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**President: Mr. Mason SEARS**  
**(United States of America).**

**Present:**

The representatives of the following States: Australia, Belgium, Burma, China, France, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Italy, New Zealand, Syria, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

The representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization,

**Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under British administration (*continued*):**

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for 1954 (T/1208, T/1222, T/1223);
- (ii) Petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council (T/PET.4/L.1 and Add.1, T/PET.4/L.2 and 3);
- (iii) Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British Administration and the Cameroons under French Administration, 1955 (T/1226, T/1234)

[Agenda items 3 (c), 4 and 6 (a)]

REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE (T/L.661 and Corr.1)

1. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in paragraph 9 of the Drafting Committee's report (T/L.661 and Corr.1) to the effect that the Council should adopt the working paper on conditions in the Cameroons under British administration (T/L.639 and Add.1) as the basic text for the chapter on that Territory to be included in its next report to the General Assembly.

*The recommendation was unanimously adopted.*

2. The PRESIDENT called upon the Council to act on the recommendations and conclusions in annex I of the report.

*The recommendation in section I was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*The first paragraph of the recommendations in section II, under the heading "Constitutional arrangements:..." was adopted, with a slight drafting amendment, by 12 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

3. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to the second paragraph of the recommendations under the same heading, asked for a separate vote on the phrase "that any precipitate decision... should be avoided and" in the last sentence of that paragraph. Precipitate decisions should always be avoided by all bodies; there was no need to state the obvious.

*The phrase "that any precipitation decision... should be avoided and" was adopted by 12 votes to 1.*

*The recommendation as a whole was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*In successive votes, the recommendations in section II under the headings "Development of universal adult suffrage and direct elections", "Local government", "Civil service:..." and "Judicial organization", as also the first paragraph of the recommendations in section III under the heading "General", were adopted unanimously.*

4. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that at the 685th meeting, during the general debate on conditions in the Cameroons under British administration, his delegation had questioned the progress made in the economic field during the period under review. In voting for the paragraph in section III, he had been voting for the recommendations contained therein; he reserved his delegation's position on the commendation of the progress achieved.

*In successive votes, the second and third paragraphs of the recommendations in section III under the heading "General" were adopted unanimously.*

*The recommendation in section III under the heading "Recommendations of the International Bank Mission" was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*The recommendation in section III under the heading "Development plans" was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

*In successive votes, the recommendations in section III under the headings "Communications" and "Cameroons Development Corporation" were adopted unanimously.*

*The first paragraph of the recommendations in section IV under the heading "General" was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*In successive votes, the second and third paragraphs of the recommendations under the same heading as well as the recommendation under the heading "Status of women" were adopted unanimously.*

*The recommendation in section IV under the heading "Corporal punishment" was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.*

*The recommendation in section IV under the heading "Medical and Health services" was adopted by 12 votes to none.*

*The first paragraph of the recommendations in section V under the heading "General" was adopted unanimously.*

5. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for a separate vote on the opening of the first sentence in the second paragraph of the general recommendations in section V, from the words "Bearing in mind" to the words "to avail themselves of it", and on the opening of the second sentence, from the words "The Council considers" to the words "public apathy towards education". He would vote against those two phrases because they accused the indigenous inhabitants of a whole region of apathy towards education. He deprecated such a serious and sweeping accusation.

*In successive votes, the phrases "Bearing in mind . . . to avail themselves of it" and "The Council considers . . . public apathy towards education" were adopted by 13 votes to 1.*

*The paragraph as a whole was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*In successive votes, the third and fourth paragraphs of the recommendations in section V under the heading "General" as well as the recommendations in the same section under the headings "Secondary and higher education" and "Adult and community education" were adopted unanimously.*

6. The PRESIDENT called upon the Council to act on the recommendations and conclusions in annex II of the report, which would become section VI of the chapter on the Cameroons under British administration.

7. Mr. PLAJA (Italy) said that in the Drafting Committee his delegation had reserved its position on the question of setting a time-limit for the attainment of self-government or independence. It had hoped that Trusteeship Council resolution 1369 (XVII) would help the Council in its work but unfortunately that had not proved to be the case, as the lengthy discussions at the 697th meeting of the Council and in the Drafting Committees had shown. Differences of opinion were inevitable, but it was regrettable that such a harmonious session of the Council should end on a note of discord.

8. Italy could not be supposed to be, in principle, against the establishment of time-limits. His delegation thought that, generally speaking, intermediate target dates were useful in economic, social and educational matters; indeed, they had often been established by the Administering Authorities on their own initiative. It was much harder, however, to lay down general rules in the political sphere. Each Trust Territory had its own particular problems, as Article 76 b of the Charter was careful to make clear. On such a delicate question the Administering Authority's opinion should be taken into account. The basic consideration was that the Trusteeship Council should further the objectives of the Trusteeship System as effectively as possible. A compromise decision adopted by a large majority was often better than an uncompromising decision adopted by a small majority, which might well remain a dead letter.

9. Great advances had been made in the Trust Territories since the beginning of the International Trusteeship System; indeed, several Territories were on the threshold of self-government and independence. That showed that the Council was on the right road and it should try to perpetuate the friendly and co-operative atmosphere which had made such great advances possible. It was in the light of those considerations that, at the 697th meeting, his delegation had abstained from voting on the sections of the reports on Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi dealing with the setting of a time-limit for the attainment of self-government or independence.

10. The particular situation in the Cameroons under British administration should make it possible to reach a wider measure of agreement on that Territory. Political development was already far advanced there and further revision of the existing constitutional arrangements was imminent. The final objective of the Trusteeship System was indeed in sight.

11. In those circumstances he asked his colleagues on the Drafting Committee whether they would have any objection to the replacement of the words "the question of the time-limit" by the words "the attainment by the Territory of" in the second paragraph of the conclusions and recommendations in section VI.

12. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) said that, as a member of the Drafting Committee, his delegation would be glad to support the Italian representative's amendment. The people of both the Northern and Southern Sections of the Cameroons under British administration were participating in self-governing

institutions and the situation in the Territory was so different from that in any other Territory that it would not really be appropriate to use exactly the same language as had been used in other instances.

13. Mr. S. S. LIU (China) said that, as a member of a Drafting Committee, his delegation accepted the Italian amendment.

14. Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that, although he could not agree with some of the Italian representative's general observations, he could accept his amendment, because, in the case of the Cameroons under British administration, the question of a time-limit was not of much importance. The Territory was very near the end of trusteeship and the people themselves were in a position to fix the target date. In those circumstances, the actual attainment of the final objective was more important than the question of a time-limit.

15. U THAN HLA (Burma) said that while he did not agree with some of the Italian representative's statements, and would prefer the recommendation to be retained in its original and more explicit form, he was prepared to accept the amendment, in a spirit of compromise, because it covered the major point brought out in the recommendation and had received a wide measure of support.

16. The PRESIDENT announced that, since all the members of the Drafting Committee had accepted the amendment, it would automatically be incorporated in the recommendation.

17. Mr. ARENALES CATALAN (Guatemala) said that, in the case of the other Trust Territories, his delegation had voted in favour of the recommendations on the attainment of the objective of self-government or independence because they did not run counter to its views, although they did not entirely satisfy the requirements of the relevant General Assembly and Trusteeship Council resolutions.

18. He agreed with the Indian representative that in the case of the Cameroons under British administration it was immaterial whether or not the Italian amendment was adopted: the net result would be the same. Nevertheless, in view of the relevant provisions of the General Assembly resolutions, he felt that the least the Council could do was to refer specifically to the question of the time-limit. To leave the text of the original recommendation as it stood would not compromise the views of any delegation, for the Council would not be taking a stand on the question of a time-limit but merely expressing the hope that the result of the constitutional conference would throw light on it. On the other hand, if all reference to the time-limit were deleted, the Council would be ignoring the General Assembly resolution 946 (X) which requested the Council to give specific consideration to the matter. Had the amendment been put to the vote, his delegation would have voted against it. Nevertheless, it would vote in favour of the recommendation as amended because it was not incompatible with his delegation's stand.

19. Mr. RIFAI (Syria) considered that the amendment made the recommendation too general. The Council was already suffering from too many generalizations and it should try to be more specific in its recommendations. He would therefore abstain from voting on the recommendation as amended.

20. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) asked for a separate vote on the phrase "including possible proposals concerning the future of the Territory" in the third paragraph of the recommendations in section VI. Those words were redundant in view of the preceding recommendation that the Administering Authority should inform the Council of the results of the constitutional conference.

21. He also asked that the words "and of its consideration of the Council's recommendation", in the same paragraph, should be put to the vote separately. The recommendations in the first two paragraphs were not of such a nature that the Administering Authority could report on its consideration of them. Hence the phrase in question appeared to bear no real relationship to what preceded it and it should be deleted.

22. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the first paragraph of the recommendations in section VI, the second paragraph, as amended, and the first part of the third paragraph ending with the words "affecting the Trust Territory".

*The first and second paragraphs and the first part of the third paragraph were adopted by 9 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.*

*The phrase "including possible proposals concerning the future of the Territory", in the third paragraph, was adopted by 8 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

*The phrase "and of its consideration of the Council's recommendation", also in the third paragraph, was adopted by 7 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.*

*The recommendations in section VI as a whole were adopted by 7 votes to 2, with 5 abstentions.*

23. Mr. ARENALES CATALAN (Guatemala) explained that he had voted in favour of the recommendations because they contained nothing objectionable to his delegation. He felt, however, that the major part of the General Assembly and Trusteeship Council resolutions on the attainment of self-government or independence had been neglected; the recommendations represented the very minimum the Council could do.

24. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had abstained from voting on the recommendations because it failed to comply with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, which called for the establishment of a time-limit for the achievement of self-government or independence.

25. Mr. GIDDEN (United Kingdom) explained that he had abstained from voting on the recommendation because his delegation had grave doubts on the question of principle involved in considering the attainment of self-government or independence in isolation from the consideration of general conditions in the Territory. Its doubts were aggravated in the present case by the fact that in the second paragraph of the recommendations in section II, adopted earlier in the meeting, the Council had already decided that nothing should be done to prejudice the decisions of the forthcoming constitutional conference. The text of the recommendations just adopted did in fact prejudice the results of that conference, both in the second paragraph and in the reference in the third paragraph to "possible proposals concerning the future of the Territory".

**Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration (continued)**

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for 1954 (T/1209, T/1223);
- (ii) Petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council (T/PET.4 and 5/L.7 to 9, T/PET. 5/L.32 to 61, T/PET.5/L.63 to 72);
- (iii) Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British Administration and the Cameroons under French Administration, 1955 (T/1231 and Corr.2)

[Agenda items 3 (d), 4, and 6 (b)]

**REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE (T/L.662)**

26. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium), Chairman of the Drafting Committee, introduced the report (T/L.662).

27. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the recommendation, in paragraph 7 of the report, to the effect that the Council should adopt the working paper on conditions in the Cameroons under French administration (T/L.645 and Add.1) as the basic text for the chapter on that Territory to be included in its next report to the General Assembly.

28. Mr. JAIPAL (India) proposed that the words "according to the Administering Authority" should be inserted at the beginning of the first paragraph of section II of document T/L.645.

*It was so decided.*

*The recommendation in paragraph 7 of the Drafting Committee's report (T/L.662) was adopted unanimously.*

29. The PRESIDENT called upon the Council to act on the recommendations and conclusions in the annex to the report.

*In successive votes, the recommendation in section I under the heading "General" and the first paragraph of the recommendations under the heading "Dissolution of certain political parties" were adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*The second paragraph of the recommendations under the heading "Dissolution of certain political parties" was adopted by 13 votes to 1.*

*The third paragraph of the recommendations under the same heading was adopted unanimously.*

*In successive votes, the fifth paragraph of the recommendations under the same heading as well as the recommendation under the heading "Relations between the North and the South of the Territory" was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*In successive votes, the two recommendations in section II under the heading "Status of the Territory and its inhabitants" were adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

*The recommendation in section II under the heading "Territorial administration and Territorial Assembly" was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

*In successive votes, the recommendations in section II under the headings "Regional, urban and local administration", "Administrative services; . . .", "Development of adult suffrage and direct elections" and "Judicial system" as well as those in section III under the heading "General" were adopted unanimously.*

*The first paragraph of the recommendations in section III under the heading "The ten-year plan for economic and social development" was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*In successive votes, the second paragraph of the recommendations under the same heading as well as the two recommendations under the heading "Agriculture" was adopted unanimously.*

*The recommendation in section III under the heading "Forestry and soil conservation" was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.*

*In successive votes, the recommendation in section III under the heading "Livestock" as well as the first paragraph of the recommendations under the heading "Industry" was adopted unanimously.*

*The second paragraph of the recommendation under the heading "Industry" was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*The recommendation in section IV under the heading "Status of women" was adopted unanimously.*

30. Mr. JAIPAL (India) pointed out that the phrase "collective conventions" in the recommendation concerning labour, in section IV, should be changed to read "collective agreements", which was the proper term in English.

*That recommendation, as amended in the English text, was adopted unanimously.*

*In successive votes, the recommendations in section IV under the headings "Housing" and "Public health" were adopted unanimously.*

31. Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) proposed that the phrase "the Council recommends that the Administering Authority consistently continue to combat alcoholism and" should be inserted in the recommendation in section IV concerning alcoholism, after the words "illicit distillation".

*The USSR amendment was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

*The recommendation, as amended, was adopted unanimously.*

*In successive votes, the recommendations in section V under the headings "General", "Primary education" and "Secondary education" were adopted unanimously.*

32. Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said his delegation would be unable to vote for the recommendation under the heading "Technical education" unless the phrase "it notes with concern that there is still repugnance on the part of pupils towards manual work" could be deleted. He felt that such an accusation was unjustified. He asked whether the French representative would agree to the deletion of the phrase.

33. Mr. BARGUES (France) regretted that he was unable to accept the USSR proposal. The phrase in question was not an expression of opinion but a simple statement of a fact which was known to anyone who had lived in Africa, as also to the members of the 1955 United Nations Visiting Mission.

34. Mr. JAIPAL (India) considered that the feeling of repugnance towards manual work was a result of education. It was not fair, therefore, to lay all the blame on the students. He asked that the phrase in question should be put to the vote separately.

35. After some further discussion, Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) proposed that the second part of the paragraph should be redrafted to read:

"...it notes that there is an urgent need for skilled technicians and craftsmen in the Territory, which is undergoing rapid economic development, and hopes that the Administering Authority will continue to expand and accelerate technical education throughout the Territory and that the population will give its co-operation."

*The Belgian proposal was adopted unanimously.*

*The recommendation, as amended, was adopted unanimously.*

*The recommendation in section V under the heading "Higher education" was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

*The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 4.20 p.m.*

36. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) said that he had some observations to make on the first four paragraphs of the recommendations in section VI.

37. His delegation found it very strange that those paragraphs followed almost word for word the conclusions adopted, at the 697th meeting, for section VI of the chapters on Tanganyika and Ruanda-Urundi, respectively. The Council's conclusions should obviously be drafted in the light of the particular circumstances of each Territory and to apply a standard formula in every case was a *reductio ad absurdum*. For that reason, apart from the substance of the recommendations, his delegation would vote against the paragraphs in question. It would also ask for separate votes in respect of parts of some of them as they came to be voted on.

38. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) thought it unnecessary for him to specify that the dissenting vote referred to in paragraph 6 of the report had been that of his delegation. For reasons of which the Council was well aware, section VI was completely unacceptable to his delegation.

39. Mr. JAIPAL (India), like the Australian representative, would have preferred recommendations adapted to the particular requirements of the Cameroons under French administration. His delegation would, however, vote in favour of the recommendations in section VI in the absence of a more suitable formula.

*The first paragraph of the recommendations in section VI was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.*

40. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) thought it inappropriate for the Council to preface any recommendation with the words "For the time being, and pending such further action as the General Assembly may wish to take"; he therefore asked that the second paragraph of the recommendations in section VI should be voted on in two parts, from the beginning as far as the word "independence" and from the words "the Council recalls" to the end.

*The first part of the paragraph was adopted by 8 votes to 6.*

*The second part of the paragraph was adopted by 8 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions.*

*The paragraph as a whole was adopted by 8 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions.*

41. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) asked for a separate vote on the word "political" in the third paragraph of the recommendations in section VI. His delegation did not accept the view that the drawing up of successive targets for economic, social and educational plans would

necessarily tend to induce an atmosphere of understanding and confidence in the Territory, nor did it recognize that such an atmosphere did not at present prevail in the Cameroons under French administration; but it felt that those arguments applied with added force in the political field. It therefore hoped that the members of the Council would agree to delete the word "political".

*The word "political" was adopted by 8 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

*The third paragraph of the recommendations in section VI, as a whole, was adopted by 8 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

42. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) asked for separate votes on the word "such" and the word "political" in the fourth paragraph of the recommendations in section VI, and on the final phrase reading "as will create conditions for the attainment of self-government or independence".

*The word "such" was adopted by 7 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

*The word "political" was adopted by 8 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

*The last part of the paragraph was adopted by 8 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

*The paragraph as a whole was adopted by 8 votes to 5, with 1 abstention.*

*The fifth paragraph of the recommendations in section VI was adopted by 8 votes to 4, with 2 abstentions.*

43. Mr. ARENALES CATALAN (Guatemala) explained that his delegation had voted for all the recommendations in section VI because there was nothing in them to which it had any fundamental objection. At the same time its vote should not be interpreted as meaning that his delegation was satisfied that the resolutions of the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council had been adequately implemented.

44. Mr. BARGUES (France) asked whether it would be possible to reconsider the recommendation in section II under the heading "Territorial administration and Territorial Assembly", although the Council had already taken a decision on it. He had only just realized that the expression "constitutional reforms" in that paragraph was not adequate to cover the facts. Not all the reforms contemplated by the French Government were strictly constitutional in nature; some were institutional, rather, in that they would modify certain of the Territory's institutions within the framework of the existing Constitution. He would therefore prefer that the word "constitutional" should be deleted.

45. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to decide whether it should reconsider the recommendation.

*The Council decided, by 9 votes to none, with 3 abstentions, to reconsider the recommendation.*

46. Mr. ARENALES CATALAN (Guatemala) sympathized with the French representative's difficulties, but felt that if the word "constitutional" were deleted, the text would be too vague; he therefore suggested that the words "and institutional" should, instead, be added before "reforms".

47. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) was opposed to the deletion of the word "constitutional" but was prepared to support the Guatemalan representative's proposal.

48. Mr. BARGUES (France) said that his delegation could accept the Guatemalan proposal.

*The Guatemalan proposal was adopted by 10 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

**Reports of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British Administration and the Cameroons under French Administration, 1955 (T/L.660)**

[Agenda item 6]

49. Mr. THORP (New Zealand) introduced his delegation's draft resolution (T/L.660) which took note of the Visiting Mission's reports and of the observations of the Administering Authorities for the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration and expressed appreciation of the work accomplished by the Visiting Mission.

*The draft resolution (T/L.660) was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

**Examination of petitions (concluded)**

[Agenda item 4]

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOURTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS: PETITIONS CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION (T/L.655)

50. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to consider the draft resolutions annexed to the report of the Standing Committee on Petitions (T/L.655).

*In successive votes, draft resolutions I to V were adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.*

*In successive votes, draft resolutions VI and VII were adopted by 7 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.*

51. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), asked that a vote should be taken on the proposal contained in paragraph 15 of section VIII of the report, which, he recalled, had not been adopted by the Standing Committee because there had been an equal division of votes.

*A vote was taken on the proposal in question. There were 7 votes in favour and 7 against.*

*After a brief recess in accordance with rule 38 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, a second vote was taken.*

*There were 7 votes in favour and 7 against. The proposal was not adopted.*

52. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) asked for a separate vote to be taken on operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution VIII.

*The preamble and operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of draft resolution VIII were adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.*

*Operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution VIII was adopted by 8 votes to 3, with 3 abstentions.*

*Draft resolution VIII as a whole was adopted by 3 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.*

53. Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) explained that he had voted against paragraph 3 because he felt that too many requests for additional information were being made of the Administering Authority and that all that information would merely confuse the Council's debates.

*The recommendation in paragraph 3 of document T/L.665 was adopted by 3 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.*

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FIFTH REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.656)

54. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the report of the Standing Committee on Petitions in document T/L.656.

55. Mr. JAIPAL (India), speaking as the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Petitions, explained that the document was in effect a progress report on the work of the Committee from January 1956 up to the present.

56. In the second sentence after the table in paragraph 3, the words "occupied in another Committee and were thus" should be inserted after the words "but were".

57. Mr. HAMILTON (Australia) thought that the words "at the precise times", in the same sentence, should be replaced by a statement of the exact number of such occasions, which had in fact been few.

58. The PRESIDENT pointed out that, emanating as it did from the Standing Committee on Petitions, the report could not be amended except by action of that body.

*The Council took note of the report of the Standing Committee on Petitions in document T/L.656.*

**Administrative unions affecting Trust Territories: interim report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions (T/L.663)**

[Agenda item 7]

59. The PRESIDENT noted that the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions had been unable to complete its examination of the administrative unions affecting Ruanda-Urundi and Tanganyika and that it would transmit its report on those Territories, as also on the other Territories concerned, during the Council's eighteenth session. He invited the Council to take note of the Committee's interim report (T/L.663).

60. Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) felt that for the future it would be preferable to consider the administrative unions affecting one or other of the Trust Territories in conjunction with the annual reports of the Administering Authorities concerned.

*The Council took note of the interim report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions (T/L.663).*

**Opening date of the eighteenth session**

61. The PRESIDENT noted that according to the provisional time-table<sup>1</sup> the Council's next session would open on Monday, 11 June. If there were no objection, that date would be confirmed.

62. Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wondered whether the session could not start somewhat earlier so that it could end before August and thus avoid the unpleasant heat in New York.

63. Mr. WIESCHHOFF (Secretary of the Council) explained that that date had been chosen because it seemed unlikely that the various reports of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in the Pacific, 1956, could be sent to Governments in time for the latter's observations on them to be received by the Council before 11 June.

<sup>1</sup> Document distributed to members of the Trusteeship Council only.

64. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) thought that the disadvantages of a late session could be overcome by holding the session in two parts: the first part, of six weeks, in June and July, and the second part, of two weeks, in September or later.

65. Mr. WIESCHHOFF (Secretary of the Council) pointed out that, if the session was to be held in two parts, the second part would have to be regarded as a special session, since the Council's report to the General Assembly had to be ready by early August.

66. Mr. GIDDEN (United Kingdom) thought that the question of holding a special session could not be decided before the Council's next regular session. Some time might be gained by opening that session,

not on Monday, 11 June, but on the preceding Thursday, 7 June.

67. Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that his delegation had no objection to the New York climate in August, whereas it had some reservations about the added expense that the division of the session into two parts would entail. He supported the United Kingdom's suggestion that the session should open on Thursday, 7 June, rather than Monday, 11 June.

68. Mr. DE CAMARET (France) asked that the decision on that suggestion might be postponed until the following meeting.

*It was so agreed.*

The meeting rose at 5.40 p.m.