

to quote the Charter in a manner calculated to further their own interests. According to them the Charter had been drawn up to assist in the perpetuation of colonialism.

51. His delegation preferred to align itself with the third group, which took an objective view of the problem of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. In order to have an objective view, it was first advisable to have a clear conception of what were the obligations of the Administering Members under the Charter. The next step was to establish what were the powers of the General Assembly. Lastly, the Committee and the General Assembly should study the means of implementing those powers.

52. Chapter XI of the Charter contained only two short Articles: Articles 73 and 74. The crux of the matter was the interpretation of Article 73. On various occasions the Committee had heard arguments that, under the terms of Article 73, the administering States had no other obligations than those set forth in sub-paragraph e.

53. Mr. Carpio wondered whether that was a realistic or even a correct interpretation. If the only obligations were to supply information on Non-Self-Governing Territories, Chapter XI was worthless. Such an interpretation could never have entered the minds of the great men who had drafted the Charter in San Francisco.

54. A thorough reading of Article 73 would show that there were several obligations in sub-paragraphs a, b and c, as well as in sub-paragraph d.

55. Sub-paragraph e merited separate mention. His delegation considered that the contention that that sub-paragraph laid down the only obligation was wrong. Sub-paragraph e merely referred to the obligation of the Administering Members to supply information on the Territories under their care. The opinion of the majority was therefore that the Article in question implied a number of definite obligations.

56. The problem of establishing the powers of the General Assembly to implement the provisions of Chapter XI still remained. Article 10 of the Charter provided that the General Assembly was competent to discuss any questions or any matters within the scope of the Charter, as provided in Article 12. It was therefore clear that Article 73 was included in that provision. In that respect he considered that Guatemala was justified in discussing the questions of British Honduras and the Falkland Islands. The current debate affected Non-Self-Governing Territories and the two areas

mentioned by the Guatemalan representative were certainly covered by that term.

57. Most of the difficulties confronting the Committee and the General Assembly were the result of the absence of any machinery to implement the provisions of Chapter XI.

58. The Administering Powers were internationally accountable, which did not imply that, under the terms of Chapter XI, dependent territories had been placed under the direct control of the United Nations. The concepts of Chapters XI, XII and XIII were, however, so new that they had been dubbed the "International Charter of Colonial Administration".

59. A Special Committee had been established by the General Assembly; that was a step forward. It might be the first part of the necessary machinery for implementing Article 73.

60. The authors of the Charter in San Francisco had been moved by a noble spirit and high ideals, and had desired to convince the world that their primary aims were to bring lasting peace and abolish injustices. Those had been their aims when they had drafted Chapters XI, XII and XIII of the Charter. It was the first time in history that the concept of trusteeship had been recognized.

61. The Administering Authorities had not so far been willing to make the spirit of Article 73 a reality. The problem was, however, a pressing one; there were at the moment over 200 million people living in Non-Self-Governing Territories and of that total only 15 or 16 million came within the purview of the Trusteeship Council. It was for that reason that his delegation attached even more importance to Chapter XI.

62. He was not entirely satisfied with the draft resolutions submitted by the Special Committee; nevertheless, since they constituted a step forward, his delegation would support them while reserving the right to introduce any amendment it considered opportune.

63. Mr. TEDÍN URIBURU (Argentina) thanked the representative of Guatemala for his clear statement on the question of Non-Self-Governing Territories in Latin America, which coincided with the policy of the Argentine Government as outlined in the statement made by the representative of Argentina at the Conference of the American Committee on Dependent Territories held at Havana.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York, on Thursday, 3 November 1949, at 3.15 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. H. LANNUNG (Denmark).

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (*continued*)

1. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to continue the general debate on information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.

2. Mr. ZARUBIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that, during the work of the Special Committee, several of its members had drawn

attention to the fact that some Governments were not fulfilling the obligations they had assumed under Chapter XI of the Charter in regard to the transmission of information on the Non-Self-Governing Territories they administered. Some Governments, including those of France and the United Kingdom, had decided to discontinue transmitting information for a certain number of territories.

3. The USSR representative had told the Special Committee that such a decision was arbitrary and illegal. He had submitted a proposal to the effect that the transmission of information should be continued until the Special Committee had considered all the data concerning the change of status of the territories in question and until it had submitted a recommendation to the General Assembly that the application of the provisions of Article 73 e of the Charter should be suspended for those territories. It was regrettable that the Special Committee had not adopted that proposal.

4. The USSR delegation was of the opinion that the Fourth Committee should consider the question of the cessation of transmission of information and adopt energetic measures to enforce respect for the provisions of the Charter.

5. Mr. Zarubin called the Committee's attention to the fact that the information transmitted by the administering States was clearly inadequate and did not give a true idea of the situation prevailing in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. Moreover, that information tended to sow confusion in that it mentioned no specific cases and gave no statistical data. The Administering Powers had transmitted no information on the development of organs of local government, nor had they indicated how the ability of the indigenous populations to govern themselves was being developed. It might be concluded from the information transmitted that the administering Members were not fulfilling their obligations and were not contributing to the political, economic and social advancement of the populations of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

6. In regard to social conditions, part II, section B, paragraph 5 of the Standard Form required the administering Members to transmit a brief statement of the principal laws and regulations in force for the protection of workers, together with a brief description of measures and institutions for the administration and enforcement of such laws and regulations. The information transmitted did in fact enumerate various laws and regulations, but gave no indication as to what they actually meant. Thus, the legal situation of indigenous workers and that of European workers was never compared, nor were any statistical data on unemployment given.

7. There was a similar lack of details in the information on economic conditions. Information on many points was missing, particularly in regard to the industrial companies which had made investments, the profits those companies were making by shamelessly exploiting the indigenous population, and the latter's participation in the economic life of the territory.

8. The Administering Powers were maintaining their policy of exploitation, without regard to the interests of the populations they administered. Large sections of the African population under British, French and Belgian administration were still living under an out-dated tribal system, which was being preserved in order that the population should make no progress and vegetate in poverty.

9. Those Powers were retarding evolution in the agricultural sphere. The best land was exploited by companies which used it for only the most profitable crops, regardless of the interests of the indigenous population. In Barbados, large sugar-cane plantations covered an area of 77,063 acres, while

the indigenous inhabitants had only 17,283 acres. The same situation existed in many Non-Self-Governing Territories. That agricultural policy of the Administering Powers resulted in impoverishing the soil, caused a shortage of foodstuffs and worsened the living conditions of the indigenous inhabitants who were doomed to poverty and hunger.

10. The summary of information transmitted by the Government of Belgium (A/910) gave edifying details on the wage levels of workers in the Belgian Congo. In Leopoldville, an indigenous bricklayer earned 12 to 65 francs per day and a carpenter 23 to 66 francs. As wage levels were lower in the other regions of the Congo, it could be presumed that the average wages of an unskilled indigenous worker did not exceed 12 francs per day. If those wages were compared with the wages of a European worker, it was seen that the European received thirty-two times more than the indigenous worker. Moreover, the European had free housing and transport; he also received free medical care. The same racial discrimination in the matter of wages existed in other Non-Self-Governing Territories. For instance, the inadequacy of wages had been the cause of eighty-seven labour disputes in Kenya. Moreover, unemployment was rife and the indigenous workers benefited from no social security measures.

11. The public health services were also inadequate. For instance, in Madagascar there were only 356 doctors for some 2,146,000 cases of illness, including 314,000 cases of syphilis. The death rate was three times higher in the Non-Self-Governing Territories than in the administering countries. The number of doctors was ridiculously low in relation to the population and the high mortality. The incompleteness of the demographic statistics proved that the administering States paid no attention to the social welfare or public health of the indigenous populations. They were not, therefore, carrying out the obligations they had assumed under Article 73 e of the Charter.

12. In regard to education, the situation was hardly more encouraging. The analysis of the information transmitted showed that large sections of the population were illiterate. For example, in Somaliland, one per cent of the population could read and write, in Uganda 30 per cent, and in the Gold Coast 20 per cent. In Sierra Leone the rate had diminished: in 1946, 30 per cent of the population could read and write, while in 1948 the proportion was only 28 per cent. The USSR representative thought that the criteria used by the Administering Powers in that matter should be checked. They considered that a person could read and write after two years of schooling, but the USSR representative thought that that period was not sufficient. The information transmitted showed that flagrant racial discrimination was practised by the Administering States in the educational system. Much more money was spent on the education of European children than on that of indigenous children. For instance, in Kenya, 0.04 pounds sterling was spent on an indigenous child, while the education of a European child cost 5.80 pounds sterling, 145 times more. In Northern Rhodesia it was 24 times more, and in Nyasaland 80 times more. Those figures, together with the table in document A/919, showed that the credits allocated by the Administering Powers for indigenous education were so small that an

educational system could hardly be said to exist. The USSR representative thought that the percentages given should be carefully checked, as they did not seem always to correspond to the facts.

13. In regard to secondary education, the information transmitted showed that the Administering States were making no provision to ensure its development and were thus condemning the population to ignorance in order to deprive it of the possibility of taking an active part in the political, economic and social life of the territory. In Madagascar, for instance, out of a population of 4 million inhabitants, only 2,065 pupils attended secondary schools; in Nigeria, out of a population of 21 million inhabitants, only 8,750 pupils were registered in secondary schools.

14. The USSR representative emphasized that, even on the basis of the inadequate information at the disposal of the Fourth Committee, it could be affirmed that the Administering Powers were practising a policy of discrimination against the indigenous populations, and were not fulfilling their obligations under Article 73 b of the Charter, which required them to develop self-government, to take due account of the political aspirations of the peoples, and to assist in progressive development of their free political institutions. Finally, they were transmitting no information on the extent to which the indigenous populations participated in organs of local government. It was clear from the other information transmitted on economic, social and educational conditions that the Administering Powers were not preparing the indigenous populations for self-government, but were keeping them in a state of savagery and ignorance that would condemn them to a miserable existence.

15. The USSR delegation thought that the Fourth Committee should take energetic steps to enforce respect for the provisions of the Charter by the Administering Powers.

16. In conclusion, Mr. Zarubin said that the USSR would support any proposal to set up a permanent special committee which would contribute to ensuring the application of the provisions of the Charter and, in particular, the provisions of Article 73.

17. Mr. PÉREZ CISNEROS (Cuba) said that his delegation, like the delegations of other Latin-American States that had taken part in the conference held in Havana by the American Committee on Dependent Territories, took a keen interest in the question of information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. At that conference, in which 13 Latin-American States had taken part, the colonial problem had been considered mainly on the basis of the data provided by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, including the summaries and analyses of information transmitted during the year 1948.¹

18. As Mr. Pérez Cisneros had already mentioned, the members of the conference had explored the fact that there had been no Spanish translation of that document. That was why the delegations of Cuba, Ecuador and Guatemala had

stated, in the fourth paragraph of the draft resolution they had submitted (A/C.4/L.40), that the General Assembly should see to it that the summaries and analyses were in future published in the three working languages.

19. Moreover, the delegations of Cuba, Ecuador and Guatemala had noticed that the greater part of the information transmitted omitted essential data which should be taken into account in consideration of the situation prevailing in any given territory. He was referring to information of a geographical and historical nature. It should be recognized that the Standard Form adopted in 1947 had classified such information in the optional category; it was none the less true that it was indispensable, and it should not therefore be optional.

20. The three delegations had raised another question. Mr. Pérez Cisneros thought it unnecessary to remind the members of the Committee that the articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights applied to all States as well as to Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that many articles dealt with human rights in the economic, social and educational fields, which were precisely the three fields referred to in Article 73 e of the Charter. In the circumstances, it was difficult to see why the information on human rights was also optional. The summaries of material voluntarily transmitted under the optional category of the Standard Form (A/AC.28/W.8) showed, however, that information on human rights had been communicated for only a very small number of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

21. It was in order that general information on geography, history, people and human rights should no longer be classified in the optional category of the Standard Form that the Cuban delegation had submitted an amendment (A/C.4/L.2, paragraph 1) to the draft resolution on the voluntary transmission of information under part I of the Standard Form (A/923, annex II, draft resolution A). In that amendment, the Cuban delegation also expressed the hope that such of the Members as had not done so on their own initiative would voluntarily include in the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter details on the government of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Cuban delegation admitted that the information provided in 1948 was fuller than that of 1947, but thought that in certain respects, including the question of public health in the American Non-Self-Governing Territories, the documentation was too vague. That lack of detail had prevented the American Committee on Dependent Territories from gaining a true idea of the situation. Moreover, the Cuban delegation had been surprised to note that the inhabitants of the Caribbean Islands of French descent received elementary education only in English. Mr. Pérez Cisneros would refer to that question in detail when the draft resolution on the language of instruction (A/923, annex II, draft resolution C) was considered.

22. He then turned to the question of the cessation of the transmission of information. The Cuban delegation wholly shared the Egyptian delegation's opinion; it was difficult to admit the view that the decision as to which territories were not yet completely self-governing was exclusively within the competence of the States that were

¹ See *Non-Self-Governing Territories, Summaries and analyses of information transmitted to the Secretary-General during 1948*. United Nations Publications, Sales No.: 1949. vi. B. 1.

responsible or assumed responsibility for administering them. The Special Committee had decided by a large majority that it was not competent to take a decision on the matter. It was for the Fourth Committee to take the initiative and submit a draft resolution to the General Assembly. The Egyptian delegation had submitted a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.37) to the Committee which dealt with the question most satisfactorily. The Cuban delegation thought that certain drafting amendments might be made to it, but entirely approved its substance.

23. Mr. Pérez Cisneros then explained why his delegation had submitted an amendment (A/C.4/L.2, paragraph 2) to the draft resolution on equal treatment in matters relating to education (A/923, annex II, draft resolution B). The Powers which administered the Non-Self-Governing Territories had given more or less satisfactory explanations as to their educational policies in the Territories. They should also give more detailed and precise arguments to justify the discrimination practised in that field. It was in order to obtain such precise explanations that the Cuban delegation suggested the addition of a second paragraph, to complete the draft resolution.

24. The draft resolution on the eradication of illiteracy (A/923, annex II, draft resolution D) was also the subject of a Cuban amendment (A/C.4/L.2, paragraph 3). That amendment referred to paragraph 1 of the operative part. It consisted mainly of substituting the word "annually" for the words "in 1950". In fact, although it was essential that the general plans drawn up by the administering Members should be communicated to the General Assembly with the least possible delay, the same was not true of the information which UNESCO was asked to communicate to the administering Members or of the report that UNESCO was to make to the General Assembly on the results of the campaign against illiteracy. UNESCO's action in that field should be continuing, and it was not logical that the terms of the draft resolution should restrict it to the immediate future.

25. The draft resolution on international collaboration in regard to economic, social and educational conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/923, annex II, draft resolution E) was the subject of a similar amendment by the Cuban delegation (A/C.4/L.2, paragraph 4). As in the preceding case, it was inadvisable to specify that the specialized agencies should communicate information to the General Assembly in 1950. It seemed better to provide that such information should be communicated annually. Mr. Pérez Cisneros wondered whether the Special Committee had had any particular reason for proposing that information should be communicated only in 1950. If the Fourth Committee was not given some valid justification for such a proposal, the Cuban delegation would maintain its amendment.

26. The Cuban delegation had no amendment to propose to the draft resolution on the establishment of a special committee on information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter (A/923, annex II, draft resolution F). It approved that draft resolution, and would support it. It would, however, have preferred to see the idea of the Special Committee being a permanent organ prevail. The Cuban delegation had been in favour of

that idea ever since the United Nations had been set up; it was that delegation which, in 1946, had taken the initiative in the establishment of a body on information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter. It was to be hoped that, when the Special Committee's mandate expired in 1952, all delegations would be in agreement to renew it indefinitely.

27. The Cuban delegation was sorry to note that only a few Administering Powers had transmitted information on political conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It would like to pay a tribute to the Powers which transmitted such information voluntarily.

28. The Cuban delegation was one of those which were of the opinion that the colonial system had been dying out since the end of the First World War. That phenomenon was in accordance with the aspirations of the peoples of the world. The American Committee on Dependent Territories had declared itself in favour of doing away with all colonial systems; the community of nations no longer allowed of the existence of metropolitan Powers and colonies absolutely dependent upon them in all respects. It seemed that that idea had been accepted by the Powers administering Non-Self-Governing Territories when they had voted for Chapter XI of the Charter. Those Powers would display generosity and a spirit of co-operation if they agreed voluntarily to transmit information of a political nature.

29. Mr. Pérez Cisneros drew attention to the last paragraph of the draft resolution submitted jointly by the delegations of Cuba, Ecuador and Guatemala (A/C.4/L.40). That paragraph invited the Secretary-General to complete the summaries and analyses, as well as the annual supplements, by the periodical publication of data on special aspects of the progress achieved in Non-Self-Governing Territories.

30. The information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter, whether compulsory or voluntary, was so voluminous and covered such a great field that it would seem to be advisable to issue data on certain subjects in special publications. Such a procedure would enable the Fourth Committee to accomplish its task more rapidly and effectively, for under present conditions it was difficult for it to study and analyse all the information transmitted.

31. Mr. Pérez Cisneros would like to know the Secretariat's opinion on that point. He would like particularly to know whether the Secretariat could give effect to the provisions of the last paragraph of the joint draft resolution without too great material difficulties.

32. Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) remarked first of all that it was difficult for the Secretariat to publish all the information transmitted by the Powers administering Non-Self-Governing Territories *in extenso*. The resulting document would be so voluminous that it would be impossible for the Special Committee, and even more so for the Fourth Committee, to study it profitably. That was why the Secretary-General published summaries and analyses of the information transmitted and why he would in future publish annual supplements.

33. The Secretariat had already considered the possibility of publishing technical studies relating

to different aspects of the progress achieved in the Non-Self-Governing Territories as separate documents. It had even prepared such a document by way of experiment. That document had not been published because it was only an experiment for the Secretariat's use.

34. Mr. PÉREZ CISNEROS (Cuba) was of the opinion that the Secretariat's experimental document might be of interest to the members of the Fourth Committee, in spite of possible defects. He therefore asked whether it would not be possible for the document to be communicated to the members of the Committee. It would allow them to form an idea of the actual value of the proposal made in the last paragraph of the draft resolution submitted by the delegations of Cuba, Ecuador and Guatemala.

35. Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) said that the document would be communicated to all the members of the Fourth Committee for information. He would like, however, to make all possible reservations with regard to its presentation and nature as, he repeated, it had only been prepared as an experiment.

36. Mr. GHORRA (Lebanon) stated that his delegation had always considered the question under discussion objectively and without preconceived ideas. As the representative of the Philippines had pointed out at the previous meeting, three distinct trends of opinion had appeared among the members of the Committee. Some had taken a radical attitude, and others a conservative and reactionary attitude, while still others, among whom was the Lebanese delegation, were of the opinion that, above all, the principles of the Charter must be respected and its provisions applied. He thought the Fourth Committee should not become a forum for propaganda or confine its task merely to criticism or congratulation of the Administering Powers for the work they had done. On the contrary, it should take part in drawing up suitable measures to encourage realization of the objectives laid down in Chapter XI of the Charter and to stimulate collaboration between the Administering Powers and the other Members of the Organization.

37. The Lebanese delegation could not share the point of view of some representatives who interpreted Article 73 of the Charter too restrictively by confining its application in practice to the provision contained in sub-paragraph e, which was really only a fraction of the Article. The result of such an interpretation would be that the information transmitted by the Administering Powers would be put in the archives of the Organization for reference purposes only. If that was to be the case, why transmit that information to the Members of the Organization and convene the Fourth Committee to consider it? He personally did not think that the Secretary-General should be reduced to a mere messenger, that it was enough for representatives to read the documents in question as if they were a newspaper article.

38. The Administering Powers had voluntarily agreed to assume the obligations laid down in Article 73, and in particular had undertaken to recognize the principle of the primacy of the interests of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Fourth Committee's duty was therefore to consider the information transmitted, to criticize it as it deemed fit, and then to say what measures would ensure the application

of the provisions of the Charter and respect for the principles therein proclaimed. Thus the prestige of the Organization could be raised, collaboration between the Administering Powers and the other States Members could be encouraged, and the faith of the populations of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the United Nations could be strengthened.

39. In reading the summaries and analyses prepared by the Secretary-General, he had noted that during recent years the Administering Powers had taken steps to improve the social situation and develop education in many territories. It was clearly difficult to state that that general tendency was the direct result of an effort on the part of the Administering Powers to act in the spirit of the Committee's criticisms and recommendations, but it was certain that the work done by the Organization was a useful stimulant. The General Assembly had gone ahead, and it was to be hoped that the Administering Powers would do the same. The authority of the United Nations should be progressively strengthened and an atmosphere of confidence should be created to promote co-operation between the administering Powers and the Organization.

40. Mr. Ghorra recalled in that connexion that some of the countries administering Non-Self-Governing Territories had deliberately stopped transmitting information on some of the territories, or on some questions concerning them. He hoped that those countries would reconsider their position. It was to be noted also that in many territories questions of social welfare and education were largely dealt with by missions and religious institutions and that Government activity was very limited, although the responsibility for preparing programmes and for taking measures in those fields in fact lay with the Governments.

41. The Lebanese representative also drew attention to the fact that the teaching of vernacular languages was often neglected and relegated to the background. That was hardly justifiable, particularly in the case of such a language as Arabic. Arabic, which was the language of a civilization, was thus given a smaller part than it deserved. Mr. Ghorra was entirely in favour of the teaching of foreign languages in Non-Self-Governing Territories, but not at the expense of the vernacular languages. He also considered that information concerning Indonesia was out of place in documents on Non-Self-Governing Territories. In that connexion, he recalled that Lebanon had been one of the first countries to recognize the independence of the United States of Indonesia, and he hoped that the new State would soon be welcomed as a Member of the United Nations.

42. The Lebanese delegation considered that the Special Committee should be given a permanent status, for the obligations laid down in Article 73 of the Charter were of a lasting character. It would be inclined to vote in favour of any draft resolution along those lines. If no such resolution was submitted, it would vote for the United States draft resolution (A/923, annex II, draft resolution F), which provided for the continuance of the Special Committee's work for a three-year period. It would oppose any resolution providing for less than that.

43. The Lebanese delegation also supported in principle the six draft resolutions annexed to the

Special Committee's report, and would comment upon them at the proper time.

44. Mr. ASTAPENKO (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) recalled that under the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter, the States Members of the United Nations which assumed responsibilities for the administration of Non-Self-Governing Territories were bound to promote the well-being of the inhabitants of those Territories as far as possible. To that end, Article 73 provided that those countries must ensure the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, develop self-government, taking due account of the political aspirations of the peoples, and assist them in the progressive development of their free political institutions. Furthermore, the Administering Powers were bound to report to the United Nations on the measures they took with a view to carrying out their obligations in those fields. Some of the Administering Powers, however, appeared unwilling to recognize that transmission of information on Non-Self-Governing Territories was a binding obligation. The United Kingdom had refused to transmit information on Malta, and France had decided to cease transmitting information on Guadeloupe, Martinique, Guiana, New Caledonia and the French possessions in the Pacific.

45. Those Powers were thus denying the right of the United Nations, and, more particularly, of the Special Committee, to examine the substance of the information transmitted, and they were doing so with the intention of preventing the United Nations from supervising the implementation of the principles and provisions of the Charter. The United Nations obviously could not tolerate such actions, which were both incompatible with the Charter and prejudicial to the interests of the populations concerned. To weaken the authority of the United Nations in respect of Non-Self-Governing Territories could only harm the quality of the information it should receive, and that information was already inadequate and incomplete. In that connexion, Mr. Astapenko stressed the total absence of information on measures taken by the Administering Powers to prepare the inhabitants of the Territories for self-government and on the participation of the indigenous inhabitants in public life. It was impossible to form an accurate picture of the true state of affairs in the Non-Self-Governing Territories because the information transmitted was not sufficiently detailed.

46. It could, however, be easily seen, even from the inadequate and incomplete information available, that the Administering Powers were shamelessly exploiting the Territories for which they were responsible, and were not fulfilling the obligations they had assumed under the Charter, particularly as regards the economic development of the Territories. Thus, the Territories were becoming more and more dependent upon the metropolitan countries, whose policy hindered their own economic development by keeping them in a precarious situation as regards both living conditions and the cultural level of the inhabitants. The USSR representative had cited a number of ex-

amples which provided sufficient illustration of that state of affairs.

47. The economy of the Non-Self-Governing Territories was therefore dislocated because they in fact served only to supply raw materials to the metropolitan countries. The position of the indigenous workers was difficult; an indigenous worker in the Belgian Congo received a wage thirty-two times smaller than that of a European worker, and in Northern Rhodesia eleven times smaller. In French Somaliland, dockers and unskilled labourers received a monthly wage equivalent to 16 dollars. It should be added that social security services were non-existent, and that the deadliest diseases raged among the populations of the Territories. In that connexion, Mr. Astapenko stressed that the Administering Powers did not concern themselves with the question of public health; in Aden, for instance, there was one doctor for 350,000 persons.

48. Turning to the question of public education, Mr. Astapenko remarked that large parts of the populations of the Territories were still illiterate. In British Somaliland, one per cent of the population could read and write; in French West Africa, only 5 per cent of the children of school age attended schools, while in Morocco the proportion was 20 per cent. It must therefore be admitted that discrimination was practised in the educational field; in 1947, credits allocated in Kenya for the education of Europeans had been forty times higher than those allocated for the indigenous population. In Uganda, the credits had amounted to one-tenth of one pound sterling per indigenous inhabitant and to several pounds per European inhabitant.

49. It was clear, therefore, that the Administering Powers were not fulfilling the obligations they had assumed, and were not promoting the development of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Byelorussian delegation considered that the Administering Powers should transmit full information and, in particular, should not fail to include details on the measures they were undertaking to prepare the populations concerned for self-government and to enable them to participate in the political life of the Territories.

50. The CHAIRMAN stated that, if there was no objection, the representative of France would be permitted to make a statement in the general debate at the following meeting. The same right would be granted to the representative of the United States, who had made a request to that effect.

51. Any delegation could, of course, exercise its right of reply, in accordance with the provisions of the rules of procedure.

52. He proposed that the Committee should begin the consideration of the draft resolutions submitted by the Special Committee.

53. Mr. FARRAG (Egypt) moved the adjournment of the meeting.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 5 p.m.