial Council was to become an assembly with legislative powers.

25. With regard to the economic development of the country, agricultural methods should be improved and the standard of living of farmers should be raised. It was also important to dig irrigation canals, to diversify the crops, to expand the cultivation of export crops and to increase productivity in general. Steps to that end had already been taken. The Administration was endeavouring to reduce the price of sugar which, along with bananas, was the Territory's main product, and also to reduce transport and storage charges. The sugar crop was almost sufficient for local needs and it would soon be possible to export some of it. It was important to find new export markets for bananas. Intensive exploitation of the country's resources would obviously raise the standard of living of the inhabitants, and he therefore associated himself with the Council's request (A/2933, p. 123) that details of the progress made, the difficulties encountered and the progress yet to be obtained be included in future annual statements. The Administer-

¹ See A/C.4/277.

² Subsequently circulated as document A/C.4/319.

ing Authority should intensify its efforts to give the Territory the benefit of the advice of competent experts on all aspects of agriculture, animal husbandry, crafts and industry. He noted with satisfaction the economic and technical assistance the Territory had received from the Administering Authority, the United States and Egypt. While the Somali Credit Institute was doing good work, it was desirable, as the Council had recommended (A/2933, p. 123) that the Administering Authority should further intensify its efforts to provide credit facilities for small farmers, tradesmen and artisans, and to extend financial assistance to industry. It would be useful for the Somali Credit Institute to have more capital at its disposal, which should be raised from Government and private sources, in order to meet the demand for short- and long-term loans.

26. The economic development plan referred to on page 121 of the Council's report would help the Administering Authority to obtain the international financial assistance which was so much needed by the Territory. Taxes would have to be increased, and he would suggest in that connexion that a publicity campaign should be organized to make the public aware of its responsibilities. Such a campaign would undoubtedly prove successful, since the inhabitants were now taking part in their country's affairs. He was also in favour of a land registration system.

27. He agreed with the Advisory Council's observations on the mining regulations in Somaliland, referred to on page 130 of the Trusteeship Council's report. The Government should reserve the right to terminate concessions without compensation where no petroleum was discovered. After 1960, the words "The Government" appearing in the mining agreements would necessarily refer to the Somali Government. Finally, from the financial point of view, the mining agreements should be more advantageous to the Government.

28. He noted with satisfaction that enrolment in Somali primary and secondary schools had increased. He hoped that the Administering Authority would intensify its efforts in regard to school building and the training of teachers.

29. Where public health was concerned, he noted that the incidence of tuberculosis remained high. The health services were short of funds and trained personnel.

30. The Administering Authority should endeavour to stabilize the labour force, combat unemployment, revise wage scales and study labour problems with the assistance of experts.

31. Turning next to the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, he said that the key to its development was the integration of the various ethnic groups. It was to be hoped that the Administration would endeavour to foster co-operation among the various groups of the population and the growth of a sense of territorial consciousness, in accordance with the recommendation of the Trusteeship Council (A/2933, p. 32).

32. Where Ruanda-Urundi was concerned, he congratulated the Administering Authority on the economic progress achieved by the Territory, especially with regard to co-operatives. The position in regard to political progress was, however, less satisfactory. He approved the Council's recommendation (A/2933, p.

79) that the Administering Authority should take the necessary steps to enable Africans to attain responsible posts. It was to be hoped that the Administering Authority would continue its efforts to develop the closest possible relationship between Ruanda and Urundi in the interests of the future of the Trust Territory as a whole.

33. In the case of the Cameroons under French administration, he agreed with the Council's view as expressed on page 157 of its report that the Administering Authority should consider the possibility of establishing a Cameroonian citizenship and report its findings thereon to the Council. He also agreed with the Council's recommendation on page 158 that the Administering Authority should continue to develop municipal institutions on an elected basis with a view to establishing them throughout the Territory.

34. In the case of Togoland under British administration, it was gratifying to note that the Administering Authority had at last recognized the value of a complete separation between the judicial and executive powers. He also commended the Administering Authority for introducing the secret ballot. With regard to the Territory's economy, he hoped that the Administering Authority would consider measures to diversify agriculture.

35. With regard to Togoland under French administration, he associated himself with the Council's recommendation (A/2933, p. 181) that the system of universal and direct suffrage should be fully implemented in the Territory. He noted with satisfaction that agricultural production had increased and hoped that it would continue to keep pace with the increase of population and would enable the country to be self-sufficient. The Administration should give the inhabitants practical courses in agriculture and grant them scholarships.

36. Turning to Western Samoa, he agreed with the Council that the establishment of a common status for all, with equal rights and obligations, was desirable (A/2933, p. 191). He congratulated the Administration on its support of the principle of regional co-operation and noted that it had done much to improve the situation in the Territory. He recommended that the Administering Authority should establish secondary industries.

37. He noted with satisfaction that in New Guinea the Administration had taken steps to bring indigenous inhabitants and Europeans closer together. It was also gratifying that the Administration had set up a Public Service Institute to help officials to increase their knowledge. He hoped, as did the Council (A/2933, p. 205) that it would continue its efforts, through the Auxiliary Division and all other possible means, to prepare the indigenous inhabitants for more responsible technical and other administrative positions. It was also to be hoped that the indigenous inhabitants would play a greater part in the country's economic activity. The educational work of religious missions was most praiseworthy.

38. In Nauru the population was threatened with a rapid exhaustion of the phosphate deposits, which were its principal resource. The solution of that problem, either by resettling the population or by rehabilitating the worked-out phosphate land preoccupied the Administering Authority, the Fourth Committee and all those who were interested in that

brave people. It should be thoroughly studied and a well-conceived over-all programme prepared. He supported the Trusteeship Council's recommendation concerning the Territory (A/2933, p. 220).

39. Finally, he paid a tribute to the United Nations and its various committees, agencies and organs for the disinterested work they were doing on behalf of the non-self-governing peoples. Their sole aim was to help. Service rather than conquest was in fact what the United Nations stood for.

40. Mr. ANSARI (India) recalled that his country, being a member of the Trusteeship Council, had already expressed its opinion on the situation in the Trust Territories before that body. He would therefore merely comment on certain other important questions which the Council dealt with in its report.

41. First, the Indian delegation noted with some concern the rather serious situation with regard to the study of petitions disclosed by the Council in part I, chapter III, of its report. More than 300 petitions had been held over until the Council's next session. When the petitions received since the end of the Council's last session were added to that number the position would certainly be extraordinary. The Standing Committee on Petitions, established by the Trusteeship Council to study petitions, had apparently been unable to carry out its task as rapidly as in the past, partly because recently the volume of petitions had suddenly increased. A review of the procedure and working methods of that Committee seemed necessary in order to speed up the consideration of petitions. Many of them were telegrams, which should usually receive urgent attention. The Indian delegation sincerely hoped that the Trusteeship Council would give the matter serious thought at its next session.

42. Chapter V of part I of the report, which dealt with questions referred to the Council by the General Assembly, also gave grounds for concern.

43. With regard to the question of administrative unions, in resolution 563 (VI) the General Assembly had requested the Trusteeship Council to submit a complete analysis of each administrative union to which a Trust Territory was a party. The Council had accordingly set up the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions, which had been instructed to examine the question and report on it. Of course, that Committee had carried out a difficult task conscientiously, but it was doubtful whether its reports, in spite of their undoubted value, could be considered analyses in the sense of resolution 563 (VI). The Committee had of course met many obstacles, such as incomplete statistical data, the impossibility of consulting at length with the Administering Authorities on the operation of administrative unions, etc. The General Assembly had therefore been unable to reach a satisfactory conclusion as to the extent to which such unions were in accordance with the aims of the Trusteeship System or the terms of the Trusteeship Agreements. Indeed, the New Zealand representative in the Committee on Administrative Unions had stated that an assessment of the principles governing the operation of administrative unions would be difficult.

44. His delegation did not suggest that the administrative unions were contrary to the Charter, but it felt that fuller information on their practical operation was necessary to give the General Assembly a better

idea of their possible effects on the future development of the Trust Territories. In the case of New Guinea, for example, the Committee on Administrative Unions, in its last report (T/L.592), had expressed concern about an ordinance that provided for the division of the Trust Territory into administrative districts which extended beyond the territorial boundaries. The Standing Committee should therefore keep the operation of administrative unions under constant review. However, in its last report, the Committee had merely set out the statements of the Administering Authority and the special representatives. It was to be hoped that, with the experience it had gained during the last five years, the Committee would be better qualified to make a detailed analysis of administrative unions and their probable effect on the future development of the Trust Territories concerned.

45. The Council had set up another committee, the Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories, in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 438 (V). Unfortunately it had not done such useful work as the Committee on Administrative Unions. It had been requested to study the prevailing policies, laws and practices in the Trust Territories relating to land, land utilization and alienation of land. Although the land question had become very urgent in some Trust Territories, the Committee had made extremely slow progress. The Indian delegation urgently requested the Administering Authorities to provide information on rural development and other pertinent data as soon as possible, in order to allow the Secretariat to make its reports. It reminded the Secretariat that the study of the question also involved much research, which to some extent it could carry out independently, on the basis of information supplied in published official documents, without waiting for the latest information sought from Administering Authorities.

46. The work so far done in revising the Questionnaire relating to Trust Territories had not yet borne fruit. The Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire, established some time previously, had abandoned its original plan to draft a special questionnaire relating to Somaliland and was now preparing a draft questionnaire adapted to the special status of the Trust Territory of New Guinea. His delegation urgently requested the Sub-Committee on the Questionnaire and the Secretariat to do their work somewhat more energetically, so as to complete the Sub-Committee's report by the next session of the General Assembly.

47. In resolution 754 (VIII) the General Assembly had indicated that it was not satisfied with the existing arrangements for the dissemination of information on the United Nations in the Trust Territories. The Secretary-General had gone into the matter in consultation with the Administering Authorities. In his last report (T/1193), the Secretary-General indicated that, although there might have been some progress in the dissemination of information and in establishing contacts with the local population, the production of special literature adapted to the intellectual level of the various population groups in the Territories left much to be desired. The Indian delegation believed that information should be disseminated more widely in some Trust Territories, but that the Administering Authorities should co-operate more. The Secretary-General might consider sending a Secretariat expert to the Trust Territories to get in touch with the

local authorities; such a step would certainly improve the situation.

48. On the question of the specialized agencies and their relations with the Trusteeship Council, he noted, on page 2 of the Council's report, that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the World Health Organization in particular had effectively helped the Council in studying the reports from the Administering Authorities. The two agencies' observations had become more useful because they were now accompanied by analytical studies and recommendations. It was to be hoped that the Administering Authorities would make even more extensive use of the two agencies' technical knowledge and experience.

49. On the other hand, it was disappointing to note that the Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Organisation were not playing as active a part in helping the Council to supervise the administration of the Trust Territories. Their observations on the annual reports would be very useful to the Council. The Trust Territories were confronted with urgent man-power, nutritional, food and agricultural problems.

50. In regard to the attainment by the Trust Territories of self-government and independence, he recalled that, in resolution 752 (VIII), the General Assembly had requested the Council to include, in its annual reports, information on the measures taken in each Territory towards self-government or independence, and had requested it further to include in its reports a separate section dealing with the Council's conclusions and recommendations in respect of those matters. At its ninth session, the General Assembly had received from the Council only a factual report on the developments noted in that connexion (A/2680, part III). Unfortunately the Council had been unable to formulate conclusions or recommendations. The situation was even less satisfactory in 1955. The General Assembly had received no report at all; the Secretariat had drafted one (T/L.579 and Add.1), but the Council had decided at its 644th meeting (sixteenth session) not to adopt it. At the beginning of the present session the Salvadorian delegation had very rightly raised the matter and had tabled a draft

resolution (A/C.4/L.389) to bridge the gap by establishing a sub-committee to prepare a report. Unfortunately, for lack of time, the Salvadorian delegation had not pressed for a vote on its proposal.

51. It was unfortunate that the Trusteeship Council had not yet had a chance to comply with General Assembly resolution 752 (VIII) and submit conclusions and recommendations. The Indian delegation had formulated its own conclusions and had offered them to the Council as a basis for discussion. Unfortunately the Council had been unable to give serious consideration to the matter because of certain basic differences of opinion among its members. However, in order to implement the resolution, the Council had adopted resolution 1254 (XVI) instructing the committees responsible for drafting the various sections of the annual report to prepare, in the light of the General Assembly's resolutions, draft conclusions and recommendations regarding the attainment by the Trust Territories of self-government or independence.

52. His delegation reserved the right to submit observations on the effectiveness of the new procedure adopted by the Council. It was to be hoped that the Council would take the question up seriously and be able to present to the General Assembly at its next session the conclusions and recommendations for which the Assembly had been waiting for over two years. The Council had obviously tried to carry out the General Assembly's resolutions in a way better suited to its methods of work, but it was not certain that it could thus comply with the Assembly's real wishes.

53. In conclusion, he was gratified to note that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development had acted on the Italian Government's request and had decided to send a group of experts to study the economic situation of the Trust Territory of Somaliland on the spot. The Italian Government was to be commended on its initiative. It could be expected to produce good results.

54. The CHAIRMAN announced that the list of speakers in the general debate would be closed on Friday, 18 November 1955, at 6 p. m.

The meeting rose at 5.30 p.m.