

# TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

## OFFICIAL RECORDS



*Tuesday, 12 June 1951, at 2 p.m.*

FLUSHING MEADOW, NEW YORK

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#### *Present:*

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, France, Iraq, New Zealand, Thailand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representative of the following State non-member of the Trusteeship Council: Italy.

The representative of the following specialized agency: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

#### **Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration for the period from April 1950 to December 1950 (T/902) (*continued*)**

[ Agenda item 4 (a) ]

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Holte Castello (Colombia), Mr. Pharaony (Egypt) and Mr. Carpio (Philippines), representatives of States members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration; and Mr. Fornari, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration, took their places at the Council table.*

1. The PRESIDENT called upon the Council to continue its consideration of the annual report on Somaliland under Italian administration (T/902).<sup>1</sup>

2. In reply to a question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) regarding political intolerance among the Somalis, Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that the demonstrations referred to had been provoked by the political intolerance of some sections of the Somali

Youth League, which claimed to be the dominating party in the Territory. Since the beginning of the Italian administration that party had sought by means of violence to prevent the free growth of certain other political parties, especially at Baidoa and Margherita. The police had had to intervene, and the matter had been brought before the judicial authorities, but no special measures had been taken. The commissioners and the Residents, with the help of the central organs of all political parties, had simply used persuasion with the indigenous population. As a result of that co-operation between the Administering Authority and the leaders of the political parties, no further demonstrations had taken place. At the end of Ramadan, therefore, the Administrator had granted an amnesty to all persons guilty of political offences in the Territory up to then.

3. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) denied that there had been any looting of the property of political prisoners. The only complaints he had received had been for alleged damage resulting from the incidents in the Baidoa region. Furthermore, there had been no political arrests after the amnesty of 20 July 1950.

4. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) read out passages from a petition dated 14 August 1950 and signed by eight indigenous Somalis (T/Pet.11/10). According to the petitioners, the property of certain indigenous inhabitants who had been imprisoned as a result of the incidents had been looted and the Administering Authority was alone responsible. He also quoted a passage from another petition on the same question, dated 31 August 1950 and contained in the same document.

5. The PRESIDENT said that the question had already been given preliminary consideration in the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Petitions and was to be discussed in greater detail at the Committee's following meeting.

6. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) had no intention of engaging in a discussion on the petitions to which he had referred. He had

<sup>1</sup> See *Rapport du Gouvernement italien à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration de la Somalie placée sous la tutelle de l'Italie, Avril 1950 - Décembre 1950, Ministère des affaires étrangères.*

simply asked whether there had in fact been any looting of the property of the persons imprisoned as a result of the Baidoa incidents. The special representative had denied that that had been the case; the petitions which had been received on the subject seemed to affirm the contrary.

7. He would therefore like to have some further information regarding the Baidoa incidents referred to in the Administering Authority's report.

8. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) repeated that there had been no looting of the property of the political prisoners, but that some indigenous inhabitants who had been imprisoned as a result of the Baidoa incidents had claimed that their property had been damaged. After the amnesty of 20 July 1950, the political prisoners had been released, granted by the Administering Authority a sum of money to cover their most immediate needs and sent back to Baidoa. That action had been commended by the prisoners' representatives and by the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration. Moreover, the representatives of the defendants had expressed their satisfaction to the Administering Authority.

9. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) read out a passage from a petition dated 27 September 1951, contained in document T/Pet. 11/10, in which, contrary to what the special representative had said, the petitioners asserted that their claims had not been met. There therefore seemed to be some doubt in the matter, and the USSR delegation reserved the right to request at the proper time that the Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, which was to visit Somaliland, should investigate the matter on the spot.

10. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) asked whether the Secretariat could circulate document A/AC.33/W.34 of 23 April 1950, which had been drawn up by the Advisory Council. That document contained a statement by the President of the Somali Youth League to the effect that the question of damages sustained by the victims of the Baidoa incidents had been satisfactorily settled.

11. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the document in question was a working paper of the Advisory Council and inquired whether its distribution was agreeable to that body.

12. Mr. DE HOLTE CASTELLO (Colombia) explained that the document was a statement of facts prepared by the secretariat at the request of the Advisory Council, which had decided not to submit a report. It gave an impartial account of the events which had taken place in the course of the year and would thus be extremely valuable to the Trusteeship Council.

13. Mr. ALEKSANDER (Secretary of the Council) observed that the document had been prepared by the secretariat of the Advisory Council and not by the Secretariat of the United Nations. It could, therefore, be distributed only if the Advisory Council so wished.

14. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) recalled that when the Advisory Council had considered the possibility of

submitting a report to the Trusteeship Council, his delegation had urged that the report should outline the most important problems of the Territory together with the relevant views and conclusions of the members of the Advisory Council. The Colombian representative in the Advisory Council had objected to that proposal. The draft drawn up by the Principal Secretary of the Advisory Council was not a report and had not satisfied the Egyptian and Philippine representatives in the Council, who had therefore felt that, in the circumstances, it was preferable not to submit a report to the Trusteeship Council. It had accordingly been decided to request the Principal Secretary to transmit the report he had prepared to the Trusteeship Council for its information.

15. He did not think that the claims of the members of the Somali Youth League who had been imprisoned could have been settled yet in view of the fact that the Administering Authority had advised those concerned to take the matter to the courts.

16. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) proposed that the Council should defer further discussion of the matter to the following meeting so that the Egyptian representative, who would reach New York in the meantime, could also make a statement on the subject.

17. Mr. DE HOLTE CASTELLO (Colombia) read out paragraphs 55 and 56 of document A/AC.33/SR.21/Rev.1, according to which the Egyptian and Philippine representatives in the Advisory Council had recommended that no report should be sent to the Trusteeship Council but that the secretariat should prepare a document on its own responsibility. It had therefore been decided to ask the secretariat to prepare a document containing a statement of the events which had taken place during the previous year and including, if possible, the texts of petitions. He had personally confined himself to suggesting that that document should be circulated to members of the Trusteeship Council.

18. Mr. MUNOZ (Argentina) thought that, since the document appeared to contain much interesting material, it should be circulated to the members of the Trusteeship Council for their information.

19. The PRESIDENT also considered that, since the document contained information which was relevant to the matter raised in the petition read out by the USSR representative, the special representative's request should be met. In his opinion, however, it would be preferable to defer the discussion to the following meeting.

*It was so decided.*

20. In reply to a question by Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that it had not been possible so far to set up the agency representative of the various economic activities referred to on page 57 of the report. There was a chamber of commerce in which all branches of trade, industry and agriculture were represented. As, however, that organization was a private body, the Administering Authority was considering the establishment of an economic council to foster the Territory's economic development. The

Administering Authority would have to consult the Advisory Council and the Territorial Council on the matter.

21. The Administration was also studying an economic plan under which Italian public capital and private capital from recently established local enterprises would be invested in the Territory. He hoped that the following annual report would contain detailed information on that subject.

22. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), with reference to the Territory's unfavourable balance of trade discussed on page 54 of the report, asked by what methods the Administering Authority expected to increase the volume of Somali exports so as to remedy the situation.

23. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that during the first year of the Italian administration, stocks of certain commodities had had to be built up, with the inevitable result that there had been a deficit in the balance of trade. It hoped, however, that during the coming year imports could be considerably reduced. At the same time, the Administering Authority would endeavour to increase the volume of exports from the Territory; a study of the question was already in progress. He gave examples of measures which the Administration intended to take in order to improve the quality of the raw hides exported from Somaliland and to increase production of the short staple cotton used for indigenous fabrics. It was hoped to increase cotton production considerably through the co-partnership contracts referred to on page 96 of the report.

24. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) drew the attention of the members of the Council to the table on page 63 of the report giving receipts and expenditures of the Territory during 1950-1951. He pointed out that of a total budget of approximately 56 million somalos, Italy had contributed approximately 30,500,000 somalos for civil expenditure in the Territory. He wondered what steps the Administering Authority intended to take with a view to increasing the share of the fiscal responsibility borne by the inhabitants.

25. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) agreed that the Administering Authority was faced with a very serious problem: on the one hand, Somaliland was an extremely poor territory which could hardly exist without the financial support of Italy; on the other hand, the Territory must become self-sufficient if it was ever to achieve independence. During the first years of its administration, Italy must obviously make certain contributions to increasing the Territory's productivity, while at the same time considering how far the revenue of Somaliland could be raised by means of additional taxation. The Administering Authority would like to leave the decision in the matter to the indigenous population; for that reason it had decided to extend the powers of the Territorial Council to budgetary and fiscal matters.

26. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) said that his Government also felt that during the initial years an Administering Authority should contribute

generously to the expenditure of a Territory so as to enable it to become economically self-sufficient.

27. With reference to agricultural advancement, he wondered what experimental work was being carried on in the Territory to introduce new food crops and to devise more efficient methods of agricultural production.

28. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that there was a central agricultural bureau in the Territory, as well as two agricultural experimental stations, which were studying the feasibility of improving existing crops and introducing new ones. The work had, however, been begun too recently for him to be in a position to report on its results.

29. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) hoped that the following year's report would contain information on that experimental work.

30. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) asked whether the figures in the table on page 63 of the report covered both capital costs and recurrent costs. He further wondered whether it would not be better to have separate budgets—one for capital development and another for current operating expenditure—in order to see whether the future Somali State would be able to maintain existing services from its revenue.

31. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that the Administering Authority had studied the question and had suggested that the budget of the Territory should be divided into two parts: one comprising expenses which the future Somali State would have to meet, and the other temporary expenditure which would cease at the end of the trusteeship period. Some expenses which were unavoidable at present, for instance those connected with the economic development of the Territory and the operation of the Trusteeship System, would not have to be defrayed by the Somali State.

32. In that connexion, he pointed out that the budget on page 63 of the report showed expenditures for civil purposes only and did not take into account certain military expenses which would have to be borne by the future Somali State.

33. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) said that the fifth item of the revenue column showed that substantial revenue had been received from postal, radio-telegraph and telephone services, while expenditure on the development of postal and telecommunications services had been much smaller. He wondered whether the Administering Authority intended to treat such revenue as accruing to the Territory's general revenue or to make the services in question self-supporting.

34. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that the Administering Authority would continue to aggregate the Territory's revenue and expenditure, so that the postal, radio-telegraph and telephone receipts would accrue to the benefit not only of those services but of the Territory as a whole.

35. In reply to a further question by Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) regarding the import and

export duties mentioned on page 69 of the report, Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that he had no detailed information on the matter, but that export duties represented a very small proportion of the Territory's revenue. He would obtain further information on the subject.

36. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) drew the Council's attention to the statement on page 54 of the report that the Administration had found it necessary to modify the structure of Somaliland's foreign trade, which had been primarily geared to the sterling area, and had attempted to give it a more liberal character by linking it with a number of currency areas. He requested the special representative for information on the measures taken, and in particular on their effect on the grant of import licences.

37. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that the Administering Authority had sought to liberalize the trade of Somaliland by applying the principle of buying goods where they were cheapest. That policy had been followed in the interests of the Territory.

38. The availability of foreign exchange also had to be taken into account. The Administration had, for example, found it necessary to apply to the Italian Exchange Office for the sterling needed to purchase certain goods. That was not a sound economic procedure and an effort would therefore have to be made not only to balance Somaliland's trade but also to ensure that its imports came, primarily from the countries which were its best customers. Alternatively, another system would have to be found, which would obviate the need for the Administration to apply to the Italian Exchange Office for foreign exchange.

39. In reply to a further question by Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) regarding the civil and military expenditure, at present borne by the Administration, for which the future Somali State would have to assume responsibility, Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that he was not in a position to give exact figures; estimated expenditure on the military and civilian services of Somaliland at present carried out by the Italian Security Corps would, however, be about 9 to 10 million somalos for the 1950-1951 financial year.

40. Sir Carl BERENDSEN (New Zealand) pointed out that the sum of 10 million somalos just mentioned by the special representative brought the Territory's total expenditure to the figure of approximately 66 million somalos, of which Italy had contributed approximately 40,500,000 somalos. He asked the special representative whether, in the circumstances, he considered that Somaliland would in fact be capable of assuming the financial responsibilities of an independent State after a period of nine years.

41. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that the Administering Authority would do its utmost to that end. He hoped that, with the help of the Trusteeship Council and of the Advisory Council, the Administration would achieve that result, but it was impossible to say whether the econ-

omic measures which were contemplated would in fact make Somaliland financially independent. It would be easier to make a detailed analysis of the figures for revenue and expenditure when the budget had been divided into two parts.

42. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) referred to the statement on page 51 of the report that the economy of Somaliland was in a serious state as a result of the Second World War and inquired whether the Administering Authority had taken any positive steps towards its rehabilitation.

43. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that legislative measures were about to be taken with a view to securing the greatest possible improvement in the economic position of the Territory; the measures proposed included, in particular, the granting of credits.

44. Some practical measures had already been taken; in agriculture, for example, the Administration had established two experimental stations to study methods of increasing production and had encouraged the conclusion of co-partnership contracts designed to procure co-operation between European technology and capital and indigenous man-power.

45. Moreover, in order to increase agricultural production, an effort had been made to expand the grant of credits both to the indigenous population and Italians and agricultural and industrial machinery had been exempted from import duties. The report contained further information regarding various practical measures taken in different fields.

46. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for information on the circumstances in which the installations and rolling stock of the railway between Mogadiscio and Villaggio Duca degli Abruzzi had disappeared and on the steps taken by the Administration in that connexion, particularly with regard to compensation for the losses suffered by the indigenous population.

47. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that the material in question had disappeared during the war. Questions of that nature had been settled by treaties concluded at the close of hostilities and the Administering Authority bore no responsibility in the matter.

48. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to pages 94 and 95 of the report, asked why the cultivation of crops for export had been expanded while the production of foodstuffs for the indigenous population had decreased in 1950 by comparison with 1949. Such a situation appeared to be contrary to the interests of the indigenous population.

49. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that it was in the interests of the indigenous population to increase the production of foodstuffs and exports.

50. The decline in the production of foodstuffs was due to a drought in October and November 1950, when the second rainy season usually began. The indigenous inhabitants had not been able to plant their crops and there had therefore been no second harvest.

51. On the other hand, the production of commodities for export, such as cotton and bananas, had not been affected by the drought, as cotton was harvested only once a year and bananas were grown in irrigated areas only. It was true that an effort had been made to produce more cotton by putting larger areas under cultivation, as cotton was one of the Territory's main sources of income. The increased production of cotton was not, however, the cause of the decrease in the production of foodstuffs.

52. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that it was clear from the comparative tables on pages 94 and 95 that larger areas had been devoted to the production of commodities for export, while those devoted to the growing of foodstuffs for domestic consumption had been reduced during the same year. A decrease in the production of foodstuffs might be ascribed to a drought if it were a question of comparing the size of various harvests, but the point at issue was that there had been an increase and a decrease respectively in the areas under cultivation.

53. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that the reduction in the areas planted for foodstuffs for domestic consumption had been due solely to the drought in October and November 1950. The indigenous inhabitants did not even begin to cultivate the land until the first rains began. The increase in areas devoted to the production of export commodities was due to the Administering Authority's desire to augment the revenues of the Territory.

54. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the 72,842 hectares of land which, as stated on page 89 of the report, had passed into Italian hands before March 1941 were still owned by Italians.

55. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that some of that land was owned by Italians under previous legislation granting concessions with property rights, subject to certain conditions regarding development; other lands had been merely leased to Italians.

56. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) considered the question of land and its ownership very important. While not wishing to prejudge the matter, he drew the Trusteeship Council's attention to a petition regarding land from the Central Committee of the Somali Youth League (T/Pet.11/40). Although under rule 86 of the Council's rules of procedure that petition, which was dated 14 April 1951 and had been received on 3 May 1951, could not be considered during the current session, some action should be taken on the problems raised therein by the following July; for example the Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa might be instructed to collect all the necessary data on the spot.

57. There appeared to be some discrepancy between the Administering Authority's assurance that no land belonging to indigenous inhabitants had been alienated and the statements of the petitioners.

58. The PRESIDENT confirmed that under rule 86, paragraph 1, of the rules of procedure the petition could

not be examined during the current session unless the Administering Authority was prepared to consider it at shorter notice. In any case the petition in question would be discussed in the *Ad Hoc* Committee on Petitions and not in the Council.

59. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) explained that he had drawn the Council's attention only to the most important problems raised in the petition. If his suggestion were followed, the Visiting Mission, which was due to go to the Territory during the current year, would be able to look into the matter on the spot. Moreover, such a course would be to the advantage of the Administering Authority also.

60. In deference to the members of the Council who were not acquainted with the facts set forth in the petition, he would not press for it to be considered during the current session, but suggested that the Council should reopen the matter later.

61. In reply to a question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) concerning the composition and functions of the Price Control Committee referred to on page 53 of the report, Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that, in view of the economic situation, the Italian Administration had taken over the price control organization which it had found on its arrival in the Territory. The Price Control Committee was composed of three or four *ex-officio* members belonging to the Department of Commerce and Industry and the Department of Finance; in addition it included a representative of the non-indigenous consumers and merchants and a representative of the indigenous consumers and merchants. The Committee gave its views on the advisability of increasing or reducing prices. It was practically impossible to exercise price controls except in Mogadiscio, which was the principal market where price levels were established for the whole of the Territory. Although that control system was not completely effective in stabilizing prices, it had prevented an excessive rise in the cost of living.

62. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to section 43 of the report, asked how many licences had been issued to indigenous and European inhabitants respectively authorizing them to engage in commerce and trade.

63. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that since 1 April 1950 not a single Somali trading company had gone out of business; the Administration had encouraged the creation and development of purely Somali or of jointly-owned Somali and European trading companies. The number of licences issued to indigenous inhabitants had increased considerably; in Mogadiscio, for example, an additional 731 licences had been issued to indigenous inhabitants since 1 April 1950, while not more than twenty or thirty licences had been issued to members of the non-indigenous population during the same period.

64. Since 1 April 1950 the Bank of Rome had granted indigenous companies and firms loans amounting to 3,338,737 somalos, while the Bank of Naples had made loans to the amount of 496,980 somalos.

65. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), in connexion with page 61 of the report, asked how much of the 118,669,000 somalos in question had been set aside for the civil services.

66. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that out of the 114 million somalos shown in the budget for the financial year 1950-1951, 55 million had gone to cover civil expenditure; the remainder had been used for the Security Corps.

67. In reply to a further question by Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) concerning the tax exemptions mentioned on page 71 of the report, Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that he would be able to provide detailed information on that subject in the near future. He would also have shortly the information requested by the Soviet Union representative on how many of the companies engaged in agriculture, commerce, industry, transport and insurance were entirely or partially owned by indigenous inhabitants and in what proportion.

*The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and was resumed at 4.30 p.m.*

68. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wished to know how the Administering Authority justified the statement, in section 118 of the report, that no social security programmes or social legislation had so far been introduced.

69. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that the Italian Administration was actively concerned with that matter. It had been impossible as yet to draw up a whole set of laws, but legislation on workmen's compensation would shortly be promulgated. The Administration had asked the International Labour Organisation for assistance. That agency had sent out a representative to the Territory, who had prepared a report containing observations and recommendations to which the Administering Authority would give the most careful attention.

70. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wondered how an indigenous inhabitant, who earned approximately 150 somalos per month, could support a family which required approximately 156 somalos a month. He asked whether the Administering Authority had arranged for a sliding wage scale and fixed minimum wages.

71. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that minimum wage rates existed only for indigenous inhabitants employed by the Administration. The desirability of creating a sliding wage scale was being considered as part of the proposed new social legislation.

72. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that indigenous workers still had no insurance against accidents. He wished to know whether the indigenous personnel of the Administration were insured on the same terms as the Europeans.

73. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied in the affirmative.

74. In answer to a question from Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) as to the number of hospitals and hospital beds when the Italian Administration took over, and the number at present, Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stated that the number of beds and the hospital facilities had substantially increased while the number of medical officers had almost doubled. Furthermore, the corresponding items in the budget had tripled. He was sorry, however, not to be able to give specific information as to the position at the time of the change of administration.

75. Replying to Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that there was no discrimination of any kind against the indigenous inhabitants.

76. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) queried that statement, in view of the fact that a photograph in the report (between pages 150 and 151) showed a "section for Somalis" in the De Martino Hospital in Mogadiscio.

77. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that separate quarters were set aside for Somalis and Europeans because of their different customs and religion.

78. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what steps the Administering Authority had taken to train indigenous medical personnel.

79. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) admitted that that was a complicated problem, because the indigenous inhabitants had received only primary education, and many years of study were needed to train a doctor. That was why a special school was to be set up to train medical assistants who, after seven or eight years' study, would be capable of practising at least elementary medicine and surgery.

80. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom), referring to section 174 of the report, wondered whether it was logical to assume that the Administering Authority had endeavoured to post available doctors to the outlying and sparsely populated areas while reducing the personnel of the Mogadiscio Medical Centre to a minimum.

81. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that he had already explained that the Administering Authority, faced with a choice between a great concentration of doctors and their distribution throughout the Territory, had taken an intermediate course by retaining a minimum, but adequate, number in Mogadiscio and posting doctors to certain, even distant, localities. A wider distribution of doctors would have been useless because a large part of the population was nomadic.

82. Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) asked for further information on the specific measures relating to the treatment of juvenile delinquents provided for in the Italian penal code and code of penal procedure.

He understood that there was provision not only for reduced sentences for juvenile delinquents but also for some modification of the usual court procedure. He wondered whether it was the Administration's intention to establish a probation system for juvenile delinquents in Somaliland.

83. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that he did not have all the information necessary for an exact reply. He was, however, able to state that there was a re-education centre for juvenile delinquents, and that minors were kept in a separate section of the Mogadiscio prison, where they received special treatment and instruction from a special teacher, who taught them to read and write with a view to their readjustment to normal life.

84. Replying to Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stressed that the Administering Authority was restricting immigration in order to avoid upsetting the Territory's economy through an influx of manpower from abroad. The only immigrants permitted were persons bringing capital or capable of contributing to the Territory's economic development, and some skilled workers in spheres where there were as yet no Somali workers. The number of immigrants, as the report showed, had been very small during the period reviewed.

85. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) wondered whether the cost of living index in the Territory had continued to rise after December 1950 or whether it had, on the contrary, been stabilized.

86. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) had no exact information on that point. He believed, however, that the cost of living index had continued to rise slightly as a result of the general rise in prices on the international market. It had probably reached 115. Since January 1951, however, it could be said that the upward movement of prices in the Territory had been effectively contained.

87. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) asked what steps the Administering Authority proposed to take to encourage the publication of newspapers, especially indigenous newspapers, in the Territory. There was currently only one newspaper, published under the auspices of the Administration. He wished to know, also, whether foreign publications and newspapers were available in the Territory.

88. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that the Administration would see no objection to indigenous inhabitants or others publishing newspapers, but a serious financial problem arose from the fact that, in a country like Somaliland, sales were not sufficient to cover the expenses of publishing a newspaper. Thus, the Administration would have to finance new newspapers. It already published the *Corriere della Somalia* and was proposing to enlarge that paper's Arabic section for the benefit of the indigenous population, and to encourage Somalis to publish articles in it. Furthermore, foreign newspapers could be freely brought into the Territory, where not only Italian but Indian and Pakistani newspapers and

an Aden newspaper in Arabic were also on sale. Lack of newspapers was not the difficulty therefore, but rather the inadequate cultural development of the Somalis.

89. Mr. PIGNON (France) asked whether the special representative thought that it was of primary importance to secure the co-operation of the women in order to speed up the Territory's development. If that were so, he wondered how the Administering Authority intended to proceed, bearing in mind the special circumstances of the Territory.

90. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) thought that it would be more important to stress the education of men since, in a country like Somaliland, the men were called upon to lead. Education of the women was undoubtedly very important, and the Administration was doing everything in its power to achieve it; but it was confronted with financial difficulties and some resistance from the people, who, in many cases, were averse to having girls attend school.

91. Mr. PIGNON (France) asked whether young Somalis thought of education as a means of developing their general knowledge or mainly of gaining access to public office.

92. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) believed that two factors had been responsible for the original enthusiasm for educational advancement shown in the Territory; the Somalis regarded it as a means of attaining national independence and at the same time of securing access to public office. The enthusiasm had subsequently tended to decrease in some parts of the Territory, particularly in the interior areas populated by nomads. Hence, propaganda campaigns, side by side with the establishment of schools, were needed to encourage young Somalis to attend school and work diligently at their studies.

93. Replying to Mr. PIGNON (France), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that a certain tendency to adopt a settled mode of life had been noticed among the nomadic tribes of Somaliland. The tendency, which was still small, could be seen in the greater concentration of people in urban centres and the increase in the holdings cultivated by the indigenous inhabitants. It was apparent only in areas where climatic conditions favoured agriculture, such as the Juba and Uebi Scebeli areas. There was no such tendency in the northern part of the Territory, where lack of rainfall precluded agriculture.

94. In reply to Mr. PIGNON (France), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stated that the Administering Authority had considered establishing mobile schools to follow the nomadic tribes in their seasonal wanderings. It had therefore asked for several lorries equipped for that purpose to be provided under the Point Four programme. The financial difficulties were obvious.

95. Replying to M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stated that the programme of the Italian-type schools was almost the same as that of



Italian schools, and the diplomas awarded were recognized by Italian universities, thus enabling graduates of the schools to continue their higher education in Italy.

96. M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand) asked whether the Administering Authority intended to establish a Somali-type secondary school, corresponding to the Italian-type secondary school.

97. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stressed that the Somali-type secondary school would provide three classes. In the period reviewed, only the first class had been operative, as there had been no pupils capable of entering the second or third years. The second class would be started in 1951, with pupils who had finished their first year of study. The question came under the more general heading of the long-term programme of educational development. That programme was under consideration and would be submitted to the Advisory Council and the Territorial Council, as well as to UNESCO, a representative of which was to accompany the technical assistance mission that was to go to Somaliland shortly.

98. The programme of the Italian-type secondary school was similar to that of Italian schools; that of the Somali-type secondary school would be better adapted to the special conditions of the Territory.

99. M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand), referring to the conversion of Somali into a written language, noted that the report stated on page 186 that such an undertaking would meet with a practical, material difficulty, as it would be necessary to create new characters for printing and typewriting. He wondered whether that was the only difficulty.

100. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that it would not be the only difficulty. Moreover, that particular difficulty would arise only if the alphabet invented by Osman Yusuf was adopted. It seemed, however, that it would be wiser to adapt Latin characters to the Somali language, as French, Italian and British linguists had attempted to do. As he had already said, the question was still in the stage of scientific research.

101. In answer to questions from Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) emphasized that Italian-type schools were also open to Somalis, but the latter did not attend them in great numbers as they preferred the instruction given in Somali-type schools, which was better adapted to their cultural level.

102. Moreover, as all schools in the Territory — Somali and Italian alike — were open to indigenous pupils and thus served the needs of the people as a whole, there would seem to be no need for separate budgets for the two categories. Speaking of the allocation of the education budget between indigenous and Italian pupils, he could say, with regard to elementary education, that six-eighths of the funds were spent for the indigenous inhabitants; Somali-type primary schools had 148 teachers and Italian-type schools only 22. In secondary education, on the contrary, the costs

were greater in Italian-type schools, which had 11 masters, while the Somali-type secondary schools had only 5, solely because a larger staff was not needed for the few qualified Somalis.

103. Replying to a question from Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stated that it had seemed desirable to set up a single Department to deal with public health and education, since both pertained to the social field. The Department was divided into two sections.

104. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) remarked that if a single Department could deal simultaneously with public health and education, its duties in both fields were apparently of a very limited character.

105. He was surprised to note that only 500,000 somalos had been spent on building schools, while expenditure on the indigenous police force had reached 3,500,000 somalos in December 1950.

106. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) emphasized that the principal difficulty was the shortage of teaching personnel and not the lack of school buildings, which were not an important item in view of the climate in Somaliland.

107. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that even in a warm country it was useful to have well-equipped buildings, at least in teaching certain subjects.

108. He asked what were the difficulties in training teachers and how many pupil-teachers were receiving instruction that would enable them to perform the duties of teachers.

109. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that the difficulties were due to the lack of education among the indigenous inhabitants, the most advanced of whom had hardly received more than primary training. To secure the necessary teaching personnel, the Administration had called upon those already teaching and had given them further training. It had also begun to train new teachers through preparatory courses. There were at present from forty to fifty pupil-teachers, and their number could be expected to increase continuously.

110. Replying to a question from Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) stated that the salary of an elementary school teacher was from 110 to 440 somalos a month. The Administration intended to double that salary in order to induce young Somalis to go into teaching.

111. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) thought that one of the principal reasons for the Administration's difficulties in recruiting teachers was the low salaries paid. If the Administering Authority reduced its expenditure for police and increased the sums for education, the difficulties would disappear.

112. He would like to know whether the Administration's referendum on the choice between Somali and



Arabic as a language of instruction had been conducted in the same way as the referendum preceding the establishment of the Territorial Council.

113. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that it had.

114. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that, in that case, the referendum had not been one which reflected the genuine will of the people and the Trusteeship Council should thoroughly consider the question of a language of instruction. He had understood that the referendum had been held under different conditions and had been surprised that a people could, of its own accord, renounce its national language in favour of a foreign language, the more so as the Somalis had in the past always pressed for the adoption of the Somali language.

115. He asked the special representative whether he personally thought that, along with Italian, Somali ought to be the Territory's language of instruction.

116. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) felt that the Somali population had been guided by practical considerations in selecting Arabic as the language of instruction. In particular, it had taken into account the fact that it would be extremely difficult to transform Somali into a written language within ten years and that Arabic was already an established language employed in religious practice and widely used in neighbouring countries.

117. Furthermore, the Administration had not been content merely to hold a referendum in order to resolve such a serious question. It had also consulted the Advisory Council and the Territorial Council. The Territorial Council had approved the use of Arabic, but had recommended that Somali should not be completely given up; in practice the equal status of the two languages was recognized in the deliberations of that Council. Efforts were being made to reduce the Somali language to writing.

118. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) regretted that the special representative had not felt it proper to give his personal view on the subject and reserved the right to come back to the point later.

119. He would like to know why the number of pupils attending Somali-type schools had gone down so much in comparison with the number registered at the beginning of the year, as indicated on page 181 of the report.

120. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that that was a common phenomenon, which, however, was especially notable in the case of the Somalis and especially in the case of the nomadic tribes of the interior. As he had already pointed out, the enthusiasm shown at the beginning had not been maintained throughout and in many cases pupils had left school at the time of the seasonal migrations. Furthermore, many Somali families were not yet convinced that education was useful for their children and did not urge them to attend school regularly.

121. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether Mr. Gorini, the present Secretary-General in the Administration of Somaliland, had not formerly been employed in the Italian administration of Ethiopia.

122. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) replied that he had.

123. Replying to a question from Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) pointed out that the total number of persons receiving instruction in Somaliland was approximately 9,000, including 2,500 soldiers of the Security Corps who were attending classes in which general subjects were taught.

124. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) wanted to know the approximate number of children of school age in order to gain a better idea of the magnitude of the Administering Authority's problem.

125. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) regretted that he could not give an exact reply. The number of pupils was certainly still very small in comparison with the total number of children of school age.

126. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) emphasized that a solution of the problem depended in great part, as the special representative had said, on increasing the number of indigenous teachers. He would therefore like to know what steps the Administering Authority was contemplating to increase the indigenous teaching personnel and to raise the number of pupil-teachers.

127. Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) said that he had already pointed out some of the measures taken or contemplated. The Administration intended to establish a real teacher-training school in the future.

128. Replying to a question from Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that it was planned to employ sixty more school teachers for the current school year—thirty-five Somali teachers who had completed training and would begin their duties on 1 July 1951; fifteen Italian and five Arab teachers who would be employed in the Somali-type elementary schools; and from six to eight Italian teachers for the Territory's secondary schools, in which the teacher-training courses were given.

129. In reply to a further question from Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) observed that the Administration intended to apply to UNESCO for assistance in reducing the Somali language to writing. Meanwhile, an Italian professor was going to make the necessary preliminary studies.

130. In answer to a question from Mr. SAYRE (United States of America), Mr. FORNARI (Special representative for Somaliland) explained that instruction was given orally in the Somali language during the first two years of elementary education. The pupils then gradually passed over to the use of Arabic under the guidance of teachers who knew both languages.

131. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) desired to give the following details in connexion with his previous intervention. His remarks had been based on a petition dated 14 April 1951 submitted by the Somali Youth League (T/Pet.11/40), which stated that certain protests, included as annexes to the petition, had not been considered. One of those protests, which was contained in annex 1 to the petition, was dated 25 July 1950 and mentioned the fact that no settlement had

been made. It was therefore possible that, in spite of the assertion contained in the document of 25 July 1950, the question of claims for damages had in fact been settled in January 1951, as the special representative had said. Hence, it was not impossible that the Philippine representative's interpretation of the petition had been erroneous.

The meeting rose at 6.15 p.m.