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President: Mr. Leslie Knox MUNRO (New Zealand).

Present:

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, France, New Zealand, Syria, 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 on the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration for the year 1952 (T/1048, T/1053, T/1059, T/1061, T/1062) (continued)

[Agenda item 4 (a)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Holte Castello (Colombia), Mr. Hammad (Egypt) and Mr. Pastrana (Philippines), representatives of States members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, and Mr. Spinelli, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory, took places at the Council table.

OPENING STATEMENTS (continued)

1. The PRESIDENT: In accordance with its decision at the 462nd meeting, the Council will now hear the observations of members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration.

2. Mr. PASTRANA (Philippines): For reasons of my own, I should have preferred, if I had had my way, to speak tomorrow. In view, however, of the express desire of the Chair that the members of the Advisory Council should make their statements not later than today, which I take it reflects the wishes of this body, I shall speak now. I do so in a spirit of co-operation as I would not want to disrupt or alter the programme of activities which this Council may have.

3. A little over a year ago, in this very Chamber, I took up my seat as Philippine representative on the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland. At that time — and I say this with neither malice nor any desire on my part to criticize or deride — the atmosphere prevailing in the Advisory Council was not very conducive, or, more correctly stated, was not conducive at all to the performance of its task. Today, with pardonable pride, I am happy to be able to report and assure the members of this Council that an entirely different atmosphere now reigns in the Advisory Council; it is an atmosphere of complete understanding and goodwill, of unstinted and undivided co-operation. The desirable result is that during the year under review, the Advisory Council, the members of which were for the greater part of the year in Somaliland, has been able to dispose of all but one of the matters submitted to it for its consideration. I make reference to this, not in a spirit of self-praise or self-glorification, but as a peaceful commentary on that part of the Drafting Committee's report of 1 July 1952 to the Trusteeship Council [T/L.285] which reads as follows:

"The Trusteeship Council, noting that the role of the Advisory Council for Somaliland as defined in article 2 of the Trusteeship Agreement is to aid and advise the Administering Authority, expresses the hope that all three members will... remain in the Territory for sufficient periods of time to enable that body to perform its functions in the most effective and harmonious manner."

4. We meet at a time when the fateful day for Somaliland is only seven years and five months away. At the end of that period, Somaliland will, by the sovereign and collective will of the United Nations, take its rightful place in the free concert of nations, a member of the free world. A statement such as this bears repeating, so that we may have a full perspective of the work that has yet to be done and may better evaluate the sufficiency of this remaining work in relation to the over-all preparation which must be completed before the Territory's independence is proclaimed on 2 December 1960. This is, therefore, the time for a sober and realistic examination of the task at hand, for bold and resolute action, if need be. As the architects, for the time being, of Somaliland's future, as guardians and trustees of Somaliland's destiny, we can do no less.

5. To prepare a country for independence within the brief span of ten years, a country so meagre in resources as is Somaliland; to complete as we must, within the limitations of that shortening period, the preparation of a people, even though they may be gifted with the necessary intelligence, as the Somalis undoubtedly are; this is indeed a gigantic task. But even as I say this, I proclaim my faith that the work can be done and, by our working together, it shall be done.

6. One condition for the fulfilment of this gigantic task stands pre-eminent; one condition towers above all others. This condition is the good faith, the integrity of purpose, as it were, of the one into whose hands this

historic responsibility has been committed. As I see it reflected from the knowledge I have gained and the contacts I have had during the eight months in which I was continuously in Somaliland, the truth is that the good faith, the integrity of purpose of Italy, the Administering Authority, is a living and factual reality and may not, in good conscience, be put at issue; that Italy is fulfilling with fidelity the great trust reposed in it, in the sure knowledge that its good name is at stake, that the glory and grandeur of its ancient civilization are, on trial, that it owes it to itself and to the benighted millions in Africa and elsewhere to do its share in our common effort to extend the frontiers of human freedom and human dignity.

7. This being so, as it should be, we way now pass to an examination of the conditions obtaining in the Territory, inquire into the work that has already been done and assess the sufficiency of this work in relation to what remains to be done. For obvious reasons, I shall refer to these points only briefly, since my only purpose is to lay the basis for the observations and recommendations which my delegation considers it desirable to make to complete the preparatory work.

8. The Trusteeship Agreement defines the character and extent of the preparatory work to be done, and articles 3 and 4 lay down the main lines of the over-all preparation to be undertaken in the political, economic, educational and social fields. Thus, the Administering Authority is enjoined to foster the development of free political institutions and promote the political and educational development of the people, their economic sufficiency and social advancement.

9. To carry out these objectives, schools of various types and categories have been established — primary and secondary schools now numbering 175 and accounting for 16,250 pupils, as against 30 such schools with 2,848 pupils at the inception of the trusteeship administration. Elementary and secondary vocational schools; schools for craftsmen, mechanics, fitters, carpenters, electricians, radio operators, typists; schools for medical assistants and aeronautical specialists; a political and administrative school; an agricultural college; a school for Islamic studies, and a fishing and maritime school have also been established. There are evening classes for adults and courses in urology and wireless telegraphy, as well as in domestic science, and courses for teachers, warrant officers and for Somali police inspectors. Scholarships in Italy and Egypt have been granted to deserving Somali students.

10. The five-year educational plan of the Administration, which has already been partially implemented, has now received the endorsement of UNESCO, whose experts have made a careful and thorough study of the plan.¹

11. My delegation attaches the highest importance to the educational preparation of the people since this is in fact the very keystone of the preparatory work to be done, whether in the political, economic or social field. For, as correctly stated in article 4 of the Trusteeship Agreement, "education in its broadest sense is the only sure foundation on which any moral, social, political and economic advancement of the inhabitants of the Territory can be based, and... national independence, with due respect for freedom and democracy, can be established only on this basis". Consequently,

in my delegation's view, no efforts should be spared to establish universal education in the Territory. Elementary education should be made compulsory. This necessarily calls for the establishment of a progressively increasing number of elementary and secondary and vocational schools. Normal schools should be established not later than this year to increase the number of Somali teachers. More adult classes should be opened to help combat the widespread illiteracy in the Territory. As sufficient graduates from the secondary schools are available, more scholarships abroad should be secured and steps should be taken to provide eventually for higher and professional education in the Territory. For this purpose, the possibility of obtaining foreign educational endowments should be examined. In the meantime, and without imposing an undue burden on the Administering Authority, which already carries two-thirds of the Territory's budget, an immediate adjustment should be made to ensure a greater yearly allocation for educational purposes. More teachers should be employed, and, in the absence of qualified Somali teachers, teachers of other nationalities should be employed so as not to retard the educational advancement of the people. Italian- and Arabic-speaking teachers should be given preference, since the Italian and Arabic languages are spoken in the Territory. It would be desirable to develop the Somali language into a usable one and to make it ultimately the principal language of instruction in the schools, especially for mass education.

12. In the political field, various steps have been taken to provide the indigenous population with a greater degree of training and experience in governmental affairs. The policy — the enlightened policy — of taking Somalis into the government service is being gradually carried out at an increasing tempo. The Somalization of Municipal Councils, Residency Councils and the Territorial Council is almost complete. Two out of the twenty-seven Residents are Somalis, and a third one will soon be appointed. The plan is to replace altogether Italian Residents with Somali Residents. Out of a total of about 7,000 employers in the different offices of the trusteeship administration, more than 6,000 are Somalis. Seven out of twenty-six post office inspectors are Somalis. Of the twenty-three customs officers in the Territory, nineteen are Somalis. In the Security Corps, 2,984 out of the entire force of 3,743 are Somalis. Sixteen out of 100 officers of this Corps are Somalis. The position of police inspector — there are nine such posts — has been completely Somalized.

13. The jurisdictional authority of the Municipal Councils has been broadened to enable them to express their preliminary opinion on such matters as budget estimates, alienation or concession of real estate, investment of funds exceeding 1,000 somalos, raising of loans, levying of duties and taxes, contracts for public works involving more than 2,000 somalos, town planning and other allied matters.

14. In the Territorial Council, two notable changes have been made, resulting in the election of Somalis as vice-chairmen to assist the Council's chairman and, when called upon by the Chairman, to conduct its debates. The Reduced Committee, which undertakes preliminary study and drafting of measures to be submitted to the Council, has been transformed into two committees — one to handle political and social matters, and the other to deal with economic and fiscal

¹ For UNESCO's comments, see document T/1061.

questions. The plan is to make the advisory opinion of the Council final in tributary and other matters, like the budget and public works. The plan also calls for the transformation of the Council into a legislative assembly and, at the end of the trusteeship administration, to make it a constituent assembly.

15. The existence of a good number of political parties in Somaliland, of which there are at least fifteen, reflects the untrammelled freedom that is enjoyed in the Territory for the development of free political institutions. The generous and ungrudging conformity of the Administering Authority, as shown yesterday [462nd meeting], to the request of the Somali Youth League — the most militant political party in Somaliland — to be heard before this Council crystallizes the zealous regard of the trusteeship administration for the freedom of speech.

16. The taking of a census, preparatory to the holding of the first electoral experiment in Somaliland, is well under way and all indications point to the early effectuation of this experiment.

17. My delegation, in the light of what has been done and is being done in the political field, desires to submit for consideration the following points with a view to completing the political preparation of the people.

18. First, the Somalization of the government service, which, in the view of my delegation, constitutes the irreducible minimum in the preparation of the people in the political field, should be accelerated and carried out with such vigour as to ensure that at the end of the trusteeship administration all governmental positions, save policy-making positions, should be in the hands of qualified Somalis. In line with this policy, it is desirable that the plan of the Administering Authority to appoint Somali Residents for all the twenty-seven Residencies in the Territory should be carried out not later than 1955. This will provide the indigenous population with the necessary training and experience in the administration of their local affairs. It is also desirable that Somalis, graduates of the School of Political Administration, among others, should be employed as assistants in each of the offices of the trusteeship administration, in order that they might acquire the necessary preparation in the administration of their national affairs.

19. Secondly, further to carry out this objective, consideration should be given to the advisability of establishing a supreme advisory body which, for lack of a better name, I shall call a council of state, presided over by the Administrator of the Territory, with the Chief of the Administrator's Cabinet, the heads of the Department of Finance and of the Department of Internal Affairs, representatives of the five leading political parties and acknowledged leaders of the indigenous population in the political, economic, educational and social fields, as members. It should be the function of this council to study and advise the trusteeship administration on the general policies to be formulated and carried out in the Territory. This will give the Somali members of the council, who are expected to be the leaders in the future independent Somali State, a broad and realistic view of the Territory's problems and give them the opportunity to provide for their solution.

20. Thirdly, the Municipal and Residency Councils and the Territorial Council should be made elective to ensure that they faithfully reflect the popular choice, thus placing them on a truly democratic basis.

21. Fourthly, universal suffrage should be instituted in the Territory. This will be in keeping with article 1 of the Declaration of Constitutional Principles attached to the Trusteeship Agreement, which proclaims that the sovereignty of the Territory resides in its people. No property or educational qualification should be required for voters so as not to disqualify the majority of the people from voting.

22. Fifthly, if not in conflict with article 7 of the Trusteeship Agreement, which grants to the Administering Authority full powers of legislation in the Territory, the Municipal and Residency Councils and the Territorial Council should be granted legislative powers, subject to the right of veto by the Administrator of the Territory in consultation with the Residents and the Regional Commissioners. Likewise, if not objectionable on the same ground, it would be desirable that a certain measure of autonomy should be granted to the local governments two years before the transfer of sovereignty.

23. Sixthly, a constitution for the future independent Somali State should be adopted defining, among other things, the framework of government and containing a bill of rights. For this purpose, a constitutional convention should be provided two years before the end of the trusteeship administration. The proposed constitution becomes a matter of absolute necessity since article 24 of the Trusteeship Agreement stipulates that the Agreement — and, by implication, the Declaration of Constitutional Principles attached to it — “shall cease to be in force ten years after the date of the approval of the Trusteeship Agreement by the General Assembly, at the conclusion of which the Territory shall become an independent sovereign State.” Delegates to the constitutional convention shall be elected by the people from the different districts into which the Territory shall be divided for the purpose.

24. Seventhly, during the remaining years of the trusteeship administration the Somali people should be given the right to fly and otherwise display their national emblem side by side with the flag of the Administering Authority. This would have a tremendous psychological effect upon the rank and file of the indigenous population. It would be symbolic of the new and enlightened era in Somaliland, a constant reminder to all Somalis, including the “doubting Thomases”, that the day of their freedom and independence is near at hand and that, therefore, all should do their share of the labour. Moreover, it would constantly remind the people — for that is what the flag stands for — that they are one nation, undivided, sharing one common aspiration, and that they should therefore begin to live and act as one, in terms of their national, rather than their tribal, interests.

25. In the economic field, the preparatory work to be undertaken suffers from several serious obstacles and deterrents because of the scanty resources of Somaliland, the nomadic life of the people, the general aridity of the land, of which only 10 per cent is arable, and the acute and prevalent insufficiency of water supply.

26. Among the efforts made to promote the economic development of the Territory, special mention should be made of the rehabilitation of experimental farms in Genale, Alessandra, Ionte and Afgoi, where new breeds of corn, durra, groundnuts, soya beans, cotton, tobacco and sisal are being raised. Mention should also be made of the experimental farm for sisal in the Balad

region, and of the new agricultural centre in Upper Giuba, where the first pilot farm has been organized; other new ones will be organized before the end of the year. As has already been mentioned, an agricultural college has been established in Merca in order that there may be qualified Somalis in agriculture and, incidentally, to arouse and develop the interest of the indigenous population in agriculture. To fulfil the need for increased water supply, and to minimize tribal conflicts because of its insufficiency, more wells — approximately one hundred — will be dug in the Territory in the course of this year. Measures have been taken to promote the cultivation of cotton and to improve its quality.

27. To develop the natural resources of the Territory, contracts for prospecting petroleum and natural gases in the Territory have been entered into with the Sinclair Somal Corporation and the Società Mineraria Somala.

28. In line with the development of the fishing industry, a fishing school was established this year in Mogadiscio, a branch of which will be opened in Bender Cassim next September. To rehabilitate the fishing industry, one hundred fishing boats were distributed to deserving Somali fishermen in Migurtinia.

29. In the interest of domestic and foreign trade, the system of indiscriminate price control has been abolished, import duty on coconut oil has been reduced to encourage the local soap industry, as has also the export duty on shells in order to promote the export trade in this commodity. Reflective of the growing interest of the indigenous population in foreign trade, mention should be made that at the end of 1952 there were seventy Somali concerns which were engaged in export-import business as against twenty at the beginning of the trusteeship administration.

30. To promote the general economic development of the Territory, regular bus lines have been established between Mogadiscio, Merca, Brava and Chisimaio, between Mogadiscio, Afgoi and Baidoa, and between Mogadiscio and Villabruzzi. Regular air communications have been extended to new localities, for example Eil and Obbia, Coastal service from Chisimaio to Bender Casim will soon be established. The repair and improvement of important roads has begun, and an expert of the Mutual Security Agency will soon go to Somaliland to study the problem of improving the roads in the Territory.

31. To secure to the indigenous population their national patrimony, the spirit and letter of article 14 of the Trusteeship Agreement regarding land alienation and concession is being strictly enforced.

32. My delegation, firmly believing that the economic development of the Territory must go side by side with its independence, desires to submit the following points for consideration.

33. First, a vigorous and systematic campaign should be made to arouse and develop the people's interest in agricultural pursuits by correcting their fallacious notions about farm labour. As pointed out by the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission in its report on Somaliland [ST/TAA/K Somaliland/1], the social stratification of the Somali population rejects agriculture as undignified and most Somali groups consider farm labour a menial task fit only for individuals occupying the lower strata.

34. Secondly, because of the deterrent and paralysing effects of the nomadic life of the people on their economic advancement, a similar campaign should be made against that life by going to the roots of the problem; that is, by removing the cause, which is the search for more water and grazing lands for their livestock. Economic inducements for them to settle in places where they are more or less situated should be created. The digging of more wells and improvement in the area and quality of their grazing lands would go far in minimizing their nomadic habits.

35. Thirdly, for obvious reasons, no efforts should be spared to increase the water resources of the Territory until sufficient supply has been provided to meet the needs of agriculture and the livestock industry.

36. Fourthly, the repair and improvement of roads should be accelerated and new roads constructed. Besides its great value to the general economic development of the Territory, this measure would bring about larger and closer contact among the people, develop a community of interests among them and create a sense of their oneness and solidarity.

37. Fifthly, the salt industry should be rehabilitated immediately because of the unusually large deposits of salt in Somaliland. This industry played an important role in the economy of the Territory before the war.

38. Sixthly, such promising industries as the hide and skin industry, textile industry, fishing and fish-canning industry, the soap industry, livestock industry and others mentioned in the report of the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission should be given every possible impetus for their full development. For this purpose the grant of government subsidies or the creation of national development companies to undertake their development should be considered.

39. Seventhly, for these enterprises and others requiring large outlays, loans from appropriate international agencies should be applied for.

40. Eighthly, the early establishment of an agricultural bank to provide credit facilities to the indigenous farmers should be provided. This will greatly help the development of a body of independent Somali farmers, the existence of which is vital to the attainment of economic sufficiency in the Territory.

41. Ninthly, likewise, the establishment at an early date of a commercial bank to provide commercial loans to the indigenous businessmen should be considered. In this way, they will be enabled to participate more extensively in the domestic and foreign trade of the Territory.

42. In the social field, the rights and fundamental freedoms of all elements without discrimination are safeguarded in the Territory. Great efforts have been made to provide the population with health and hospital services. Slavery of any kind does not exist, nor is prostitution permitted. Compulsory labour has been outlawed; an ordinance strictly regulating the employment of minors, which was prepared in collaboration with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), has been passed; the anti-malaria campaign is well attended to. A labour office has been established in Bender Cassim, Candala and Alula; and compulsory insurance has been extended to motor vehicles on public service and to lorries.

43. My delegation, to enhance the social advancement of the people, desires to recommend for consideration the following points.

44. First, a housing project should be established to replace the primitive housing of the indigenous population. The plan should be for the trusteeship administration to build houses and either lease them or sell them to the people on an easy instalment basis. This project will be a great factor in improving the general health of the population.

45. Secondly, greater health and hospital facilities in suburban and rural areas and more mobile medical units to attend to the needs of the nomadic population should be provided. At the same time, the people should be educated to make full use of these health and hospital services.

46. Thirdly, conditions in prisons should be further improved.

47. Fourthly, as already stated in the discussion of the economic phase of the preparatory work, an extensive and co-ordinated campaign should be made to encourage the nomadic population to settle down.

48. I need hardly say that these observations and recommendations which, I assure you, are the result of mature reflection, are being submitted in fulfilment of our common desire to help in the orderly and expeditious preparation of Somaliland for its independence, in the daring but unflinching hope that when that glorious day comes, Somaliland shall, as is our united will, be able to live in freedom and dignity.

49. I would probably be exaggerating if I said that the eyes of the world are upon us, upon the result of the historic experiment now evolving in Somaliland. But I am certain we can all agree that the result of that experiment will have a profound effect upon the cause of human freedom everywhere, whether in Africa or elsewhere, wherever the human heart beats for human freedom and human dignity. To Italy, if I may say so, the task is a challenge for it to show that it has the genius and statesmanship to guide wisely and prepare a people in their common aspiration to live a life of their own choosing. To the good people of Somaliland, it also is a challenge for them to demonstrate not only their native capacity to govern themselves but also the vision and the wisdom to do their full share in the attainment of that over-all preparation, and thereby lose no valuable time in their onward march to their freedom and independence, which indeed they so honourably covet.

50. Mr. DE HOLTE CASTELLO (Colombia): The Colombian delegation to the Advisory Council for Somaliland considers that the time has come to assess the civilizing work achieved by Italy and by the Council now that one-third of the time allowed by the Assembly for the attainment of independence by the Territory has elapsed.

51. In so far as political advancement is concerned, mention should be made of the establishment, a few months after the arrival of the Administering Authority, of the Territorial Council, followed by the gradual setting up of Municipal Councils, Residency Councils and other organs in which the Somali people take an active part in the progress and development of their country, to say nothing of the establishment of the Administrative Committee, which is discussed at length in our report [T/1048].

52. With regard to judicial matters, the Advisory Council's hopes have been more than satisfied by the establishment of an independent body of Residency judges and the most recent decree of the President of

the Italian Republic setting up a supreme court of justice in Somaliland, a final step marking the complete independence of the judiciary from the legislative power.

53. In the matter of social advancement, the United Nations cannot fail to congratulate the Administering Authority on the comparative figures for public works and education for 1950 and 1953. Thus, for, example, four new hospitals have been built and opened in Merca, Dusa Mareb, Genale and Gelib. There has been an increase of nearly 200 in the public health staff. Instead of forty mobile clinics, there are now 100. The number of patients treated by public health services increased from 705,000 to approximately 2 million.

54. I should like to analyse the truly considerable effort made by the Administering Authority to promote the development of education, a decisive factor in the development of the Somali people towards independence. Between 1950 and 1952, 150 new Italian teachers were appointed, twelve Arabic-language teachers and 89 indigenous teachers. During the same period thirty-one new school buildings were erected, providing a total of eighty-five classrooms, and ten existing buildings were modernized and enlarged to provide a further twenty-three classrooms. Two colleges have been set up for the indigenous inhabitants, one at Mogadiscio and one at El Mugne. I almost forgot to mention what is perhaps the most important achievement — the School of Political Administration, which has been in operation for two years and whose first graduates completed their course only recently. In April 1950 the number of pupils was 3,000, while the total for the school year 1952-1953 is 16,217. In accordance with the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council and the Advisory Council, nineteen indigenous students have been sent to Rome with Administering Authority scholarships for advanced study, and others have been sent for a special intermediate school course. Thanks to the generous assistance of the Egyptian Government and the goodwill of the Administering Authority, forty-five more scholars have been sent to Egypt.

55. I should like to emphasize the calm which has prevailed in the Territory since the regrettable incidents at Chisimaio in August last year, and the increasingly close collaboration between the Administering Authority and the Somali Youth League, a party which, as you all know, was opposed to the return of Italy to the Territory and which originally engaged in a systematic campaign of opposition. There can be no doubt that this atmosphere of calm is due to the goodwill shown by both sides. The Colombian delegation hopes that this goodwill will steadily increase.

56. As can be seen from the reports of the two parties concerned, the relations between the Advisory Council and the Administration continue to be cordial and as a result the Council has been able to play its part.

57. With regard to relations between the individual members of the Advisory Council in the last year, I should like to endorse what my colleague, the Philippine representative, said a moment ago; I might add that this relationship has been marked not only by a spirit of mutual understanding but by genuine friendship.

58. The Colombian delegation continues to believe that, in regard to the vexed question of petitions, the Advisory Council can only act unofficially by offering its good offices to the Administering Authority to settle any differences that may arise. As my delegation sees it, unofficial action of this kind forms part of the

"observations and recommendations . . . conducive to the attainment of the objectives of the Trusteeship Agreement".² Moreover, as a result of this policy, the Trusteeship Council's Standing Committee on Petitions is in many cases confronted not with problems that require settlement but with problems already settled in collaboration with the Administration, without there being any violation of the right to examine and accept petitions delegated by the Assembly exclusively to the Trusteeship Council — I refer to Article 87 b of the Charter.

59. Similarly, the Colombian delegation considers that when the second paragraph of Article 11 of the Trusteeship Agreement is applied, that is, when the Advisory Council or one of its members appears before the Trusteeship Council, it must not be forgotten that the Advisory Council also has the right, under article 8, to intervene with the Administration, and that the carrying out of its major function of assistance and advice implies certain procedures in the exercise of the right of intervention. In particular, since it is only natural that observations and recommendations made to the Administering Authority should from time to time be critical when they are intended to remedy errors or omissions, it is no less natural that the criticisms of those responsible for aiding and advising should in the first place be addressed to the Administration itself. To put it better, the Colombian delegation does not think that the members of the Advisory Council should adopt a critical attitude before the Trusteeship Council unless the Administration has refused to take note of the Advisory Council's observations, recommendations or opinions. Since we hold this view, my delegation will refrain here from making any suggestions which it has not previously been able to make to the Administering Authority.

60. There can be no doubt that the relations between the Administering Authority and the Advisory Council are based principally on article 8 of the Agreement, the first paragraph of which contains the statement: "The Advisory Council . . . may make to the Administering Authority such observations and recommendations as it may consider will be conducive to the attainment of the objectives of this Agreement". The broad terms in which this article is couched have enabled the Council to define its relations with the population and to make contact with it, with the sole purpose of ascertaining its problems in order to co-operate with the Administering Authority in solving them. But this text applies more especially to the direct relations between the Council and the Administration, and allows the former very wide discretion. In the same way, the Colombian delegation interprets the Agreement as laying a general obligation upon the Administration to keep the Council informed and to consult it. The obligation to keep the Council informed is clearly stated in the first paragraph of article 8 of the Agreement, while the obligation to consult the Council is clearly set forth in the second paragraph of the same article.

61. Such is the interpretation which my delegation has always placed on the Trusteeship Agreement, but it is clear that, if the Trusteeship Council does not agree with it or if it wishes to make to that Agreement any further clarifications or modifications acceptable to Italy and to the Assembly, the Colombian delegation would raise no objections, since, as I have already frequently stated, we only serve on the Advisory Council

to fulfil an international obligation and to discharge an honourable task and no interests of our own, however small, are involved on the African continent.

62. I cannot refrain from reminding this Council of the deep concern which the Colombian delegation has always felt for the economic development of the Territory. It is difficult to see, in view of the special position of Somaliland, how it can attract the investment of foreign capital without some solid guarantees which, in our opinion, can only be provided by some sort of international undertaking, in view of the brief period of time fixed by the Agreement before the Somalis attain their independence.

63. If this problem is taken into account, and if we also remember the fact that the Administering Authority contributes more than two-thirds of the Territory's budget, we may wonder what will happen when Somaliland attains its independence. How far can the Italian achievements, to which I referred in the first part of my speech, be carried on? How can the social and educational institutions and public works be maintained? It is logical to conclude that two-thirds of what has already been achieved will disappear, since there will be only sufficient financial resources to maintain one-third of it. I feel that my country has an inescapable international obligation, since under the Trusteeship Agreement it is closely associated with the achievement of the Administering Authority's terms of reference.

64. Last year, I said before the Council [*415th meeting*]: "I can say, without fear of being mistaken, that [my country] has never subscribed to the colonial conception of the great Powers; . . . we have always viewed with great sympathy the just aspirations of the peoples to self-government. But when it is a question of sharing with the Administering Authority the grave responsibilities involved in leading a people towards independence, then it is our duty, in the light of our experience of a century and a half, to make sure that this independence will be genuine and that on the day on which the State of Somaliland becomes independent, it will not fall under anti-democratic influences and become a pawn in the game of international rivalry".

65. If to the grinding poverty of the Territory we add the fact that nine-tenths of its inhabitants live under a tribal system dating from Biblical times and that, owing to the low standard of education, there is not a single university graduate in the whole Territory, this Council will share, or at least understand, our doubts. We think that these doubts are shared in silence by everybody, including the Somali intellectuals themselves, whose numbers are daily increasing and who are jealously guarding the interests of their country. A moment ago I was speaking of the great efforts which the Administering Authority has made in Somaliland. Anyone who has visited the Territory will agree with me in thinking that even if those efforts were continued, they would not be enough to ensure the achievement, by 1960, of the objectives laid down in the Trusteeship Agreement, that is, political independence, a minimum of stability and economic activity and a maximum of progress in the social field, unless the efforts could be increased yet further.

66. The Administering Authority found itself responsible for administering a country which, owing to force of circumstances, had been kept in a backward state for many years and where more or less everything still remained to be done. Right from the outset the Administering Authority set about its task honestly and with a will. As I have already said, the Administration con-

² See article 8 of the Trusteeship Agreement.

tributes two-thirds of the budget. But how far has the Administration the means to accomplish the prodigious task which we expect of it? This responsibility must be shared by the United Nations, if Somaliland is not to be forced to sacrifice much of its independence in 1960 in order to maintain the progress it has made under Italian trusteeship. In other words, I think that the problem has been tackled at an international level only so far as its political aspects are concerned, while everything, or nearly everything, may depend on economic and social progress. In my humble opinion, Somaliland needs a strong technical assistance mission from the United Nations, and considerable material aid as well as capital investments, guaranteed after 1960 by an international undertaking, which would make it possible for the country to conserve its economic, social and political gains and to make further progress without sacrificing its most precious asset, its freedom.

67. I wish to reserve my delegation's position before the General Assembly at its next session.

68. Mr. HAMMAD (Egypt): The Egyptian delegation has always attached great importance to the problems concerning Somaliland. As a member of the Advisory Council, my country is prepared to do its part conscientiously in preparing the Somali people, with whom we have a common bond of faith and who inhabit the same continent as we, for that independence which we cherish and for which we have fought and are still fighting. Furthermore, our relations with Somaliland go back to ancient times. As the land of incense, Somaliland attracted the Pharaohs, and in the last century an Egyptian expedition even went as far as Hafun and Brava.

69. My delegation thinks that it is necessary, as provided in article 11 of the Trusteeship Agreement, to make a statement to the Trusteeship Council interpreting and supplementing the report of the Advisory Council, because that report contains only such commentary and remarks as were agreed upon by the three members of the Council.

70. In the opinion of my delegation, the features which set the Trusteeship Agreement for Somaliland apart from the other Trusteeship Agreements are, as you know, the existence of an Advisory Council and the limited duration of the Trusteeship Agreement. I propose to make a few remarks on these two points for the consideration of the Trusteeship Council.

71. The Advisory Council may be considered from the point of view of its relations with the General Assembly, with the Trusteeship Council and with the Administering Authority.

72. As to its relations with the General Assembly, the Advisory Council, as you know, is an organ of the Assembly, or, if you prefer, one of its creations. However, no direct relationship has yet been established between the Advisory Council and the Assembly. The Egyptian delegation wishes to emphasize that it fully supports paragraph 130 of the report of the Advisory Council, which states that the Council maintains its opinion that it has the right to establish direct contact with the General Assembly whenever the latter discusses problems relating to the Territory of Somaliland.

73. The relationship between the Advisory Council and the Trusteeship Council is broadly defined in article 11 of the Trusteeship Agreement, which states that the Advisory Council, or each of its members acting separately, may independently make oral statements or submit written reports or memoranda during the Trust-

teeship Council's debates on any question relating to the Territory. Under rule J of chapter XXII of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, such communications must be included in the agenda of the Trusteeship Council if they are received in time. Nothing in that rule appears to prevent the Trusteeship Council, in preparing to take up important matters, from drawing on the experience of the Advisory Council, a permanent body whose knowledge of the Territory is based on three years' experience.

74. As to petitions and communications from the people of the Territory, Article 87 b of the Charter of the United Nations empowers the General Assembly and, under its authority, the Trusteeship Council to accept petitions and examine them in consultation with the Administering Authority. Under article 11 of the Trusteeship Agreement, to which I have already referred, the Advisory Council, or each of its members acting separately, may make to the Trusteeship Council such oral statements or may submit such written reports as they deem necessary for the Council's proper consideration of any question specifically relating to the Territory. In the Egyptian delegation's opinion, petitions and communications from the people of Somaliland are undoubtedly questions specifically relating to the Territory. However, neither the Advisory Council nor any of its members has taken advantage of this right. If they did so, the debates on Somaliland would obviously take much time. In order to prevent this from happening and to make use of the experience of a United Nations organ whose members are able to come into direct contact with most of the signatories of the petitions, a method similar to that set out in rule 89 of the Trusteeship Council's rules of procedure should perhaps be adopted. A procedure of this kind, while not encroaching in any way upon the Trusteeship Council's authority in the matter, would make it possible to examine petitions more thoroughly and would thus lessen the feeling of dissatisfaction among the people with regard to the manner in which their petitions are dealt with. This dissatisfaction has been reflected in the increasing number of requests for oral hearings, a question to which my delegation referred in the Fourth Committee [283rd meeting] at the seventh session of the General Assembly.

75. As to relations between the Advisory Council and the Administering Authority for Somaliland, the legal aspect of those relations has been adequately dealt with in the first part of the Advisory Council's report for the present year and in its reports for previous years [T/923, T/979]. There is no need to repeat here what has already been said on various occasions. The representatives of the Advisory Council have always maintained a close relationship with the Administering Authority, which, it must be emphasized, has spared no effort to assist the Council in every way. Liaison officers were even appointed so that this relationship would be even closer. Despite these efforts, however, the situation is not yet entirely satisfactory. The number of requests for advice has decreased. There were eighteen such requests in 1951-52, but only eleven this year. The requests for advice often relate to matters of no great importance. On the other hand, matters of broader scope, some of which are referred to in paragraph 18 of the Advisory Council's report, were communicated to the Trusteeship Council for information only. Furthermore, matters transmitted for information have often been decided by the Administration before the Council has had any real opportunity for comment. In addition,

the Advisory Council's observations on matters transmitted for information have seldom been accepted or taken into consideration by the Administering Authority. There seems to be a certain amount of confusion in this regard, and the Administration itself apparently is not very sure what matters should be submitted to the Advisory Council for advice or merely for information. Thus, for example, the ordinance permanently reducing import duties on coconut oil and export duties on shellfish was transmitted to the Advisory Council for information only, whereas the ordinance exempting raw cotton from export duties for a period of only four months was transmitted to the Advisory Council with a request for its advice. The Advisory Council was likewise not officially informed of a fair number of important measures adopted by the Administering Authority, some of which, I say without hesitation, are certainly praiseworthy.

76. The matters which I have just mentioned represent a few examples of what took place in recent months at a time when all the members of the Advisory Council were present at Mogadiscio. This situation has naturally caused the Advisory Council some concern, and my delegation in particular has given it very special attention. The Administration has already been approached on this matter, either through a liaison officer or by the representatives. Some letters have also been written; for example, the letter sent by the representative of Colombia, the only representative in the Territory at that time, concerning the ordinance on cotton cultivation. The Advisory Council did not, as it appears, consider it advisable to labour this particular point because of the change in Administrator. The fact, in any case, cannot be ignored that the situation has become such that an immediate clarification is necessary. That, at least, is the opinion of my delegation. So as to avoid any misunderstanding, I should like in this connexion to say that the Advisory Council has informed the Administering Authority that the Council is at its disposal in New York to consider any urgent matters which it would like to submit. I want, before concluding this phase of the discussion, to say how much we appreciated the special representative's statement [462nd meeting] on the interpretation of article 8 of the Trusteeship Agreement.

77. I should like now to comment briefly on the second special characteristic of the Trusteeship Agreement for Somaliland—the limited duration of the Agreement. As Somaliland is to obtain its independence in 1960, the time element is paramount. The plans for the development of the Territory must be so designed as to avoid all delay when there is a change of Administrator. I am convinced that this difficulty can be overcome and that the new Administrator will soon be in a position energetically to continue the policy of development and progress initiated by his predecessor.

78. I now come to the general political situation, which on the whole is calm. Inter-tribal conflicts have diminished in recent months, and some of the larger tribes involved in these conflicts have now made peace. In this regard, the Administration has made laudable efforts to bring about friendly relations among the tribes, and these efforts have been appreciated.

79. The Territory still has too many political parties, some of which are nothing more than small fragmentary groups without any real political programme. Although there is great rivalry between the big political parties, the differences of opinion between them have become

less and the atmosphere appears more calm. The attack on the representative of the Hisbia Dighil Mirifle was indeed deplorable, and we hope that it was the work of fanatics, and not directly related to the general political situation.

80. Relations between the Administration and the local population vary from region to region, but in general they seem to have improved greatly in recent months owing to the tactfulness of the Administration and the common sense of the Somalis. Since the regrettable Chisimaio incidents, the Administering Authority has shown an admirable inclination towards conciliating and pacifying the people. I am convinced that if the Administration continues as it is now doing, the political climate will become steadily more healthy. I should like to repeat here, as I have already said in the Standing Committee on Petitions, that I observed complete tranquillity at Chisimaio, where the Administering Authority and the people are giving evidence of goodwill and mutual understanding. The best way, perhaps, to remove the last traces of the political misunderstanding resulting from the Chisimaio incidents would be to open the way for some sort of amnesty. This idea, moreover, was favourably received by the special representative for Somaliland in the course of the meetings of the Standing Committee on Petitions.

81. Some changes have been made as regards the functioning of the Territorial Council, with the result that the indigenous councillors now have the opportunity to become better acquainted with legislative matters and to acquire more experience. The Advisory Council has learned that the first elections may take place soon. These elections are much to be desired, because they will enable the Administration to ascertain the opinions and wishes of the people more accurately. I am furthermore certain that, before the elections, the Administration will pass legislation defining citizenship in the Territory, as provided in article 2 of the Declaration of Constitutional Principles annexed to the Trusteeship Agreement.

82. As also appears from the Advisory Council's report, there has certainly been considerable progress in both the legal and the judicial fields. The Advisory Council has repeatedly expressed the view that the independence of the judiciary must be firmly established. In my opinion, another very necessary measure is the adoption of clearly drafted penal and civil legislation, adapted to local conditions, and the repeal of all previous laws. At the present time, as is only too well known, much of the discontent among the people arises from the intolerable confusion of laws and jurisdictions and from the sometimes interminable procedural delays.

83. Italy's legal and judicial system has a well-established reputation. The names of Lombroso and Ferri, among others, are known throughout the world. Nevertheless, I wonder whether the Italian legal system is well suited to a country like Somaliland. After all, legal and judicial systems should normally be established in conformity with the concepts and beliefs of the people, although, in the case of Somaliland, the progress being made should not be overlooked. I therefore do not regret that the Administering Authority has withdrawn its proposal for a judicial system, which it communicated to the Advisory Council last year, especially if that action is indicative of a better understanding of the problem. I should very much like to see the Administering Authority give consideration to the suggestion embodied in the Secretariat's working paper A/AC.33/W.52 concerning the establishment of two commissions

to be assisted by experts — one to draft a penal law and procedure and the other to draft a civil law and procedure. To this end, it is essential to train some Somalis in modern legal theory so that, when the proper time comes, they will be able to help their country to adapt itself to the requirements of international life in the atomic age. My Government is prepared to make its legal experience available to these two commissions. It has, moreover, sent to Somaliland, and is paying all the expenses of, five professors who are teaching Islamic law at the Institute of Islamic Law recently established at Mogadiscio.

84. In other aspects of education, my Government has shown its willingness to help the Administering Authority to prepare the Somali people for independence. Some dozens of Somali students have received scholarships for study in Egypt. Recently, an educational institution for girls in my country agreed to take full responsibility for some twenty Somali girls, who in fact have already arrived in Egypt. I should like here to thank the Administration, which does everything possible to ease the formalities to enable these young men and women to leave the Territory to complete their education abroad, in the spirit and letter of the Trusteeship Agreement.

85. The Administering Authority has made remarkable efforts in the matter of education and has devoted considerable sums to it. Nevertheless, I wonder whether the efforts are always directed towards the most suitable ends and whether, in fact, a large proportion of the appropriations for education is not really spent to no great purpose. Everyone knows the Montessori method of education. The Montessori School at Mogadiscio is undoubtedly useful, but is that expenditure justifiable in the face of other urgent needs, especially when there is another kindergarten at Mogadiscio? Would it not also be better to have the school of navigation and fisheries in the Mijertein rather than at Mogadiscio? Evening classes for adults are certainly very useful, but they would produce better results if the textbooks and teaching methods were different from those used in the beginners' classes of primary school.

86. During my travels in the Mijertein, I had an opportunity to observe the teaching methods and to question pupils. My impression was that although the curriculum of the primary schools might be good for Mogadiscio and the larger towns, it was quite unsuitable for the small communities in the bush. Much of what is taught seems to be useless. What is the point, for example, of teaching children the history of ancient Greece or of the Trojan war, when it is quite obvious that they will not be able to leave their villages or continue their education beyond the third or fourth class? In several cases, teaching does not seem to bear any relation to the daily life of the people. In one place, I remember that the pupils were able to describe the digestive system by heart, but could not say why flies were undesirable. In another place, the schoolmaster told me proudly that, during the short time devoted to manual work, he gives talks on the usefulness of that work. This happens in a place where it is almost impossible to find a person who is capable of making a table or a chair. The low school attendance, which varies from 30 to 60 per cent of those registered, may be partly attributed to the failure to adapt curricula and teaching methods to the people's needs. It is only when local public opinion recognizes the usefulness of the teaching that school attendance increases. Of course, this does not apply to the large towns. In this connexion, I should like to point out the advantages of rural schools designed

to teach the children what is necessary for them to become useful members of their environment, whether agricultural, pastoral or fishing. It is to be hoped that, when the UNESCO expert submits his comments on the five-year plan for education in Somaliland [T/1061], the real needs of the Territory will be taken into account before the plan is finally adopted. In any case, the Advisory Council will have to express its views on it.

87. I shall not dwell on the subject of medical facilities. It is obvious that a people's health has an effect on its economic development. In spite of the Administration's unremitting and laudable efforts to meet public health needs, the medical services still aim at cure rather than at prevention. Malaria, tuberculosis and other diseases are fairly widespread. Infant mortality is very high and more attention could be devoted to the health of children. A great effort has been made to train nurses and auxiliary personnel. The Administering Authority has been invited by my Government to use the centre for training nurses and auxiliary personal to combat tuberculosis, recently set up in Egypt in collaboration with the World Health Organization, where the Somalis will be welcome.

88. I must now speak of the delicate and difficult problem of the economic progress and development of the Territory. This is a matter on which the Advisory Council has seldom been consulted and has not always been kept informed by the Administration. For example, the budget has not yet been transmitted to the Council this year. The Council has received no information on the economic policy which the Administration tends to pursue. Furthermore, it was not informed of the concessions granted to oil companies until several months after they had come into force, although they may affect the whole future economy of the country.

89. There has undoubtedly been some progress, such as the opening of an agricultural school at Merca, the Administration's plan to develop water resources and the measures taken to encourage agricultural co-operatives. All these measures are praiseworthy but, in my delegation's opinion, progress is rather slow. Last year, the Egyptian representative stated: "We note with concern that one more year has elapsed without any economic development programme being established and implemented in the Territory". These words can be repeated this year. It is true that an economic expert visited the Territory some months ago to make economic surveys and, no doubt, an appraisal of potential resources. It is therefore to be hoped that a definite plan for economic development will be carried out before much longer since time is pressing. Indeed, we shall have to decide whether the aid and assistance of international agencies is needed to ensure a minimum of progress and development, without which the new Somali State could not survive.

90. The Administration must be congratulated on having set up a committee to study land legislation and on having met the Advisory Council's desire to have an observer on this committee.

91. It should be noted that the Administration not only has given no concession of agricultural land since the beginning of the period of trusteeship, but has also officially drawn public attention to the regulations in force, which restrict the sale or renting of agricultural land to non-indigenous persons. Nevertheless, the *Bollettino Ufficiale dell' Amministrazione Fiduciaria Italiana della Somalia*, constantly publishes decrees granting absolute ownership of agricultural land to non-

indigenous persons who could not fulfil the necessary conditions for obtaining such concessions within the required time. Under Royal Decree No. 226 of 24 January 1929, which is still in force, a concessionaire may obtain absolute ownership of his concession only if he has developed the land within a given time, usually five years; otherwise, the Government has the right to cancel the concession. Thirteen years have passed since the last concession was granted and more than three years since the beginning of trusteeship. My delegation considers that the time may have come for the Administering Authority to exercise its right to cancel concessions granted to persons who have not yet fulfilled the conditions of their pre-war concessions.

92. The concessions in Somaliland cover a large part of the irrigable land and are vitally important to the economy of the country, since they produce most of the agricultural exports, especially bananas. Nearly all the production of bananas in Somaliland is sold to the Italian banana monopoly, which sells the bananas to the Italian public at prices two or three times as high as those on the world market. Thus, the banana producers are subsidized by the Italian taxpayer. That situation cannot continue indefinitely and I wonder whether it would not be advisable to reduce the price of bananas, in the interest of the Territory. Such a reduction would have the effect of encouraging a gradual expansion of the cultivation of other products. Some agricultural concessions have led to the establishment of enterprises which have some of the characteristics of monopolies and are not in full conformity with article 16 (c) of the Trusteeship Agreement. Thus, a large company with vast agricultural holdings is the only one which is authorized to manufacture and sell sugar. No imported sugar can be sold in the Territory until the sugar produced in Somaliland, that is, manufactured by this large company, has been sold. The result of this state of affairs is that Somaliland sugar, which is of inferior quality, is sold at a higher price than imported sugar, which is of better quality and the price of which necessarily includes transport and packing costs, etc. A kilo of second-grade sugar is sold at 2.20 to 2.30 somalos. The other, better quality sugar is sold at 1.80 to 1.85 somalos, but it cannot be bought until the Somali stocks are exhausted. I would add that sugar is a product which has a high place in the local population's diet. Furthermore, no permits are granted for the import of oriental rice, which would cost approximately 170 somalos per bag. On the other hand, permits are granted for the import of Italian rice, at a price of about 200 somalos per bag.

93. Monopolies of an industrial kind have been granted, without the Advisory Council's being in any way informed. Thus, the *Società Romana di Colonizzazione* has been granted the exclusive right to deal with agave in the province of Lower Giuba, with exemption from income tax for five years (*Bollettino Ufficiale*, No. 7, 18 July 1952, p. 608). Other *de facto* monopolies exist, such as the electricity monopoly at Mogadiscio. My delegation considers that the fact that these monopolies are held by non-indigenous persons makes the situation serious. I admit that this may be an easy method of attracting capital investments, but I wonder whether in time this state of affairs will not give rise to some mistrust among the local population.

94. It is often said that Somaliland is a poor country. There is undoubtedly some truth in that statement. Much could be done, however, to improve the economic outlook: trade could be developed by extending bank

facilities to centres such as Bender Cassim; trade agreements could be concluded with neighbouring countries; new markets could be found. The Middle East could be used as an outlet for Somali cattle. During my journey to the north, I was surprised to learn that large quantities of milk remained unused in the bush, for lack of means of transporting it to the towns, where milk is relatively expensive. The cowherds and shepherds have no idea of the proper methods of skinning animals. Development of irrigated gardens, where certain vegetables and fruit could be cultivated, is possible in dozens of places in northern Somaliland, such as Bio Culel. There seems to be little interest in the cultivation and propagation of incense-bearing trees, which constitute an important economic resource in the North. This region, which provides a large part of the world production of incense, is not even the world centre for the incense trade, which is at Aden.

95. In conclusion, I should like to state my conviction that the existing resources of Somaliland, if rationally used, would be sufficient to meet the needs of an even denser population, with a higher standard of living.

96. I have commented on some aspects of progress in the Territory of Somaliland. The Italian Administration has undertaken the arduous task of leading Somaliland towards independence in ten years. There has certainly been appreciable development in several respects and I should be the last to deny or to wish to minimize the Italian Administration's remarkable efforts and the progress achieved in the Territory in the short space of three years.

97. THE PRESIDENT: I am quite sure that the Trusteeship Council is indebted to the members of the Advisory Council for the care displayed in presenting their views and that the expression of opinions which we have heard will be most valuable to us.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY AND THE REPLIES OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE (continued)

98. THE PRESIDENT: When the Council adjourned last evening the representative of the Soviet Union was engaged in questioning the special representative of the Administering Authority, and I assume that he is prepared to continue with his questions.

99. Mr. ZONOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): In addition to the questions I asked yesterday, I have two small questions which I should like to ask the special representative.

100. The first question relates to section 39, page 34, of the Administering Authority's annual report,³ concerning the Territorial Council. The report states that the population as a whole is represented in that organ, including political parties, and then some economic categories or groups and minority cultural organizations. I should like to know what these economic categories represent. The reason why I should like this to be explained is that some figures are given at the end of the section, according to which the economic representatives have eight seats. I should like to know what is meant by this economic representation or these economic categories.

101. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The eight seats in the economic category are held by four Somalis, three Italians and one Arab.

³ See *Rapport du Gouvernement italien à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration de tutelle de la Somalie, 1952*, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome, 1953.

Of these four indigenous representatives, three are chosen by the Municipal Councils of Merca, Chisimaio, Villabruzzo, Galcaio, Bender Cassim, Margherita and Belet Uen. One is chosen by what we might call the labour union of the country. The three Italians are appointed by the Chamber of Commerce of Mogadiscio, and the one Arab by the Arab communities of Mogadiscio and Chisimaio. Each of the eight representatives is chosen from among Somali or Italian traders who are interested in economic affairs.

102. Mr. ZONOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I should also like to ask a question about section 43, page 40, of the annual report, concerning consultative bodies and Residency Councils. There is a table of the categories of members. The second category is entitled "Personalities". It is not clear to me what this category represents. Who are these personalities, when the first category consists of chiefs and notables and the third of representatives of political parties? I should like to know who are the personalities in the Territory.

103. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): This second category includes persons who enjoy a certain prestige in their own communities, such as old men versed in religion, who are called *Santoni*, or persons who, because of their knowledge or experience, are considered to be personalities. I might add, however, that we plan to abolish the second category, retaining only the first and the last.

104. Mr. PIGNON (France): I should like to ask the special representative of the Administering Authority a few questions concerning the Residency Councils. In section 43 of the Administering Authority's report, it is stated that under an Ordinance of 20 October 1951, the membership of the Residency Councils was increased, each political party represented in the district being allotted two seats for the section containing the Residency seat, plus one seat for every group of five sections in the district. I should like to know whether this reform of 1951 has increased the interest of the population in the work of the Residency Councils.

105. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We consider that decree of October 1951 as the first step in the evolution of this regional consultative body which, I must say, has not until now functioned very satisfactorily in some parts of the Territory. As a matter of fact, we are working on a new electoral system. We are not sure whether these Residency Councils are satisfactory or whether it would be better to have regional councils instead. As I said before, experience has not been very successful in this field, while in the Territorial Council and the Municipal Councils we have noted real interest on the part of the indigenous population and the indigenous members of these bodies. Some of the Residency Councils have been working very well, but not all of them. I think that as a result of this first step, this decree of October 1951 increasing the number of representatives in the political parties, there has been greater interest on the part of the populations of the towns and villages.

106. Mr. PIGNON (France): The special representative has given an excellent reply to my question. He has indeed replied in advance to the second question I wished to raise concerning the possibility of competition between the recently organized Municipal Councils and these Residency Councils. I have often found that, with the development of municipal organs, bodies such as Residency Councils lose much of their interest.

107. My second question is, can the special representative at this point evaluate for us the work of the

Municipal Councils, which are obviously of recent date since they were provided for by an ordinance of 6 June 1951 and have only recently been established? I should be glad if he could tell us how far the population is interested in the work of these bodies.

108. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): As I said before, in answering the question on the Residency Councils, I can state that the interest of the population in the Municipal Councils, for the most part in the cities and villages of the Territory, is quite noticeable. It is easy to understand that because there is beginning to be a certain municipal pride. We can see that in many of the small towns on the Giuba and also on the Shebelli, where the budgets of the municipalities are sufficient and there is a little margin at the end of the year, so that the new slaughterhouse and new public works can operate with the money of the municipality. Thus, they are beginning to have that feeling; they have a certain interest in what happens in their town, not only because they belong to a certain tribe which lives in that town but because they belong to that municipality.

109. Mr. PIGNON (France): I have no further questions. I wish to thank the special representative for giving me such complete and interesting replies.

110. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): On page 42 of the annual report, in the section dealing with the right to vote, it is stated that two parties are formed when a chief is to be elected. I should like to know whether this practice of establishing two parties is traditional or whether it represents a certain degree of advancement.

111. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): As far as I know, it has always been so. I think that it was a very old custom which they have followed for many centuries. They usually find that the best way is just to have two groups and that one is going to win the election.

112. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): I should also like to know whether the Bantu and Somali groups inhabiting the same country are already conscious of belonging to one and the same State or whether tribal and ethnic differences still prevail between the Bantus and the Somalis.

113. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Again, from my experience, I should say that if we consider the problem by taking into account only the stabilized part of the population, and above all the cities, I think that the majority of the people living in the cities and in the small towns of Somaliland already have that feeling that they all belong to one population. I have to admit that I do not know enough about the bush, because I have not spent sufficient time among the nomadic people. Therefore, I cannot extend my statement to that part of the population.

114. The PRESIDENT: There are no further questions on this section of the report.

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and was resumed at 4.25 p.m.

LETTER DATED 16 JUNE 1953 FROM MR. ABDULLAHI ISSA, REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOMALI YOUTH LEAGUE, TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (T/L.351) (continued)

115. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) asked whether the letter addressed to the President by Mr. Abdullahi Issa, which had now been distributed as document T/L.351, could be discussed.

116. Mr. PIGNON (France) felt that there was no

need to discuss the matter further. As the representative of the Dominican Republic had pointed out at the 462nd meeting, to admit a petitioner to participation in the Council's debates would be not only a violation of the rules of procedure but a violation of the Charter itself. The simplest way of solving the problem would be to allow the petitioner to express his views on the petition with which he was connected in a further letter.

117. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) believed that neither the General Assembly nor the Trusteeship Council had at any time denied that some way could be found to enable indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories to take part in the Council's work. It was, however, clear from the resolutions of the Trusteeship Council that the Administering Authority alone could provide for a satisfactory solution of the problem.

118. With regard to Mr. Issa's request "to participate, without the right of vote, in the Council's debates on Somaliland", there seemed to be only two relevant provisions. Rules 11 to 14 of the Council's rules of procedure mentioned only representation of members of the Council, of Member States requesting to appear before the Council, and of specialized agencies invited to attend sessions of the Council. There was also the exceptional case of Italy. Those categorical provisions did not justify the granting of Mr. Issa's request. The Somali Youth League was not a Member State, or a specialized agency, or an Administering Authority.

119. The alternative would therefore be to invoke rule 80 of the rules of procedure, under which the Trusteeship Council could hear oral presentations in support of a previously submitted written petition, or, in exceptional cases, could also hear, orally, petitions not previously submitted in writing, provided that the Council and the Administering Authority concerned had been previously informed of their subject matter. If the Somali Youth League wished to make an oral statement, it could thus make it in connexion with some of the petitions it had submitted.

120. The Dominican delegation would vote against Mr. Issa's request to appear before the Council, but would not deny an oral hearing if the hearing were in support or elaboration of a previously submitted written petition.

121. The PRESIDENT pointed out that Mr. Issa's right to appear in support of his petition had been granted by the Acting President⁴ and there was not the slightest doubt that he would be heard at the appropriate time.

122. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) said that the Chinese delegation was always sympathetic to the granting of such hearings, whenever possible, but certain limitations were imposed by the rules of procedure.

123. Reference had been made at the 462nd meeting to resolution 653 (VII) adopted by the General Assembly at its last session; but if the Council were to accede to the petitioners' request to participate in debate on subjects beyond the scope of their petition, it would be going much further than it had a right to do under that resolution.

124. The Chinese delegation could not, therefore, see its way clear to acceding to the request.

125. Mr. ZONOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that Mr. Issa's request should be granted. He had the right to appear before the Council during the session and the only question was when he should ap-

pear. As the thirty or more petitions from the Somali Youth League covered almost all the problems discussed in the Administering Authority's annual report, the Council could, on the basis of rule 80, accede at once to Mr. Issa's request to be heard.

126. Mr. TARAIZI (Syria) did not think it important whether Mr. Issa was heard then or later. To hear him at some time could not, however, be a violation of the Charter, since the Charter stated that the United Nations should promote the development of the populations of the Trust Territories. The Council should not lay itself open to the charge of invoking procedural pretexts to prevent the populations of the Trust Territories from speaking to it.

127. He would therefore support Mr. Issa's request, particularly in view of the General Assembly resolution. The Fourth Committee, the *Ad Hoc* Political Committee and the First Committee had all heard representatives of populations concerned in a debate.

128. The PRESIDENT pointed out that Mr. Issa had gone much further than some members seemed to realize by asking to participate in the Council's debates.

129. Mr. TARAIZI (Syria) agreed that there could be no question of granting Mr. Issa the right to participate in the debate, but requested that he should be allowed to be present as an observer.

130. The PRESIDENT asked the representative of Syria to make his proposal in writing, whereupon he would immediately put it before the Council.

131. Mr. TARAIZI (Syria) submitted the following proposal (T/L.354):

"The Trusteeship Council,

"Having considered the letter dated 16 June 1953 from Mr. Abdullahi Issa, representative of the Somali Youth League, to the President of the Trusteeship Council requesting permission to participate without vote in the Council's discussions on Somaliland at its present session (T/L.351),

"Authorizes Mr. Issa to participate in the discussions of the Trusteeship Council on Somaliland at its present session."

132. The PRESIDENT put the Syrian proposal to the vote.

That proposal was rejected by 10 votes to 2.

QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE TRUST TERRITORY AND
THE REPLIES OF THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE
(continued)

133. The PRESIDENT: We shall now proceed with the questions dealing with the economic section of the report.

134. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): At the 462nd meeting, when I put my question on the national status legislation which is contemplated by the Administering Authority, the special representative told us that the committee which was to have been set up in that connexion had not been set up, but that the Committee on Land Legislation had already been set up. I should like to ask the special representative to give us some more information in regard to the work of the latter Committee, and I should also like to know how soon the promulgation of this new land legislation can be expected.

135. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The Committee on Land Legislation started its work at the beginning of last month. There have been many meetings in the last few weeks. However, starting with the second or third meeting, I think,

⁴ See T/L.336, section C.

one point has been stressed by the indigenous members. It is a point of such importance that I think it is going to delay the entire work of the Committee. It is not clear in Somaliland whether there exists an individual right of property or a collective right of property. Naturally, there is a tendency on the part of the chiefs of the tribes to consider the property as belonging to the tribes, with the tribes assigning a part of that property to their members. Of course, there are many Somalis whose families have been working the same piece of land for centuries, and they consider that that land belongs to them.

136. The majority of the indigenous members of the Committee—or all of them, I think—felt that they were ready to accept the principle of individual property, but always within the limits of the tribe—in other words, that a person has the right to own land but that he cannot sell the land except to another member of the same tribe.

137. The Committee, before going on, dealt directly with that problem, which in a very important one. It is now thinking of making an investigation in a different part of the country—that is, the whole committee will move from one part of the country to another, in order to determine the real situation in regard to the agricultural land of the Territory, so that this very important problem about individual and collective property may be faced.

138. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): In those circumstances, do I understand correctly that we have to wait a little while longer before the new legislation on land questions can be expected?

139. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Yes, I think so. While we were hoping that by the end of this year we could have a draft of this law to submit to the Advisory Council and to the Territorial Council, I think, on the basis of the latest news I have received from Mogadiscio, that we will not be able to have the draft ready by that time. That is a difficulty in connexion with only one aspect of the question; there are many other quite difficult points.

140. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): My next question is related to taxation. We read in the annual report that one of the taxes still collected by the Administering Authority is the hut tax. That tax, being of the nature of a poll tax, is not, as is known, one that this Council is disposed to welcome. I do not read in the report of the Advisory Council [T/1048], which contains as an annex a preliminary draft plan for the future development of the Territory, anything to the effect that the Administering Authority is proposing to consider the possibility of abolishing the hut tax. I wonder whether any steps have been taken in the meantime in regard to the possible abolition of the hut tax.

141. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I believe that some time in 1951 we considered this problem and the possibility of changing the whole system of taxation on land agriculture by means of legislation, but there has been provision made for the abolition of the hut tax.

142. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): My next question is concerned with fisheries. On page 120 of the report it is stated that a technical mission was sent to the Territory in 1952 by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for the purpose of studying this question. I would ask the special representative to elaborate a little further about the work of that mission and the results attained.

143. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): At the end of 1951 or the beginning of 1952 the first FAO mission was sent at our request. It remained only a few months. The two experts—one in fisheries and the other in ethnology—returned to Rome, later coming back to Somaliland with two small boats. With these they have begun real work in the northern waters of Somaliland, which is considered the best part of the coast for fisheries. This mission has been quite successful. The last season was, as a matter of fact, one of the worst for fishing because the tuna fish, which pass very close to the coast of Bender Cassim, for some reason went through in very small numbers. Nevertheless, the mission was able to show the Somali and Italian fishermen how to improve their methods.

144. We have now in process an agreement with FAO for a third mission, which will come, first, to Bender Cassim, where it was last year, in order to help our experts who are organizing a branch of the nautical and fishing school which was established in Mogadiscio last year. We hope that after the conclusion of this third mission, FAO will be generous enough to leave with this school the fishing boat, which is quite a modern one, so that the young Somali students will be able to have a modern boat to help them in their work.

145. When we have the first graduates of that school, we are planning to encourage co-operatives of fishermen on the coast, with the help of the Italian technicians who are teaching at the school in Mijertein.

146. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): On page 67 of the annual report, mention is made of the introduction of a tax on cultivated fields. I am not opposed to the principle of such a tax but, given the still relatively primitive mentality of the cultivators, I wonder if it might not in effect deter the grower so that, instead of promoting an increase in food-growing in a country which depends for its livelihood almost exclusively on the production of foodstuffs, the result might not be a decline in agriculture.

147. I should also like to know whether the local African councils have been consulted on the matter.

148. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We have asked the advice of the Territorial Council in this matter. I remember quite well that the idea of re-establishing this tax—which existed before the war—was suggested to us by a Somali owner of *shambas*. Before the war this tax was a little higher in proportion to the tax of today, which is from 2 to 12 somalos. Before the war that tax was, as a matter of fact, quite popular among many sections of the population of Somaliland because it was the only proof they had that the land belonged to them. When we undertook the administration of the Territory after the war, requests came in from certain parts of the Territory for the re-establishment of the tax on *shambas* and, with the advice of the Territorial Council, it was imposed last year. Although the results have not yet been received, the general reaction in the Territory was not unfavourable. I cannot say that it was favourable because I was not there when the imposition of the tax was approved, but I have never heard of any unfavourable reaction to it.

149. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): I should like to thank the special representative very much for his very interesting reply to my question and will put a second question to him.

150. I see that there is a reference to the importing

of unshelled coffee into the Territory of Somaliland. I suppose what is meant is coffee in the husk. I should like to know why unshelled coffee is imported into a country where fuel is expensive, when it takes more room to transport than husked coffee. If my memory is correct, coffee in the husk is 30 per cent more bulky than husked coffee. My impression is, therefore, that there is some wastage of carrying capacity.

151. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I am not a technician on the matter; but if I am not mistaken, it is a type of coffee which is liked very much by the indigenous inhabitants. It is not the coffee which is usually needed to make the normal demi-tasse or cup of coffee. This is a special type of coffee which is particularly liked by the Somalis, if I am not mistaken.

152. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): I have been looking in the annual report for some information about forests and reforestation in the Territory of Somaliland. As I have never been to Somaliland, I may be giving expression to a technical heresy, but I should like to know whether there is any possibility of reforesting certain parts of Somaliland. I notice among the imports an item of more than two million somalos of timber from Italy. If reforestation were undertaken, it might be possible to reduce what amounts to a heavy burden on the economic balance-sheet of Somaliland.

153. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): This is a problem which we have also examined. But I have to admit that up to now we do not as yet have a definite plan, because in order to have a plan we need more technicians. All of our agronomists, all of our agricultural experts in this matter, are engaged in more important and pressing matters. We have already asked Italy for three or four experts, and as soon as we have them we are going to face up to that problem. We feel that in certain regions, and above all along the Giuba, which is the best region from an agricultural point of view, something could be done in order to increase the number of trees and woods. In some parts they are disappearing because of the period of drought; sometimes it does not rain at all for three or four years. Thus the trees and the vegetation suffer a great deal.

154. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): That is why I drew attention particularly to the importing of timber. It is clear that in a country where the problem of water-shortage is fundamental, the question of reforestation merits some priority. I know that in new countries all problems are urgent and deserve priority, but I believe that the question of reforestation is one demanding a very special priority.

155. Passing on to the matter of hides, I am glad to note that in 1951 courses were given on methods of improving the processing of cattle hides. I should like to know if these courses bore fruit and where the matter stands now. Hides also are a very important product for Somaliland but, as the report shows, they are prepared in a primitive way, by drying in the sun, and are not sufficiently stretched. Obviously, the revenue from hides could be doubled if the preparation of them were improved. In addition, I see that Somaliland imports cured and dried skins. I should be grateful for some information on that matter.

156. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): In 1951 and 1952 we had many courses for that purpose. However, I must say that while the results of the first courses were quite encouraging, the

same thing could not be said for the last ones. But at a certain moment we did not insist on that line because, for the most part, the persons who had learned enough went back to their villages and the first thing they wanted was to have a job as a result of the fact that they had followed that course. Naturally, we tried to explain to them that the course had a completely different purpose. But the results were not, on the whole, very encouraging. The average skin arrived in Mogadiscio and Chisimaio always more or less in the same condition as before. There has been an improvement due to these courses, but we cannot say that we were satisfied with it. It was not what we expected.

157. We now feel that in the new agricultural school of Merca, there should be one section in Hortacio, which will be a zootecnic part of the school. In that section we are planning to have all the Somali students learn about it, but on a higher standard than the one we had in the first courses. Later on, they could be assigned in the different regions. Sometimes we feel that there is only one way to solve that problem. It is a drastic way, but I think it has been adopted by some territories bordering on the Trust Territory of Somaliland. I refer merely to passing a law according to which no skins, except in certain condition, can be exported. If things continue in that way, I think that we shall be forced to do it, not so much to convince the firm which exports the skins — because they are already convinced — but to convince the Somalis who sell the skins that they will not be able to do so unless the skins are prepared in a certain way.

158. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): I have one final question to ask, on the possibility of producing butter. I have found no mention in the report of the existence of dairies in Somaliland. As the costs of running a dairy are small in relation to the profits which can be made, it seems to me that it would be worth while to carry out some experiments. In 1952 285,000 somalos of butter were imported into the Territory. I wonder if the products of the local livestock could not be exploited by setting up dairies, rather than weighting the economic balance of the country with imports of butter for consumption.

159. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The Administration has tried many times to convince some of the local firms. The Administration was also ready to help those firms if they were willing to start with a milk factory or a butter factory. But up to now we have not been able to do it. Evidently the consumption of butter is quite limited.

160. Last year, we also thought of organizing directly such an industrial concern with the funds of the Administration. Finally, we decided not to insist on that programme. There are many difficulties. The fact is that for a large quantity of butter there must be a stable population around the town. Otherwise, the milk cannot be collected. As the production must be steady, there must be some way to ensure that every day there will be so many thousands of litres of milk. A little experiment was made in connexion with a quantity of milk. It was not successful.

161. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium): I should like to thank the special representative for his very interesting replies to my questions.

162. Mr. LOOMES (Australia): I have a few questions to address to the special representative. The first is concerned with capital investment. The subject, it will be recalled, is mentioned on pages 81 and 82 of

the annual report. There, it is indicated that private capital investment during 1952 was of some importance, amounting to 20 million somalos. I am wondering whether the special representative could tell us in general terms how this sum could be divided between foreign capital investment and the internal investment of property holders to improve their estates. In addition, could the special representative indicate whether, in both these fields, there is being maintained a sufficient feeling of confidence in maintaining the same amount of capital investment and whether the Administration is doing anything in particular to encourage foreign capital investment in the Territory.

163. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I do not have the exact figures here. I think that the amount of foreign investment in 1952 was a little less than half of the total amount, around 8 million somalos, as against 12 million somalos of investment as the margin of income of persons living in Somaliland and having their funds there.

164. In another part of the report, we have said that we are afraid that all investments that can really give a guarantee of income have more or less been tried in the last three years. There are a few industries which are complementary to the ones which have been built since 1950. However, investment in new fields does represent such a risk that I do not think it will be easy to find new capital which will come freely to Somaliland. In the plan that the Italian Government is preparing for the Italian Administration, I am sure that there will be a suggestion with respect to some financial organization — Somali but with help from Italian or international capital — so that every year a certain amount of money could be put at the disposal of persons who are ready to risk a part of the new investment. Through this organization, the Administration could help and encourage foreign capital to come to Somaliland and try new fields of activity that have not been exploited up to now.

165. Mr. LOOMES (Australia): I am very grateful to the special representative for his very interesting reply. My next question relates to the salt industry. It was observed that before the war the export of salt represented an important source of income to the Territory. I wonder whether the special representative could tell us whether anything has been done or can be done concerning the re-establishment of the salt industry.

166. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The reopening of the salt mine at Hafun, which was one of the greatest in the world before the war and produced salt of the best quality, is a problem we have been considering since the beginning. If we could export half or one-third of the quantity of salt which was exported before the war, we would be able to solve the problem of unemployment in quite an important region in the north. From 1,000 to 1,500 persons could go to work if the salt mines started again. However, it seems that in order to resume the work, an amount of half a million dollars is necessary because during the war all the installations were destroyed. We have not found sufficient capital. The Administration is ready to help anybody who is willing to resume the work in the mine.

167. When I passed through Rome last month, I saw a representative of the firm, who was hopeful. However, the problem is connected with the world market of salt. It seems that during the war and since, new salt mines have been put into operation in other territories in the Indian Ocean. The Hafun salt-mining company exists

in Italy. The salt, nearly 500,000 tons of it, is there, ready to be taken away. But there is no harbour in Hafun or on the whole coast of Somaliland. Facilities must be built to have the salt brought to the ships. That would cost at least 500,000 dollars.

168. Mr. LOOMES (Australia): My next question relates to loans. We recall from discussions during the tenth session of the Council that the Administering Authority was considering the possibility of raising a loan to finance it in projects. I think the amount mentioned was two thousand million lire, part of which was mentioned as possibly to be applied to revive the salt industry. Could the special representative give us any indication as to the present position of these internal and external loans?

169. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): In 1951, one of the Italian banks was ready, or seemed to be ready, to grant loans up to a limit of two thousand million lire to firms established in Somaliland or ready to go to Somaliland. At the end of the year, however, that bank changed its mind and we have not been able to persuade it to go on with the project, which naturally interested us very much. We were ready to give a certain limited guarantee.

170. Mr. LOOMES (Australia): My next question relates to the production of bananas, to which reference has already been made earlier today. It is noted in the report that steps have been under consideration for lowering the cost of production of bananas for example, by using cheaper methods of packing. I wonder if the special representative could indicate whether there have been any favourable results from those plans.

171. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Every year the price of Somali bananas has decreased, and we hope that if we can continue, the price of the best Somali bananas will be not far from the international market price. Between 1950 and 1953, the price of the same quality of Somali bananas has been reduced from 170 lire to 125 lire. There has been a gradual decrease every year of from 5 to 10 per cent.

172. Mr. LOOMES (Australia): My last question relates to agricultural co-operatives, in which my country takes a particular interest. We have noted with great satisfaction that in 1952 considerable progress was made in the establishment of agricultural co-operatives. I wonder whether the special representative could give us some details about the increase that took place in that year, and also some indication of the attitude of the indigenous inhabitants towards these co-operatives. Does the special representative consider that these agricultural co-operatives could be spread throughout the Territory?

173. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The first co-operatives we established in Somaliland were in Giuba and Shebeli. As was expected, the results achieved by these co-operatives differed according to the region in which they were situated and according to the group which sponsored the initiative. Sometimes Somalis who are not farmers ask to be able to start a co-operative in the hope of obtaining a truck or other facilities from the Administration. Taking the problem in its entirety, we have found that when a small group of farmers belonging to the region in which the land is situated starts a co-operative, then the chances of success are quite high. Unfortunately, our biggest and most expensive experiment, which was made in the lower part of the Shebeli and which cost nearly \$100,000, has up to the present been consi-

dered a failure by our experts, because despite the amount of money that has been spent, which is about equal to the amount that would have been spent for ten other co-operatives, that agricultural co-operative has not been able to put more than 70 or 80 hectares under cultivation. That is evidently the fault of the leaders of this co-operative, and we are considering taking steps in order to find out why, after the miles and miles of irrigation ditches we have provided, the activities of that co-operative are smaller than many of the other co-operatives on which we have spent less time and less money.

174. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): The report states on page 51, section 55, that there are certain *de facto* monopolies in the Territory, particularly governing such commodities as flour, tea, butter, etc. I should like to know whether those *de facto* monopolies hamper new industries or the development of commercial companies.

175. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): In the same sentence the report states that these monopolies have been practically eliminated. I do not think we can now talk about a monopoly for grains, for tea and for butter. There is a *de facto* monopoly for sugar, because sugar is produced in the Territory and naturally the Administration has to protect to a certain extent the only real industry which exists in the Territory. Normally, the importation of sugar is permitted only after the sugar produced in the Territory has been consumed by the population. The other monopolies existed up until 1950; since then they have been eliminated.

176. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): I asked the question because the report says that they have gradually been eliminated and I wanted to know whether that constituted an obstacle. I thank the special representative for his reply.

177. Now, a second question. It refers to the concept of property, which, as the special representative has told us, cannot properly be referred to as individual property. I should like to know the legal requirements in the Territory before expropriation can be undertaken in the public interest, and if, as I believe, prior compensation is required and to whom it is paid.

178. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The most common cases of expropriation for reasons of public welfare occur in the towns. This is an easy problem to solve; for property in the towns this is admitted. I never heard of any cases of expropriation for public reasons outside of the towns. Thus, I really cannot tell what the Administration would have done if it were faced with a problem of that kind. In case, for example, we had to use some land for the construction of a new road, we would come to an agreement with the chiefs of the tribes that lived in that part of the country. When we were sure that all the inhabitants of that part of the Territory were satisfied — through the chiefs — then we would construct the road.

179. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): One final question. I see in the report that the Territory is occasionally afflicted by locust plagues. I should first like to know whether the plagues originate within the Territory or come from the countries bordering on it.

180. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It seems that Somaliland is one of the best places for the reproduction of locusts. They come from the neighbouring countries; they come from Asia, from

the Arabian peninsula. The places can be seen in three or four regions on the map. The soil in Somaliland is the best imaginable for the reproduction of locusts. The technicians have told me that the lands which surround the places where the locusts reproduce in great numbers are not in direct danger because the locusts usually like to fly for quite some time before they stop and destroy everything. The agricultural development of the regions where locusts breed is so small that the locusts do not find very much to destroy.

181. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): To follow up that last question, I should like the special representative to tell us whether any consideration has been given to the possibility of concluding agreements with the neighbouring countries with a view to co-ordinating the anti-locust campaign and making it an international campaign.

182. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Every year in Somaliland we have a campaign against the locusts, and we are working together with the Desert Locust Research and Control Organization of Nairobi, which is an international organization. I think it receives funds from the Rockefeller Foundation and also from some specialized agencies; at any rate, it is a very important organization. I think the centres are in London and in Nairobi. We have a liaison officer from that organization stationed in Mogadiscio. Every year we spend a certain amount of money for this purpose, about £25,000. We have needed more than that in some years, and the Desert Locust Control has given us the difference.

183. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): I should like to thank the special representative.

184. Mr. PIGNON (France): I have only one question to put to the special representative. It also concerns social affairs, but I prefer to raise it in connexion with economic advancement.

185. According to the report of the United Nations Technical Assistance Mission, there is a surplus of labour in Somaliland. On the other hand, I have found that, according to the same report, the Technical Assistance Mission advised against certain activities owing to the shortage of labour, without specifying whether or not skilled labour was meant. I take it, therefore, that when the Technical Assistance Mission refers to a labour surplus, it means a theoretical surplus, which will perhaps exist when the population has changed its way of life. I should like to ask the special representative for his views on this question and whether he considers that there really is a labour surplus in Somaliland.

186. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is not easy to answer that question. I have given the problem much thought and have discussed it with many persons in Somaliland and Italy. It must be remembered that at least two-thirds of the population of Somaliland is nomadic. People move from the bush to the town, and, at times, in the established centres there is a surplus of manpower. In most parts of the Territory, however, where workers are really needed there is usually a scarcity of manpower. The one condition which characterizes the economic situation in the country is irregularity. The climate is irregular; the rainy seasons are irregular. There is an irregularity of the manpower supply for a given region of the Territory at a given time.

187. There is a demand on the part of a section of the indigenous population for specialized work or, if they do not have specialized skills, they are anxious

to acquire them. Hence, it is not difficult for private concerns to find young boys whom they can train in a few months to drive tractors or other machines. On the other hand, there are not many indigenous inhabitants who are prepared to do other types of work.

188. To answer the question fully, it would be necessary to take up each specific type of work and state whether, as regards the one-third of the population which is not nomadic, there is a surplus or scarcity of manpower.

189. Mr. PIGNON (France): I have no other questions to ask. I wish to thank the special representative for his admirable clarification of this question of manpower.

190. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): It is stated in section 143 of the annual report that there are no railways in the Trust Territory. It seems to me that, at one stage, there were railways in Somaliland. Has any consideration been given to the development of a railway system?

191. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): No. If the small railway from Mogadiscio to Villabruzzi were still in existence, it would perhaps be economically feasible to operate it. It would not, however, pay to build a railway in a country where petrol, oil and coal cost two or three times as much as, for instance, in Kenya or Eritrea, and whose economic resources are so limited. Apart from the small railways to transport the sugar cane in the Villabruzzi region, I do not think that, for the moment, we shall see a railway in Somaliland, where the distances are so very great but where the traffic on the main trails is at present so small.

192. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): The special representative's reply interests me because I have read elsewhere in the report that the Administering Authority has encouraged the development of aerial transport. I should have thought that the cost of building aerodromes and establishing a regular air service would have been almost as prohibitive as that of building a railway. Could the special representative comment on that?

193. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): When we refer to air transport, we mean passenger transport and not freight. It is not difficult to build landing fields in Somaliland—they cannot be called aerodromes—because all the land is flat. Before the war there were many landing fields, in good condition. I think that in a few years there will be landing fields all over the Territory. That of course will not solve the entire transportation problem; it will solve only the problem of passenger transportation.

194. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): On pages 123 and 124 of the annual report, reference is made to an agreement that has been signed between the Administration and Sinclair Somal Corporation for research into the oil resources of the Territory and, if the

research is successful, for exploitation of those resources. It is stated that the agreement establishes the annual sum which the Sinclair Corporation must spend in carrying out its research programme. I should like to know the amount of that sum.

195. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The sum is not the same for each of the ten years. I believe the agreement establishes the sum of \$100,000 for the first year. I am sure of that figure, but I know that Sinclair must spend \$500,000 during each of the last five years of the agreement. While it was making its survey, however, during the first ten months, the company invested much more than \$100,000; I believe it was two or three times that figure.

196. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): If the company strikes oil, this will, of course, represent a most important economic resource of the Territory. I wonder whether in those circumstances, the Administering Authority considers that there is any possibility of altering in any way the royalty that is fixed in the agreement to be paid to the Administration. It does seem to me that the royalty is a little low.

197. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We had no oil experts in Somaliland. We asked our experts in Italy, and they told us that when they start in a land like Somaliland, where everything must be imported and the first expenses are very high, that is the usual percentage of royalty. But the agreement states that after ten years the royalties can be changed and will be established at the percentage existing in the neighbouring countries of the Near East.

Statement by the Secretary

198. Mr. ALEKSANDER (Secretary of the Council) referred to a statement made at the 462nd meeting by Mr. Hammad (Egypt), Chairman of the Advisory Council for Somaliland, relating to the dates of circulation of the Advisory Council's report (T/1048) and the provisional agenda (T/1050). He wished to explain, for the record, that the dates appearing on documents indicated the dates at which documents were submitted to the technical services of the Secretariat and not the dates of circulation. The Advisory Council's report was circulated on 15 May, not 28 April, while the provisional agenda was submitted for reproduction on 11 May.

199. Mr. HAMMAD (Egypt), speaking as Chairman of the Advisory Council, thanked the Secretary for his very interesting explanation.

200. Mr. DE HOLTE CASTELLO (Colombia) regretted that the Council had not applied its own rules of procedure to itself, although it was a matter which did not concern him, as a member of the Advisory Council.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.