



CONTENTS :

	Page		Page
Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for the year ending 30 June 1949 (T/470) (continued) .....	95	(T/417, T/417/Add.1) (continued) .....	
Committee to draft the report of the Council on the Pacific Islands .....	96	Report of the Drafting Committee (T/L.87, T/L.87/Add.1, T/L.87/Add.1/Corr.1) (continued) .....	97
Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of Western Samoa for the year ending 31 March 1949 .....		Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration for the year 1948 (T/357, T/442) .....	98

*President:* Mr. HENRÍQUEZ UREÑA (Dominican Republic).

*Present:* The representatives of the following countries: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, France, Iraq, New Zealand, Philippines, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

**Examination of the annual report of the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for the year ending 30 June 1949 (T/470) (continued)**

*At the invitation of the President, Rear Admiral Fiske, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, took his place at the Council table.*

1. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to continue its examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.<sup>1</sup>
2. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) wished to make some brief remarks. His delegation appreciated the results achieved by the Administering Authority and noted with pleasure that future reports would show still greater progress in all fields.
3. With regard to the political advancement of the Territory, he agreed with the Philippine representative (13th meeting) that the establishment of municipal governments should not impede the more general political organization of the Territory. The Argentine delegation also believed that the seat of government should be situated in the Territory, and noted that it was the Administering Authority's intention to adopt that policy as soon as possible.
4. Turning to the economic and social aspects of the report, the Argentine delegation wished to emphasize

the importance of raising the standard of living of the inhabitants of the Territory. Self-government depended not only on the political education of the population but also on the improvement of its standard of living.

5. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) thanked the members of the Council for their generous comments on the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

6. It was by no means an easy task to administer a territory extending over 3 million square miles, comprising many widely separated islands, and having an indigenous population of widely differing languages and cultures. Most of the indigenous inhabitants were strongly attached to their traditions, and it was difficult to make them understand the advantages and benefits of modern civilization. The United States Government therefore gratefully accepted all the constructive suggestions made by the members of the Council.

7. He wished, however, to comment on some of the suggestions. It had been said that a policy of excessive generosity on the part of the Administering Authority might discourage dependent populations from making efforts towards self-government, and that political self-government was impossible without economic self-reliance.

8. It should not be forgotten, however, that the slender economic resources of the Territory were limited to copra and a few phosphate deposits, and could not be expected to yield a rich return. It was therefore essential that the United States Government should give generous and substantial financial assistance to political, economic, social and educational development programmes. Economic independence must first be achieved at the local level, and the Administering Authority was directing its efforts towards that end.

9. The Administering Authority was also trying to develop sources of revenue by diversifying the industries of the islands and by exploring the possibilities of commercial fisheries.

<sup>1</sup> See *Report on the Administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for the period July 1, 1948 to June 30, 1949, transmitted by the United States to the Secretary-General of the United Nations pursuant to Article 88 of the United Nations Charter*, prepared by the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., July 1949 (OpNav-P22-100H).

10. With regard to the seat of government of the Territory, the United States delegation fully approved the general principle that the seat of government should be situated in the Territory itself. However, so far as the Pacific Islands were concerned, it should be noted that the lines of communication between the United States and the Pacific Islands ran via the Hawaiian Islands. There was therefore some advantage in stationing the High Commissioner and his deputy at Honolulu, where problems of transport and communications could be met more satisfactorily and expeditiously. The Hawaiian Islands also offered greater facilities for the accommodation of officials. However, in accordance with the general principle referred to above, field headquarters had been set up on Truk, and as and when it became possible to develop indigenous territorial legislative bodies, more and more governmental activities would be transferred to the Territory.

11. The United States Government was fully convinced of the necessity of establishing regional bodies as soon as possible, but it believed that political self-government, like economic self-reliance, should begin with the municipalities. More than a hundred municipalities had been organized as basic units of local government, and the indigenous inhabitants were playing an increasingly active part in the work of those local governments, which would provide a sound foundation for the establishment of regional organs and, later, a territorial organ of government.

12. In reply to a comment made at the 13th meeting by the representative of Belgium, regarding the question of native courts, Mr. Sayre drew the Council's attention to the fact that the courts in which indigenous judges served constituted an integral part of the judicial system of the Trust Territory, and that the right of appeal was defined and guaranteed in article XI of Interim Regulation No. 1-49, which was annexed to the annual report (supplementary document, page 23).

13. Turning to the taxation system, Mr. Sayre stated that the Administering Authority fully appreciated the desirability of introducing as soon as practicable a taxation system based on ability to pay; the Council would, however, recognize the necessity, under existing conditions, of maintaining a simple taxation system capable of being understood at least by the leaders, if not by the mass of the population.

14. Another matter which had been touched upon was social security and social welfare. The United States Government was fully aware of the importance of that question. In the Pacific Islands industry was still in an elementary stage. It was premature to frame laws covering such matters and it was necessary to proceed with great caution to avoid dissatisfaction and confusion among the indigenous inhabitants.

15. The special representative had mentioned at the 12th meeting the attention which the Administering Authority was devoting to the Copra Price Stabilization Fund and the United States Government would inform the Council of the results of the studies being made of that question.

16. The Administering Authority was also concerned with the problem of education. One member of the Council had expressed the desire that the Administering Authority should consider the possibility of establishing secondary schools in the Territory. As the special representative had pointed out at the 12th meeting, the programme at the Pacific Islands Teacher Training School on Truk had been considerably expanded and appeared to meet existing needs for secondary education. Moreover, on Guam there were vocational schools for the training of medical and dental assistants and nurses; consequently there did not seem to be any urgent need to establish similar schools within the Territory.

17. At the 13th meeting, the representative of New Zealand had expressed some doubts concerning the medical fee system. As was apparent from page 40 of the documentary supplement to the report, the very modest fees applied only to services not covered by the free public health programme, and provision was made for any patients who needed other medical care and were unable to meet the charge for medical treatment.

18. In conclusion, Mr. Sayre thanked the members of the Council for the suggestions they had made, to which his Government would give the most careful consideration.

19. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) wished to add one or two brief observations to the remarks he had made at the 13th meeting. He was glad to note in that connexion that the United States representative had indicated that the policy of the Administering Authority took into account the possibilities to which he had referred.

20. He had no quarrel whatever with the expenditure of outside funds on the development of Trust Territories seeing that local resources were inadequate. Within the limits of its resources, the United Kingdom also devoted large sums to the development of the Territories under its administration. Such outside subventions should, however, be used only to cover the capital cost of development schemes or of institutions, while the cost of their day-to-day administration should be met from the local resources of the Territory concerned. His remarks therefore implied no criticism of the amount of money being spent by the United States Government; they referred rather to the use to which the subventions granted to the Pacific Islands were put.

#### **Committee to draft the report of the Council on the Pacific Islands**

21. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Committee to draft the report on the Pacific Islands should consist of the representatives of Argentina, Australia, China and the United Kingdom.

22. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) said that his delegation was already serving on other committees of the Council and asked the President to appoint another member to take its place on the Drafting Committee.

23. The PRESIDENT proposed that Argentina should be replaced by the Dominican Republic and

invited the Council to approve the membership of the Committee as thus modified.

*It was so decided.*

**Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of Western Samoa for the year ending 31 March 1949 (T/417, T/417/Add.1) (continued)**

*Report of the Drafting Committee (T/L.87, T/L.87/Add.1, T/L.87/Add.1/Corr.1) (continued)*

24. The PRESIDENT opened the discussion on part III of the report of the Drafting Committee, consisting of individual observations submitted by members of the Council.

25. Mr. SAYRE (United States of America) recalled that at its sixth session at Geneva the Trusteeship Council had adopted resolution 123 (VI), paragraph 2 of which stated: "That observations of individual members appearing in part III shall not contain proposals which have been adopted in substance by a majority of the Council and which therefore appear in part II of the report." Part III contained many paragraphs which were mere repetitions of recommendations adopted by the Council and was much too long. In the circumstances he was quite agreeable to the omission of some of his own observations, if all delegations were prepared to do likewise. He suggested that the report should be referred back to the Drafting Committee which would eliminate all the repetitions, on the understanding that if any Government desired to retain a particular observation it should be at liberty to do so.

26. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) pointed out that if some delegations chose to maintain their observations in part III, the others would have to follow suit. If a delegation had made an observation and the observation had subsequently been embodied in a Council recommendation which satisfied the author of that observation, the latter should not be included in part III. Part III should include only those observations which the Council had not endorsed and to which the delegation concerned attached importance. If other delegations were agreeable to the omission of observations which had been the subject of a vote mentioned in part II, the Belgian delegation was prepared to withdraw its observations except for one or two which had not been covered by resolutions of the Council.

27. Mr. INGLES (Philippines) recalled that part I of the report was intended to state the views of the Administering Authority, part II those of the Council and part III the individual observations of members of the Council. Resolution 123 (VI) made it clear that part III should not include proposals which had been adopted in substance by the majority of the members of the Council. It might be advisable for the Secretariat to produce for the Drafting Committee the summary record of the meeting at which that resolution had been adopted in order to define the exact meaning of the words "adopted in substance". It often happened that two members of the Council expressed conflicting views on the situation in a Trust Territory and that a

compromise was later reached in the Drafting Committee. If the member of the Council concerned was represented on the Drafting Committee but was unable to persuade the majority to accept his view, his observation should nevertheless be included in part III of the report.

28. However, he was not opposed to the United States proposal to refer the matter to the Drafting Committee.

29. Mr. MUÑOZ (Argentina) shared the Philippine representative's view on the substance of the question. He did not, however, think that the Drafting Committee could properly consider the observations of members of the Council. It would in his opinion be better if delegations who had objections to raise in regard to individual paragraphs of part III of the report were to make them known immediately. The Council could then decide whether or not the paragraphs in question should be retained.

30. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) pointed out that if the Drafting Committee had devised a compromise formula which was acceptable to all parties, including the sponsor of the proposal in question, it was illogical for the latter to maintain his original observation.

31. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) did not think that any of his delegation's observations were completely covered by the recommendations of the Council. His delegation wished to maintain its observations and it did not seem that the Council would wish to oppose it. In the circumstances, part III should not be referred back to the Drafting Committee, as the latter's decisions would have to be reviewed by the Council, which could not challenge the right of delegations to maintain their observations.

32. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) agreed with the representative of the Dominican Republic that it was not appropriate for the Council to decide what was or was not important in a delegation's observation. Each delegation must be left the responsibility of maintaining what it considered had not been covered by a recommendation of the Council. The only possible procedure was to ask all members of the Council to reduce their observations to the minimum and to abstain from raising again questions contained in compromise formulae they had previously accepted.

33. Mr. LIU (China) agreed with the Philippine representative's interpretation of the words "adopted in substance" which appeared in Trusteeship Council resolution 123 (VI). He also agreed with the representatives of Belgium and the Dominican Republic that every delegation should have the right to maintain its own observations if it felt that they had not been included in substance in the Council's conclusions.

34. It must, however, be left to the Council to decide, in the last resort, whether the substance of a particular observation made by a delegation had been included in its conclusions. In order to shorten the report as much as possible, he had already withdrawn most of his own observations and was prepared, as the Argentine representative had suggested, to abide by the Council's decision regarding the observations he would like to maintain.

35. Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq) agreed with the Belgian representative that every delegation was entitled to have included in part III of the report any observations it thought necessary, and that the decision should not rest with the Council. The Secretariat should be asked to re-examine the observations, and to bring to the notice of delegations any cases of duplication of the Council's conclusions. He was prepared to delete any of his own observations which might be considered redundant.

36. The PRESIDENT, adopting the Belgian representative's compromise solution, suggested that members should go over their observations with the Secretariat in order to delete any useless repetitions or unnecessary passages. The Council could then adopt that part of the report at its following meeting.

37. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) asked delegations to compromise and not to insist on the retention of all their observations which the Council might not have adopted in full. No useful purpose would be served by accepting a compromise in regard to the Council's conclusions if every member maintained his point of view in the individual observations; the compromise would then be entirely pointless.

38. Mr. GARREAU (France) reminded the Council that the root of the problem was the tendency of certain members in the past to make obvious misuse of part III of the report. The representative of Iraq had very properly pointed out that part III contained the individual observations of members of the Council and its approval by the Council was therefore not required. The observations of members, however, formed an integral part of the report to the General Assembly, upon the whole of which the Council would have to vote. The Council should therefore retain the right to vote on part III of the report in order to prevent any future abuse by members of their rights.

39. The compromise arrived at during the sixth session at Geneva was a gentlemen's agreement whereby members of the Council expressed their confidence in one another. There was no fear of abuse in the present case and it would be enough, as had already been said, to rely on the common sense and goodwill of members to delete from part III of the report all observations which were not really necessary. He asked the Secre-

tariat to delete the one observation by his delegation included in that part of the report.

40. Mr. INGLES (Philippines) pointed out that the Council had never laid down a rule that individual observations must be omitted from part III if part II contained a compromise recommendation on the same subject. If the Council as a whole made an observation in the form of a recommendation, compromise was possible. The same did not apply to the individual observations of members of the Council, which should always be included in the report.

41. Mr. DE MARCHENA (Dominican Republic) insisted on the retention of his delegation's observations, particularly those on political progress, which were not contained in any of the recommendations, and those on the status of inhabitants. On the other hand, the observation on labour legislation could be deleted, as that matter was dealt with in one of the Council's recommendations.

42. The PRESIDENT suggested that delegations should come to an understanding with the Secretariat regarding the amendments to their observations. The Secretariat would approach delegations toward that end. The Council would be informed of the results on 26 or 27 June and would then be in a position to adopt the report as a whole.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Examination of the annual report on the administration of the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration for the year 1948 (T/357, T/442)**

43. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) announced that the special representative of Togoland under British administration had arrived in New York only that morning. He suggested that the Council should defer discussion of the report and invited members to attend the showing of three films on Togoland entitled *Youth Leadership in Togoland*, *New Horizons* and *Amen's Child*. The special representative would be ready to make his general statement and to answer questions the following day.

*The meeting rose at 3.45 p.m.*