



CONTENTS

Page

Examination of the annual report on Somaliland under Italian administration for 1951 and of the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1951, on that Territory (T/947, T/979, T/980, T/993) (<i>continued</i>)	1
--	---

President: Mr. Awni KHALIDY (Iraq).

Present:

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

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

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

Examination of the annual report on Somaliland under Italian administration for 1951 and of the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1951, on that Territory (T/947, T/979, T/980, T/993) (*continued*)

[Agenda items 4 (a) and 6]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Holte Castello (Colombia), Fadel Bey (Egypt) and Mr. Pas-trana (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.

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

General social conditions

1. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): Can the special representative tell us what principles govern the transfer of the property of a deceased person to his heirs?

2. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): One of two laws applies, according to who is involved. The Somalis follow their traditional law, which is called the *testur*. In the new judicial regulations, we shall go on following that special law, which is also influenced by the Islamic law. In the case of foreigners, the Italian law applies. The Italian code in that respect follows the principles of the French and also, I think, of the Latin-American laws; that is, they all stem from the Napoleonic Code.

3. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): Can the special representative tell us what is the percentage of illegitimate children?

4. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): There, too, we have to consider the indigenous population and foreign population. What we could consider the unrecognized children or illegitimate children are what we call the Euro-African children—the half-castes. Fortunately there are not many in Somaliland. Last year, we attempted a census of those children, and we found that they numbered in the hundreds; there would not be as many as a thousand. Also, since 1950, the number of the Euro-African children would not amount to more than two hundred. We therefore do not consider that a very important problem in the Territory.

Human rights and fundamental freedoms

5. M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand): On page 141 of the annual report,¹ it is stated that the sole medium of transmitting public expression in the language of the Territory is the four hours of radio broadcasting, presumably from Mogadiscio. I may have been remiss in my duty as one of the members of the Visiting Mission, but, during my tour of the Territory, I failed to observe any facilities for public reception of these broadcasts. May I ask the special representative whether there are such facilities and, if so, to what extent they are provided?

6. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): At the time that the Visiting Mission was in Somaliland, if I am not mistaken, we already had a few loudspeakers in the city of Mogadiscio, in some central squares of the city. Since then, we have installed them in three more centres, and we have placed an order in Italy for loudspeakers for all the big centres of the Territory. The first plan contemplates sixteen centres. But we hope that practically all the important ones—thirty-three or thirty-four—will have one or two loudspeakers, so that the entire population in the villages all over the country will be able to follow the daily broadcasts.

¹ See *Rapport du Gouvernement italien à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration de tutelle de la Somalie, 1951*, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome, 1952.

7. M. C. DILOKRIT KRIDAKON (Thailand): I understand that these broadcasts will be provided in villages and towns. What about the nomadic people? Would there be any facilities for them to receive the broadcasts?

8. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We do not yet have any plan for the nomadic population. But we have plans to provide motion pictures for the nomadic population by means of trucks which will carry motion-picture projectors; so we shall start with the motion picture for educational purposes. However, at the same time we are thinking that these lorries which will travel around the country just to try the first experiment in fundamental education might also have facilities to re-broadcast the programmes of Mogadiscio.

9. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): I should like to ask a question regarding the publication of newspapers in Somaliland. Can the special representative tell us whether the freedom of the Press is guaranteed? In other words, can the indigenous inhabitants be sure that letters addressed to the editor of the *Corriere della Somalia* will be published in full? Are there any safeguards in that respect?

10. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Up to the present time the Administration has, through its Press office, seen to it that all the letters sent to the *Corriere della Somalia* were published. As a matter of fact, of the 120 or 130 letters which have been addressed to the *Corriere della Somalia*, only three, until now, have not been published. Two were not published because they were written in language which was really quite vulgar. In both cases the writers of the letters were asked to change the language used in them; but, as they refused, the letters were not published. The third case was with respect to an Italian who wrote a letter commenting about certain policies of the Administration. However, the arguments in the letter were so unfounded that we told him that, in case it was published in the *Corriere della Somalia*, then the Administration, since the man was working for the Administration, had to take some action against him and that it was in his own interest that we did not publish the letter. These were the only three cases in which letters were not published in the *Corriere della Somalia*. In all the other cases — and there were many letters which were quite violently against the Administration — they were published in their entirety.

11. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): We should like to ask what authority the Press office has over the publisher of the newspaper. Who decides whether an open letter from an indigenous inhabitant shall or shall not be published?

12. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): There is the chief of the Press office and also the director of the newspaper. But now we have a journalist who is the chief editor and will be the director in a few months.

13. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): Have arrangements been made for the *Corriere della Somalia* to be distributed throughout the interior of the country?

14. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The newspaper, *Corriere della Somalia*, is distributed practically only in Merca, Afgoi and Villa-

bruzzi. With respect to the other centres, the distribution is not regular. But, except in the worst period of the rainy season, they all receive the newspaper within five to ten days' time. That is the average time required for the distribution of the newspaper to places such as Chisimaio, for example.

15. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): We should like to know whether the Administering Authority intends to draft a regulation on freedom of the Press.

16. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We have not yet a plan on that subject because there are so few newspapers and we do not see the possibility of having many daily or weekly newspapers in the Territory. So we have not yet thought of that possibility. However, as soon as the Press of the Territory is developed to such an extent that we really feel that we need a special law about it, we shall enact one. We have seen in the past year two new periodicals, one weekly and one monthly. They are the *Meridiano Somalo* and the *Voce della Somalia*. They are both independent. One of them, the *Meridiano Somalo*, has often criticized what the Administration was doing, and in this respect we are applying the same law which exists in Italy, where the Press is completely free. We do not feel that, for the time being, we need a special law for the Territory.

17. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): Subject to the normal principles of freedom of the Press, what rights would a person have if he felt that he had suffered injury on account of an article which he claimed was libellous, published in the *Corriere della Somalia*? Before what court would a person who had been the object of such an attack bring a complaint against the writer of the article?

18. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The case would be brought before the court at Mogadiscio.

19. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): Am I to understand that the crime comes under the common penal code of Italy, as applied in the Trust Territory of Somaliland, or is there a special law governing the crime?

20. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): No, it is considered to be a crime under the Italian criminal code.

21. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): That is what I thought.

22. Still touching the question of fundamental human rights, I should like to have some particulars concerning the dissemination in the Territory of information about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The United Nations is most anxious that information about the Universal Declaration of Human Rights should be disseminated in Somaliland. Has the Administering Authority made any new efforts in this respect? The United Nations Visiting Mission and the Advisory Council have already co-operated in this work, and I should like to know whether anything new has been done by the Administration.

23. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The Administration has always made every effort, with the assistance of the Advisory Council and its secretariat, to disseminate information on United

Nations activities. Since the Visiting Mission was in Somaliland, there were special broadcasts and some special meetings in connexion with United Nations Day, at the end of October. These meetings were held not only in Mogadiscio, as was the case in 1950, but also practically all over the Territory—I believe in seven or eight important centres. The same was true of the broadcasts. There were also articles in the *Corriere della Somalia* on Human Rights Day, in December.

24. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): On page 140 of the Administering Authority's report, there is a statement to the effect that all the inhabitants of Somaliland enjoy fundamental human rights and freedoms. What are the guarantees for such rights, and how can the statement in the report be reconciled with evidence cited in various petitions as regards the arbitrary behaviour of the Italian authorities in Somaliland, who engage in such things as arbitrary arrests, deportations, corporal punishment and so forth?

25. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The guarantee are given by the administrative and judicial authorities. Everyone in Somaliland has the right to bring a complaint to the officials—from the lowest one up to the Administrator himself. If he is not satisfied, he can go to any court and ask that justice be done.

26. As regards the second part of the question—that is, the petitions containing complaints of alleged arbitrary arrests and other things—the Administration has given an explanation in connexion with each of these complaints. The Administration has never made any arbitrary arrests. Only persons who have acted contrary to the law have been arrested. As I said yesterday [217th meeting], there is no such word as “deportation” in Italian law or in the law which is applied in Mogadiscio. There have simply been undesirable persons without means who have been living in a town where they have had no work and who have been accompanied back to their places of origin.

27. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): The facts concerning arbitrary arrests, deportations and corporal punishment in the Trust Territory are well known to the special representative. He is aware of the hundreds of petitions containing such complaints which the Trusteeship Council has received. Hence, general statements to the effect that no such things have taken place in the Trust Territory sound rather unconvincing. Some of the members of the Advisory Council for Somaliland have told the Trusteeship Council of many cases of deportation without investigation or trial; after months of detention, people are simply deported without any sentence having been passed. There have been many petitions of this kind; I could cite their numbers and their authors. They mention arbitrary arrests, cases of persons being kept in prison for five or six months, or even over a year, without being brought to court. I should like to know whether any punishment is laid down for persons who authorize the arbitrary arrest, corporal punishment and deportation of indigenous inhabitants. Have there been cases of police officials or other administrative officials being punished for having so violated the rights and interests of the indigenous inhabitants?

28. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): If an officer of the police force is found

to have done something against the regulations, naturally he is punished, but he is not punished only because someone sends in a petition stating that he was arrested without any reason.

29. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I should like to know how many police officials have been punished for having violated the regulations, and what form their punishment took.

30. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I have no data on the subject and have never been informed of it. Following any complaints that may have been received, we have made an inquiry, and if we found that the complaint was unfounded and that no action should be taken against the police official of the prison, the matter was dismissed. There may have been some cases in which a police officer has failed in his duty and, as is the custom anywhere in the world, he has been punished.

31. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I infer, then, that police and other officials have violated the regulations and have perpetrated crimes and that in the view of the Administering Authority they were doing their duty.

32. I should like to draw the Council's attention to the following passage on page 143 of the annual report:

“... no inhabitant of the Territory can be deprived of his liberty without a proper warrant issued by the judicial authority.

“Only persons taken in *flagrante delicto* or charged with serious crimes can be arrested by the officers and agents of the judicial police; nevertheless they must forthwith be handed over to the judicial authority.”

33. On the other hand, according to paragraph 158 of the Visiting Mission's report [T/947], persons frequently remain in prison awaiting trial for long periods. Moreover, numerous petitions recount cases of persons who have remained in prison for three, four, five or six months, or even more than a year, without being brought to trial. One of the members of the United Nations Advisory Council has spoken of the same problem here.

34. In these circumstances I should like to ask the special representative for an explanation. The statement which I read out from page 143 of the Administering Authority's annual report has no relation to the truth. The fact is that indigenous inhabitants are arrested without a warrant from the judicial authority and kept in prison, not only for months but for more than a year, without a charge being brought.

35. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is not correct to say that persons have been kept in jail for many months without any judicial action. Forty-eight hours after the arrest of any person in Somaliland the police place the arrested person in the hands of the judicial authority, and the judge begins preparations for a preliminary trial. The preparations, locating witnesses etc. take some time because it is difficult, in Somaliland, to find witnesses and to gather all the required data. It has happened on a few occasions that persons who have been arrested remained in jail longer than they should, on that account. It was not the fault of the judge that they were kept there, but because it was difficult to collect all the necessary

information which would enable the judge to take a decision concerning the case. It was because the Administration became aware of these delays—which were not, in fact, many—that a law was enacted in April limiting to two, three or five months the period of preparation for the trial.

36. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I should like to remind the special representative of the petition contained in document T/Pet.11/219, from tribe chief Malim Aden Merehan, received by the Advisory Council on 26 November 1951, which states that nine persons had been kept in prison without trial for more than a year. That statement was confirmed by the special representative when the petition was considered here.² Nine people had been arrested and were kept in jail for more than a year without having been sentenced. I could cite a number of other examples of the same kind. Evidently, therefore, the statement on page 143 of the report is meaningless and unfounded; it is untrue to say that no inhabitant of the Territory can be deprived of his liberty without a decision to that effect by the judicial authorities.

37. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): That was one of the cases that convinced the Administering Authority of the necessity for the enactment of the new law. There have been only one or two similar cases. I repeat that it takes weeks or months to find witnesses in Somaliland. Everyone realizes that. Therefore, the preparation of a trial takes much longer there than in other countries. That fact must be taken into consideration since it explains why a few people—not many—remain in prison for a few months longer than they should.

Status of women

38. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): The Visiting Mission, in its report, referred to the status of women in the Territory of Somaliland. The report also notes that, in accordance with the custom of the Territory and because of the need for them to share in farm work, the women do as much hard work as the men. The Visiting Mission drew the Administration's attention to the fact that it ought to define by law what protection should be given to women working in industry or agriculture. I should like to know whether measures have yet been taken to put the necessary law into effect as early as possible.

39. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Our representative and experts of the International Labour Office will meet in Geneva this September to establish the basis for a complete labour code. As soon as this is done, one of the first laws to be enacted will be to afford special protection to the work of women and children.

40. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): We read in the Administering Authority's report that between 1950 and 1951 the number of Somali girls attending school has increased threefold. We also read that women are working in the Administration. We know this because we visited the Territory last year. There are women working as midwives, assistant obstetricians and nurses in hospitals in Somaliland. To what does the special representative attribute the three-

fold increase in the number of Somali girls attending school? Is it due to a campaign by the Administration or by some political party, or to an understanding of women's problem by the Somali women themselves?

41. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I cannot say whether one factor is more important than the other. I think it is due to all of the factors which the representative of the Dominican Republic has mentioned, namely, the work of the Administration and the work of some political parties. The natural evolution of the Somali people has also brought about this progress. The increase has been so noticeable that we decided to open, during this new scholastic year, a secondary junior high school for girls in Mogadiscio. I remember that at Brava, it was the Resident and the Italian and Somali teachers there who persuaded the elders of the community to send girls to the schools. It is not easy to determine which was the one main factor. I think that all of the factors have contributed towards achieving this progress. The Administration has found this to be one of the most encouraging elements of the new situation in the Territory.

42. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): As has been pointed out by the Administration on various occasions, the law respects human rights and makes no distinction between men and women, because Italy has pledged itself to observe the principles of the United Nations. That being so, we should like to know whether Somali women are participating effectively in the work of the political parties in the Territory, or whether their participation is restricted exclusively to social activities.

43. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Until now there have been a few cases of women being interested in the activity of political parties. Generally speaking, however, while the important parties of the Territory have their sections for women, these branches are not so important to the life of the party itself.

44. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): Somali women observe certain customs that prevail in the Territory—customs which we consider backward but which are hallowed by long tradition. The women suffer from those customs, which affect their physical integrity and moral dignity. We should like to know whether the Administration is carrying out any kind of campaign to convince the population of the necessity of abolishing certain customs which exist in many territories and which constitute a violation of the physical integrity and moral dignity of women. Has the Administration taken, or does it contemplate taking, any steps in this direction?

45. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The Administration, through its scholastic organization, through the teachers, is doing everything in its power in connexion with this situation. It attributes a great deal of importance to the hygienic rules of life, so as to accelerate the process of evolution. All these habits or traditions to which the representative of the Dominican Republic referred are disappearing little by little. Through our teachers, we are trying to hasten this process of evolution.

46. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): We thank the special representative for his reply, with which we are quite satisfied.

² See the summary record of the 24th meeting of the Standing Committee on Petitions, document T/C.2/SR. 24.

Labour

47. Mr. GERIG (United States of America): There is a reference on page 144 of the annual report, and also in the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission [T/947, paras. 254-256], to the International Labour Organisation Mission which visited the Territory in March 1951. This Mission apparently made a number of recommendations on the labour problems on the Territory and in particular, suggested that a labour code should be drawn up. In the special representative's initial statement to the Council [415th meeting], reference was made to the fact that something was already being considered in that connexion. I was wondering if steps are being taken to establish a labour code or otherwise to revise the existing legislation relating to labour in the Territory.

48. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Many of the suggestions made by the representative of the International Labour Organisation after his visit to Somaliland at the beginning of 1951 have already been implemented by the Administration. The most important was a law with respect to compulsory insurance for accidents to workmen, which was enacted in November of last year. In addition, there were two other important laws: the institution of inspectors of labour and of labour offices. Those are naturally the first steps that we have taken.

49. In order to have a plan for the next eight years so that the Administration will be able to have applied to the Territory all, or practically all, the social laws of a modern country, we are sending the head of our labour office to Geneva. He will arrive there at the end of August or the beginning of September and will remain for the time necessary to set down the basic principles of the legislation which we shall have to enact in the years to come in order to have a complete labour code of the Territory.

50. Mr. GERIG (United States of America): There is another aspect of the labour question which is referred to on pages 144 and 152 of the annual report and also in the Visiting Mission's report. It is with regard to the difficulties of maintaining an adequate and a constant supply of labour in the Territory. Is the Administration using any special incentives with regard to this problem and to what extent are financial incentives productive in getting an adequate labour supply?

51. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We have to divide the labour market into two parts, the industrial and the agricultural. With respect to the industrial labour market, there is no shortage. As a matter of fact, there are more requests on the part of the workers than of the firms. However, very often, the workers do not have the qualifications. Therefore, it is a question of having more schools, technical and professional—which we are going to have—to prepare the Somalis to be mechanics and specialists.

52. In agriculture, there has always been a shortage of labour, and it has become more acute in the last two or three years during which the co-participation system for growing cotton and sisal has developed. There is a clear tendency on the part of Somali labour to prefer to work in the co-participation system than to work for day wages. Therefore the biggest farms in the Territory, in our opinion, have only one task, that is,

to mechanize their organization, because every year I think that the labour shortage in the agricultural field will become greater.

53. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): I have just a point of clarification to raise. In connexion with the question put by the representative of the Dominican Republic in regard to the protection of women labour in agricultural pursuits, the special representative made mention of the labour code which was going to be drafted in consultation with the ILO. I note on page 149 of the annual report that certain rules relative to the protection not only of women labour but also of child labour are being enacted in the Territory. I wonder if it is the intention of the Administering Authority to draft these rules and put them into force as a first step, quite apart from the general labour code, or whether it intends to wait until the labour code is drafted and then to incorporate these rules into that code?

54. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The Administration intends to enact different laws in the next years. All these laws, including, naturally, the one that was enacted last year, will form the labour code of the Territory. Our representative who is going to Geneva in September is going to establish with the International Labour Office the general basis for the different laws. However, they will be enacted gradually in the next years. As I stated in answer to the representative of the Dominican Republic, our intention is to enact a law for the protection of the work of women and children. This will be among the first laws to be adopted.

55. Mr. LAKING (New Zealand): I have only one question; it is probably covered by the comment that the special representative has just made on the legislation in process of being drafted. On page 152 of the report it is stated that the right to strike is recognized in accordance with the Italian Constitution and that certain, presumably draft, ordinances which will regulate the exercise of this right are still being studied. Could the special representative tell us whether this will be included in the project that is to be undertaken in Geneva?

56. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Yes, naturally, in the labour code we shall have a special law or special laws covering the right to strike.

57. Mr. LAKING (New Zealand): Am I to understand from that reply that at the moment this is just an assumed right? Is there any legislation of any kind or any enactment in force in the Territory at the moment which would give specific recognition to the right to strike?

58. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Yes, the position is exactly the same as in Italy and, as a matter of fact, there was a strike in Somaliland which lasted for about a week or ten days until agreement was reached and work was resumed. Thus the right to strike is guaranteed by the Italian Constitution exactly as it is in Italy.

59. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): On page 148 of the report it is stated that labour inspection is carried out by regional commissioners. How many such inspections have there been? Where? Who carried them out? To what results and conclusions did they lead?

60. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I have no exact data but I do know that while I was at Mogadiscio one of the officers of the district commissioner made a regular inspection of the factories. The same thing took place at Merca. I have no information about other commissioners, but they are carrying out these inspections of industrial and agricultural concerns, according to the law, in order to see that labour agreements and laws are respected.

61. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): In that connexion I would point out that there are not very many industrial enterprises in the Trust Territory; I thought the special representative might have or might be able to obtain at least some approximate data concerning the frequency of the labour inspections, who carried them out and what were the results. Of course it is most important for us to know to what conclusions they have led; have there been any violations of regulations concerning labour conditions? If so, what were they? Have any steps been taken to correct the situation? It should be remembered that conditions of work in the Trust Territory are hard and that workers are held cheap. It would be natural for the Administering Authority, which is responsible for social advancement in Somaliland, to take the initiative with a view to ensuring the elimination of abuses in this field. That is the aspect of the question that interests me. It would appear, however, that the Administering Authority is not very greatly interested in this matter; at least, that is the impression given by the special representative's answers. Perhaps he might care to amplify his previous statement? If not, I shall proceed to the next question.

62. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I said, and I repeat, that I have no data concerning the frequency or the results of these inspections. I know for certain, however, that in Mogadiscio and Merca, the cities in which there are industrial organizations, the commissioner or his representative has carried out inspection in order to see that the laws were being enforced. If the representative of the USSR so desires, I could obtain further data, but, although I have no precise information with regard to other places, I can assure him that in these two towns, since the inspectorate was established, quite a number of inspections have taken place. I know this because, as I have indicated, I lived nearby.

63. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): It would of course be desirable for the special representative to furnish us with the information requested.

64. My next question relates to the passage on page 147 of the report which states that the object of the Administering Authority's policy is to increase the minimum wage of agricultural workers and, by continually improving labour conditions, to increase output. I should like to learn how this policy is put into practice, especially as, if I understand correctly, the special representative does not seem to have exact information on labour conditions in the Territory. Since the report claims that the Administering Authority is constantly seeking to improve labour conditions, I should like to know how this policy has been put into effect, whether there has been any recent increase in wage levels and, if so, what was the amount of the increase?

65. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): There have been wage increases throughout the Territory. The most important took place in the Villabruzzi, which is one of the largest centres, where, at the end of last year or the beginning of this, all salaries were raised by from 40 to 60 per cent. There were other cases of smaller increases, but this is the most important because it affects thousands and thousands of workers.

66. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): The special representative says that at Villabruzzi, at the beginning of 1952, wages were raised 40 to 60 per cent and that thousands of workers benefited thereby. This brings up two questions. In the first place, what was the reason for such a sudden and marked increase in wages? Secondly, how many workers were affected by this increase?

67. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The directors of the *Società Agricola Italo-Somala* (SAIS) felt that they had to increase wage levels because of the tendency of the farmers, which I mentioned before, to work in their own plots, cultivating sesame more than cotton. The rates had to be raised in order to induce some of them to continue to work in the SAIS and in the sugar cane fields.

68. As to the second part of that question, I have to say that any one familiar with working conditions in Somaliland would know very well that there is no way to say how many thousands or how many hundreds of workers there are; one day there may be 2,100 and the next day 1,300. The numbers vary every day. There is no fixed number of workers. There are some who work on a monthly, a weekly or a yearly basis and they have contracts. But the thousands to whom I referred vary from 700 to 2,000 or 2,500.

69. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): Why is the Administering Authority guilty of flagrant discrimination between indigenous inhabitants and Italians as regards social security and wage levels? This question is prompted by a statement in the report of the Visiting Mission to the effect that the social security laws apply only to Italians, and that the wages paid to Somalis are one-third or one-fourth of those paid to Italians. I should like some explanation on this point.

70. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): In the new laws to be enacted by the Administration there will be no discrimination, because they will apply to everybody in the Territory. Naturally, however, if an Italian goes to work in Somaliland, he still carries all the insurance he has in Italy; that has nothing to do with the laws of the Territory; that is insurance which he has in Italy. If he were to go to work in France, he would normally carry the same insurance and have the same rights. But all the legislation which the Administration is going to enact in the Territory—and that naturally includes the first law enacted last year on compulsory insurance for accidents at work—will apply to everyone in the Territory without discrimination, whether they are Italians, Indians or Somalis.

71. As to wages, the principle followed by the Administration is—and I am referring to those who work for the Administration—that everyone in the Territory who performs the same kind of work, who has the same

ability and who has the same type of certificate or diploma must be paid on the same basis. I am referring here to those who are engaged locally. If an Italian or a foreigner comes to Somaliland, a country far from his place of residence, a place where he may not be able to bring his family, he receives, as a rule, a special allowance outside his normal salary. But the principle which the Administration has followed up to now is that there must be the same remuneration for the same type of work, and we are now working towards a law which will establish that principle. But if a Somali has a diploma as a doctor or as a teacher, he will be paid the same as an Italian, an Indian or an Arab in the same type of work.

72. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): That may be so, but this law is not yet promulgated.

73. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): At the present time, if a person has a diploma as a teacher, he will receive the same pay as an Italian or an Indian engaged locally.

74. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): The report of the Visiting Mission says that the Italians receive salaries three or four times higher than the indigenous inhabitants. Why? Moreover, numerous petitions make the same point. Members of the Council will remember that many such petitions were examined by the Standing Committee on Petitions; *inter alia*, there were cases of Somalis who complained that they had been dismissed from their jobs and replaced by members of Italian families who had come from Italy and who were paid higher wages.

75. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): What is written in the report of the Visiting Mission, which is correct, refers to Italians who have been sent by the Government of Italy and who worked for the Government. They had a special allowance, which is not very high. Naturally, with their salary and the special allowance they make much more than the Somalis. But there are no Somalis except maybe one or two at this time who can take the place of an Italian sent to Somaliland from Italy. On this subject, I should like to refer to the fact that a few days ago [415th meeting] one of the representatives on the Advisory Council said that the salaries in Somaliland are too high. The Egyptian representative is impartial; he knows something about the situation because his country is not very far away from Somaliland. I think that what he said should show very clearly that the wages received by the Somalis are absolutely fair. As a matter of fact, some of them are a little too high when you take into account the economic possibilities of the country.

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and was resumed at 4.30 p.m.

Standard of living

76. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): On page 134 of the report, there is a reference to a preliminary investigation which made it possible to estimate the approximate daily food consumption of a typical young indigenous family living at Mogadiscio. Who carried out this investigation and what conclusions have been drawn from it?

77. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): As is stated on page 134 of the report, the investigation was carried out by Professor Morgantini, the head of our Statistical Office, who will also be in charge of the census to be taken at the end of the year. This investigation is the first which Professor Morgantini has been able to make in Somaliland. As he himself has stated, he was able to study only a certain group of Somalis living in Mogadiscio; the investigation was theoretical, and he will be able to draw conclusions only when it has been extended to all the groups living in Somaliland. Professor Morgantini hopes to be able to extend the investigation during the next few months or within the next year.

78. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): So there is as yet no information as to the conclusions reached as a result of the investigation?

79. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): No, because, as I stated, only a limited group of the inhabitants was investigated. Until the investigation has been extended to a larger part of the population, we feel that we cannot draw any conclusions.

Public health

80. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium): May I draw the special representative's attention to the table on page 312 of the report? I tried to compare the totals with the partial figures, until I discovered that to make up the totals, not all the partial figures should be taken into account, but only six of them. The figures for Migiurtinia, Mudugh, Uebi Scebeli etc. ought therefore to have been printed in bold type, to make it plain that the totals were made up of the figures so printed.

81. The same remark applies to certain other statistics, particularly those concerning education. There again, the total does not appear to correspond to the partial figures, because the figures which must be added together to make up the totals are not printed in bold type.

82. Mr. GERIG (United States of America): May we have a little more information on the Health Council which, according to the report, was established in June 1951. What is its composition and what are its principal functions?

83. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The Health Council is composed of one or two officials of the Administration, two or three members of the medical profession, and, if I am not mistaken, four or five representatives of the indigenous population. The Council has met quite frequently during the last few months. It must be consulted in connexion with every project which the Administration has in mind for the development of public health in the Territory. We have found that, through the indigenous members of the Council, we have been able to interest various groups of the population in Mogadiscio in the Territory's health problems. The Council has therefore proved useful not only because it has given us advice, but also because some of the leaders of the population have become interested in present sanitation problems through the four or five indigenous members of the Council. Most of these members are really taking their work very seriously, and we have been quite encouraged by that.

84. Mr. GERIG (United States of America): We were glad to see that the Administration plans to extend

the Territory's medical and health facilities by setting up a two-year course for medical assistants. We should like to know how many students are at present enrolled in this two-year course, what kind of curriculum they are following, whether the graduates of the course are qualified for general medical practice, and whether some of them would go outside the Territory to take advanced medical work?

85. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): In this first class of what we call technical medical training—which we consider a secondary professional high school—there are, I think, nineteen of the best Somali male nurses in the Territory. Some of these nurses did not wish to move from where they were working. We arranged a kind of competition since, among them, were some of the best nurses in the Territory. We succeeded in convincing them of the advisability of coming to Mogadiscio for this training. The doctors in the hospital give class lectures in the morning, and during the rest of the day these students work in the hospital under the guidance of the doctors, putting into practice the knowledge they have acquired by means of the lectures. According to the director of the course, they are making very good progress. The course will last two years. At the end of the second year, which will be 1954, we hope to send those who have passed the examinations for a further two or three years' course in order that they may become medical assistants. Those who receive diplomas after two years will be qualified sanitation assistants—not medical assistants—and after further training, we hope that some of them will be able not to take the place of doctors in the dispensaries, but to do some of the work of the doctors. In addition to this plan, we hope that many of the students who go abroad to study will follow a medical course after they have finished high school. In the eight and a half years at our disposal we cannot hope to establish more than this technical medical training school and a senior medical school, which latter we are planning to organize in 1954.

86. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom): Could the special representative tell us what standards of education—I do not mean medical, but general—those picked students, who are now getting that training, have reached before they start on the training?

87. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Unfortunately, they have no standard level of education. Most of them, either before or during the war, had taken an elementary course in nursing and, therefore, they know how to read and write. Some of them have quite a good education. As a matter of fact, it is my impression that the male nurses are the best educated persons of the Territory. One of the members of the Territorial Council whom we consider to be the best educated was a nurse; another whom I know quite well was also a nurse and is now a trader. The standard of education of the male nurses is really quite high. I have spoken to many doctors in Somaliland and they have told me that the professional standard of the male nurses is quite a good one. For instance, they are very good at making diagnoses. It frequently happens that a doctor arrives two or three days after the patient has been brought to the dispensary, and in many such cases the diagnosis made by the nurse is found to be correct.

88. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): My first question refers to the statistical information on page 307 of the report. I should like to know why the number of infirmaries in Migiurtinia and the Upper Giuba has dropped. Furthermore, are the figures concerning these infirmaries in table 39 correct?

89. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Without looking at the table, I can assure the representative of the Soviet Union that it is impossible that the number of infirmaries in the Territory has decreased. Evidently some of the dispensaries have been transformed to infirmaries, which we consider to be of higher rank. An infirmary is a dispensary with from three to ten beds. In the last year the number of *instituts sanitaires*—which includes hospitals, infirmaries and dispensaries—has increased.

90. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): According to this table there were ten hospitals in 1950 and twelve in 1951. As for infirmaries, there were said to be seventy-one in 1950 and only sixteen in 1951. In 1950 there were sixty-one dispensaries, and in 1951 there were seventy-two. I tried to add up and combine these figures, which relate to various regions, but I was not able to discover how the totals of seventy-one and sixteen were arrived at. There must be something wrong, and I should be grateful if the special representative could give an explanation.

91. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): There is a mistake in the table. I think the individual figures are correct, but the totals are not. I know all the dispensaries and infirmaries, one by one, and I can assure the representative of the Soviet Union that the numbers of infirmaries, dispensaries and hospitals are correct. I think there is a mistake in the total for 1950; perhaps if we changed the figure of 71 to 17, that would be correct; one of the infirmaries was changed to a hospital. However I would be able to furnish the information on Monday without having to refer the matter to Mogadiscio. I can do it myself because I know all of the infirmaries and dispensaries in the Territory.

92. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): It would be desirable to have this point cleared up, because the figures mentioned are evidently inaccurate.

93. My next question is with regard to the information appearing on page 61 of the report. Could the special representative tell us why the appropriations for public health in 1951-1952 were reduced by 594,065 somalos as compared to those in the previous year's budget?

94. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): This is only a part of the budget for public health. The remainder, which takes into consideration the salaries of the staff, of physicians and nurses, as well as expenditure for public works, is not included in this section. There was a reduction in this section because the expenses during the year were less than what had been foreseen. In the part of the budget which deals with sanitation, a reduction was foreseen for the next year. But with regard to the other part, since the number of doctors and nurses have increased, there was also an increase. So that the budget for 1951-1952 is more or less the same as for 1950-1951.

95. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I should be grateful if the special represen-

tative could give us exact information about the increases which appear elsewhere. Under the heading of expenditure incurred in connexion with the health services for the financial period 1950-1951, in section 9, there is the sum of 3,784,114 somalos; the estimated amount for 1951-1952 was 3,428,571 somalos. Could the special representative tell us under what heading there has been an increase to make up for this decrease?

96. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): As the representative of the Soviet Union can see, with respect to expenses for personnel we have gone from 26 or 29 million to nearly 31 million somalos. One part of the expenses goes for public health. As a matter of fact, the number of doctors and nurses has increased quite a bit, as well as the general expenses.

97. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): What is the number of the item under which this increase is shown?

98. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is item 1.

99. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): The special representative's reply will not cause me to modify my views. If we look at item 1, we see that expenditure for European personnel in 1950-1951 amounted to 20,880,281 somalos. In 1951-1952 the estimates have fallen to 19,885,714 somalos. With regard to the indigenous staff, the increase, which is small, does not counterbalance the decrease in connexion with European personnel. In fact, there is no real increase in item 1, whereas under item 9, there is a real decrease. The special representative's reference to item 1 does not account for the reduction in expenditure for health services. I have no further questions.

Housing and town and country planning

100. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): Page 172 of the report states that there is a problem of overcrowding in large urban centres, and especially at Mogadiscio. I should like to know, in that connexion, whether landlords have the right to evict tenants?

101. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): No. The owner of a house cannot evict a tenant except when he needs the house for himself or when the tenant does not pay the rent. That is the law which has been renewed each year. The owner of the house hopes each year that the law will be abolished. However, up to now, it has been renewed in order to protect the interests of the tenants.

Penal organization

102. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): One of the most important questions dealt with in the report of the Visiting Mission is that of the prison system in Somaliland [T/947, paras. 277-278]. The delegation of the Dominican Republic is familiar with the progress which Italy has made in that matter. Italian jurists are pioneers in that field. We therefore hope that the prison system in Somaliland will be improved and that no effort will be spared to solve the problems pointed out by the United Nations Visiting Mission in its report.

103. I should like to ask a question regarding section 211 on page 175 of the Italian Government's report. In its reply to the question what kind of work is performed by convicts, whether they work outside the prison walls whether they are employed by the

Government or by private persons, whether they are paid or not, the Administering Authority states that they are used for light farm work and gardening under the supervision of guards, but it does not say for whom this farm work and gardening is done. Are the convicts paid or is payment made to the prison?

104. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): They are usually employed for the benefit of the public in general on tasks that are not private. In the case of a prison situated in a village, they are employed by the village. When the prison is situated in a municipality, they are employed by the municipality.

105. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): The report refers to the enlargement of the prisons. In our opinion one of the most pressing problems is that of the central prison at Mogadiscio, which is overcrowded. We should like to know how this matter stands.

106. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Before I left Somaliland, an amount of about 135,000 somalos was allocated by the Administration for the new penal colony that is going to be built. The work is to start in the next few weeks in a zone very near Balad. As a result of this expenditure, we shall be able to accommodate about 100 prisoners, who will be transferred to this new establishment. Next year, this colony will be enlarged so that it can accommodate 200 persons. In addition, we have also allocated funds for a youth centre between Afgoi and Balad. We shall be able to accommodate about 100 boys under twenty-one or under eighteen. These boys will be taken from the prison at Mogadiscio to this agricultural centre, which will be a kind of reformatory. At the same time, funds were allocated for prisons in Afmadu, Gelib and Margherita. In one case, a new prison is to be built; in the other cases, the buildings are to be renovated. That is a first step, because we realize that practically all the prisons of Somaliland need to be repaired and enlarged. For that reason, we have asked that the new director of prisons be a man with experience above all in the building of penitentiaries. We have addressed this request to the Minister of Justice. That is a problem which we should like to solve by the application of the more modern criteria that we have in Italy.

107. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): I should like to have some details regarding three particular points. First, there is the question of juvenile delinquents; I refer to page 174 of the report of the Italian Government and to paragraph 278 of the report of the Visiting Mission, which states that the institution for juvenile delinquents at Mogadiscio forms a part of the central prison. I was much impressed by this fact, which is contrary to modern ideas of prison organization.

108. In connexion with the five-year educational plan, there is a reference to a primary school for juvenile delinquents to be opened in 1952 in the prison at Mogadiscio, and to a centre for the re-education of juvenile delinquents to be opened in 1953, somewhere far from any town. In reply to question 209, the Administering Authority states that it has considered the establishment of a reformatory some thirty kilometres from Mogadiscio, in the Uebi Scebeli.

109. Could the special representative tell us whether it is intended that the primary school for juvenile delinquents shall remain inside the Mogadiscio prison or whether it will be transferred later to the centre to be established in the Uebi Scebeli?

110. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is only provisional. As soon as we have the new re-education centre at Afgoi, thirty kilometres from Mogadiscio, the school will be transferred there. We do not think, however, that this centre will be ready before the early part of 1953. At that time the children from the prison will be sent there.

111. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): When I visited the prison at Mogadiscio my impression was that there was no discipline. Was this due to conditions in the prison itself, to the grouping of the prisoners, or to the spirit of the Somali, who is haughty and proud?

112. Bearing these factors in mind, does the Administration consider that it has improved the general atmosphere in the prison by means of a better system of discipline?

113. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I think that the impression that Mr. de Marchena received at the prison was correct, but wherever the Visiting Mission went in Somaliland there was always some excitement because of its presence. Again, as he has stated, the prison in Mogadiscio is a little overcrowded. The first of these factors was eliminated, I think, when the excitement caused by the Mission's visit had passed, and the second will be eliminated before the end of the year by the construction of the new agricultural penal establishment at Balad. One hundred prisoners will be transferred to Balad so that the number remaining in Mogadiscio prison will be normal, and I think that the atmosphere in Mogadiscio prison will then be considerably improved.

114. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): My impression was as I said just now, and it has been confirmed by the special representative. I wished to know, first, whether the situation was the result of special circumstances and, secondly, whether the Administration realized that something must be done to improve the system, abolish overcrowding, and so on. My delegation will return to this subject at a later stage.

115. I should like to ask now for some information with regard to the conditions of women's imprisonment. I had the opportunity to visit a women's prison. Has the Administration, which has already improved the physical conditions, succeeded in adopting more adequate methods of teaching women prisoners handicrafts?

116. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): There was a plan to enlarge the women's prison at Mogadiscio, but owing to technical complications the project had to be abandoned temporarily. Certain work was found to be necessary on the original prison building, and when it is completed the Administration intends to continue with the enlargement of the women's section. At the same time there is also a plan — which was not definite when I left Mogadiscio — for an improved system of instructing these women

and girls in certain kinds of manual work. They are, of course, receiving such instruction already, but there is much room for improvement in the system which is being used. I have no definite information concerning this plan, but I do know that it exists.

117. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): When the special representative refers to the women's section of the central prison, does this mean that the Administration still maintains the idea that separate prisons are desirable? When I visited the prison, the women's section comprised a building which was at a considerable distance from the central prison itself. Does the Administering Authority intend to maintain that situation?

118. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Yes.

119. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): There is one other question upon which I should like some light to be shed in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding in the future. In one section of the central prison at Mogadiscio we noticed that the wives and children of the guards were living inside the compound, side by side with the convicts. There was no separation between the guards' children and the juvenile delinquents. Could the special representative give us an explanation of this situation?

120. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is not easy to insist that the guards' families should leave the place where they have been living for a long time. In fact, the inconvenience referred to by Mr. de Marchena will be done away with next year when the children who are in Mogadiscio prison now are sent elsewhere. It will also become possible to build new houses for the guards not far from the prison, and I think that we shall then be able to persuade them to send their families away from the prison compound.

121. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): I do not want to be misinterpreted, but in Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi the families of the guards do not live inside the prison compound; they live quite near, but they are separated from the prison by a wall. I was therefore struck by the fact that the children of the guards at Mogadiscio were playing with the juvenile prisoners. I understand now that the situation will change as soon as the reformatory is established, but anyone who was not fully informed would certainly be surprised by the present state of affairs. I am therefore glad to have the special representative's explanation, for which I thank him.

122. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): I have only two questions to put, because the representative of the Dominican Republic has asked some of my questions, to which I have been very pleased to hear the answers.

123. Among the disciplinary sentences there is solitary confinement on bread and water or reduced rations for from one to twenty-one days. The report says that this punishment is never applied for more than seven days consecutively. Could the special representative tell us what period of time is granted to the convict after the first seven days, before he begins to serve the remaining fourteen days?

124. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I do not remember exactly, but I can get the information.

125. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): Are sentences of solitary confinement with reduced rations still being applied?

126. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Yes, but as far as I know, not many such cases have been registered in the last year.

127. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): Does the Administering Authority consider it necessary to maintain this punishment? Does it not believe that better results would be obtained if the reduction in the rations were abolished?

128. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): That is a suggestion that the Administration will be glad to examine and to take into account when special regulations are drawn up for the prisons in Somaliland. That is something we are planning to do as soon as possible, but not in the very near future.

129. Mr. SERRANO GARCIA (El Salvador): I thank the special representative for the answers he has given.

EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

General educational system

130. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): I wanted to put one question on the five-year plan; perhaps this might obviate my having to go into details. Has this plan been submitted to UNESCO? Is the Administering Authority awaiting an official report from UNESCO so as to consider the execution of the plan?

131. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Yes, we presented this plan to UNESCO last November or December. The head of the Department of Education and I had many meetings with UNESCO experts in Paris. We were not able at that time to reach a final conclusion because UNESCO was waiting for a report from Mr. Fielding Clarke, its representative on the Technical Assistance Mission to Somaliland. As this report is going to be included in the general report of the Technical Assistance Mission³ it is not yet public. Mr. Clarke took part in the exchange of views we had in Paris last December and we therefore know his ideas and, unofficially, what UNESCO's ideas are. But this plan will not be taken up in its final form until we have discussed again, if necessary, those parts of the plan about which UNESCO does not agree.

132. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic): That was what I wished to know because, in the document concerning the five-year plan,⁴ mention is made of the fact that that document is submitted to the Council for information only; it is a draft text which has been submitted to UNESCO, so that all the Council can do is to take note of it. Members of the Council cannot put questions concerning it, because it is the duty of one of the specialized agencies to study it. We should confine ourselves to saying that we have taken note of it.

³ The United Nations Technical Assistance Mission to Somaliland under Italian Administration, 1951.

⁴ Document distributed to members of the Council only.

133. Furthermore, since a representative of UNESCO is present, could he not be invited to give the Council any information he thinks fit?

134. The PRESIDENT: The representative of UNESCO has asked to speak.

135. Mr. ARNALDO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization): In confirmation of the statement of the special representative of the Administering Authority, I should say that the five-year plan for education was submitted to UNESCO; it was received by our office and is now being closely studied. I am authorized to say that, given time, UNESCO is prepared to submit its considered views to the Council if officially requested to do so. In the meantime, I should say also that, at the Italian Government's request, preliminary remarks are being prepared by UNESCO with a view to obtaining further information and necessary facilities for the elaboration of more thorough comments based on first-hand knowledge. Lastly, I should say that UNESCO was represented in the combined United Nations Technical Assistance Mission to Somaliland under Italian Administration. This report is not yet published, but it contains the views of the UNESCO representative regarding educational development of the Territory. Perhaps a consideration of that report, when it becomes available, would be useful in the study of the five-year plan. At least, both documents should be taken into account in studying the problem of educational advancement in the Territory.

136. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): I appreciate very much the remarks which have just been made by the representative of UNESCO. My delegation would suggest that the Council should officially request UNESCO to send to the Council its observations on the five-year plan for education.

137. The PRESIDENT: Is there any objection to that?

It was so decided.

138. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): On page 142 of the report, it is stated that full freedom of education is guaranteed to all the inhabitants of the Territory. What are the guarantees? Can all the children of school age, and all adults who wish to study, attend school? What guarantee is there that they will be able to do so?

139. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): All the children and all the adult persons of the Territory can enter any of the schools of the Territory without paying any fees. We are sorry that in two years we have not been able to establish the thousands and thousands of schools which are necessary in the Territory. We have multiplied the number of schools, multiplied the number of classes, and every Somali has the right — without any formality — to enroll in any school of the Territory.

140. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I should like to know when compulsory primary education will be introduced in the Territory.

141. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We do not feel that the time has yet arrived for compulsory education — first of all, because we do not yet have enough schools in the towns and in the villages to enforce such a law, which we should

like to enact. As soon as we have a sufficient number of schools, we shall enact such a law.

142. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): That is not what I wanted to know. I shall repeat my question: when does the Administering Authority expect to be able to introduce compulsory primary education?

143. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I think that we cannot oblige persons to go to school when we do not have enough schools. As soon as we have enough schools in the villages and in the towns, we shall pass such a law.

144. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): I shall put my question differently: when does the Administering Authority expect to have enough schools to enable primary education to be made compulsory?

145. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): As soon as we have trained a sufficient number of Somali teachers. It is the intention of the Administration not to have too many foreign teachers, because we feel that it is better for the Somalis to be taught by Somali teachers.

146. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): In my opinion, the Administration is not at present training an adequate number of Somali teachers. I should therefore like to know when the Administration anticipates that there will be an adequate number of Somali teachers and a sufficient number of schools to enable primary education to be made compulsory? How many years does the special representative think it will take?

147. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): Anywhere in the world a certain number of years is required to train a teacher. So I think that at the end of the period of time which is necessary to train a teacher, which is four, five, six or seven years — it all depends — we shall have all the teachers we need, provided we have enough people who are ready to become teachers. The Administration is doing all in its power to encourage all the pupils of elementary school to continue with a secondary-school education and to enter teacher-training courses; but we do not know if we shall succeed in having a sufficient number of them to train all the teachers we need. We are doing our best, and every year we see that the number of teachers is increasing. The first year we had a competition for twenty-four. In the second year the competition was for forty or fifty. This year we are having a competition for 105 — forty teachers and sixty-five prospective teachers — which is about four times the number for the first year.

148. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): How does the Administration encourage pupils who wish to become teachers?

149. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is done in different ways. The most important way is that everybody who wins a competition to be a prospective teacher — this means that he already has an elementary school diploma — receives a monthly allowance of approximately sixty shillings. Besides that, many of the prospective teachers will live in a boarding house for students which we are opening at Mogadiscio next month.

150. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): How many prospective teachers will live in that institution?

151. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I do not have the figures because the scholastic year has not yet started. We held a competition just a few days ago, or a week ago, for sixty-five prospective teachers. We hope that the sixty-five places will be filled. As to how many of them will reside at this boarding house, we do not know; it will depend upon the number of other students who come from outside Mogadiscio to attend other schools, such as the fishing school and the maritime school. Therefore, we shall allot in this boarding house so many places for the prospective teachers, so many places for the students at the fishing school and so many places for the other secondary and primary schools of Mogadiscio.

152. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): At the present moment I am concerned only with teachers, and I should like to know first, how many prospective primary school teachers are receiving instruction at present; and secondly, how many of them receive financial assistance, and in what amounts? In this connexion, what is the aggregate sum which the Administration has appropriated for grants for prospective teachers?

153. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): We had a class, which ended its course last February, which had about forty-five or forty-six pupils. This year, as I said before, we are expecting to have sixty-five. Possibly there will be some more in the class because some of the forty-five may not be confirmed teachers. All the prospective teachers receive sixty shillings a month.

154. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): With reference to page 363 of the report, why is it that the Italians, who constitute a negligible percentage of the population, have many more opportunities of obtaining a secondary education than the Somalis?

155. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The greater part of the Italians in high school are sons or daughters of Italians who came to Mogadiscio from Italy, and in Italy they all had a chance to attend elementary school. Therefore, there has been a larger number of Italian high school students. As soon as there are enough Somalis ready to go to high school, the Somalis will have the same number of teachers and exactly the same opportunities that the Italians are receiving now.

Teachers

156. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): In paragraph 309 of the Visiting Mission's report, the Mission suggests that the target figures for the training of teachers under the five-year plan should be revised upward. I wonder what comments the special representative would make on this suggestion.

157. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): I believe that these figures have already been increased in the second edition of the five-year plan. I am not sure of the exact figures, but I could give them on Monday. In any case, I have heard from the head of the Education Department in Mogadiscio

that all of the figures for the teachers in the various schools have been increased, in order to decrease the present high average of forty pupils per class.

158. Mr. S. S. LIU (China): I thank the special representative, and I shall look forward to receiving this information on Monday.

Adult and community education

159. Mr. GERIG (United States of America): In the document on the five-year plan which has recently been distributed, it is mentioned that the present plan does not provide for a complete programme of mass education. A number of reasons for this are given, such as the distances involved, the lack of a written language, and so forth.

160. In view of the eight-year period during which the country is supposed, so far as possible, to be prepared educationally for self-government, it would seem that mass education would be one of the points which ought to be very seriously stressed. I was wondering whether any method such as the Laubach method has been tried in Somaliland. I think that the Laubach method has been used successfully in some of the other Trust Territories, where, in a short period of time—two weeks—adults have been able to get some of the rudiments of instruction, enabling them to read and to write, where there has been a written language.

161. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): This year, we are starting some experiments in connexion with basic education among the nomadic population of the Territory. Furthermore, just the day before yesterday I had assurances from our Government that it was going to ask UNESCO within the next few days for a team of experts on basic education for nomads.

162. The reason why we have not gone into details on basic education in the five-year plan is the following. We feel that, in order to carry out a plan of basic education in a large country like Somaliland, with the population spread all over the Territory, hundreds of teams of experts would be needed. It would be too expensive to have Italian technicians or experts from UNESCO on these teams. Incidentally, these experts and technicians do not know the language of Somaliland. Before we start such a programme, therefore, we must have at least a few hundred educated Somalis. At present, we do have a few hundred who could do the work, but we must send them abroad to study other important subjects like agriculture and medicine, or we must use them as teachers in the regular schools.

163. We therefore feel that we cannot begin a large-scale programme of basic education for three or four years. But we are not going to waste these three or four years. We are going to carry out experiments to ascertain the best ways to start work on basic education in the Territory.

164. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): I should like to ask the special representative whether he would care to comment on the following statement in paragraph 320 of the Visiting Mission's report, with regard to the transcription of the Somali language:

"It seems inescapable that the indigenous language, which is spoken almost universally, should be reduced to writing and should, in due course, be employed for educational and governmental purposes.

From inquiries made by the Mission, there would appear to be no insuperable difficulties in reducing this language to written form."

165. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): This problem has been widely discussed recently by all persons interested in the Somali language. In view of the fact that there are not many officials of the Administration who know the Somali language well, we have decided within the last few months to publish a grammar and a dictionary for the use of the Italians. There are three schools of thought in the Territory on the subject of transcribing the language: one favours the normal phonetic international transcription; one favours the Occidental phonetic alphabet; and the third favours the system of transcription invented about thirty years ago by a man named Osman. In the dictionary which we are going to publish, we have decided to transcribe the Somali words in Latin characters and in "Osmanian". This will help the Italians who are learning the language, since they will not have to learn a new alphabet in addition. It will also help the Somalis. Furthermore, it will enable us to find out which is the best system and which system the Somalis prefer. I think it will help us in studying the question of transcribing the Somali language.

166. Mr. SCOTT (New Zealand): That was a very helpful reply. To carry it a little further, I wonder whether the special representative could elucidate the remark on page 195 of the annual report, to the effect that the idea of a written Somali language has recently met with some opposition. Is it purely because of the technical difficulties involved, or are there some other considerations?

167. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): It is partly because of technical difficulties and partly because of other considerations. At one time, all the Somalis were very much in favour of having a written language as soon as possible. Now, however, there are groups which are interested in transcribing their language into a written language, and other groups which show no interest.

168. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): There is a statement on page 190 of the annual report that in a number of centres where the nutritional level is particularly low, meals have been regularly distributed to the pupils in the schools. What are those centres?

169. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): This is done in a few centres in Migiurtinia, which is the poorest region.

170. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): How many books are there at the present time in Somali libraries, and how much money has been appropriated for the purchase of books in 1952?

171. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): The number of books is stated somewhere in the report, I believe. The appropriation for new books for next year is about fifteen million lire, which is about \$25,000.

172. Mr. SOLDATOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics): Since the report expressly states that there are several newspapers, can the special repre-

sentative tell us what newspapers there are in Somaliland besides the *Corriere della Somalia*?

173. Mr. SPINELLI (Special representative for Somaliland): In 1951 a monthly paper was founded called the *Meridiano Somalo*, and in the first months of this year a weekly paper called *Voce della Somalia*

was published. This latter paper is, I believe, helped to some extent by the Chamber of Commerce in connexion with the next trade exhibition, which will take place in Mogadiscio in the second part of September of this year.

The meeting rose at 6.5 p.m.