



SEP 13 1955

CONTENTS

	Page
Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of Western Samoa for the year 1954 (T/1190, T/1192)	
Opening statements	173
Arrangements for the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration, 1955 (T/L.585/Rev.1) (concluded)	175 176
General Assembly resolution 859 (IX): Hearings of petitioners from the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration (concluded)	
Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration for the year 1954 (T/1174, T/1176, T/1177, T/1188, T/1189) (continued)	
Examination of petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council (T/COM.11/L.128, T/PET.11/L.13 to 17) (continued)	
Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, on Somaliland under Italian administration (T/1143 and Corr.1) (continued)	
Report of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration covering the period from 1 April 1954 to 31 March 1955 (T/1172) (continued)	
General Assembly resolution 855 (IX): Financing of the economic development plans of the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration (T/1186) (continued)	
Questions concerning the Trust Territory and replies of the special representative (concluded)	176
General debate	176
General Assembly resolutions 752 (VIII) and 858 (IX) and Trusteeship Council resolution 1085 (XV): Attainment by the Trust Territories of the objectives of self-government or independence (T/L.500, T/L.579) (continued)	182

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

Present:

The representatives of the following States members of the Trusteeship Council: Australia, Belgium, China, El Salvador, France, Haiti, India, New Zealand, Syria, 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 representatives of the following specialized agencies: International Labour Organisation; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the Administration of the Trust Territory of Western Samoa for the year 1954 (T/1190, T/1192)

[Agenda item 4 (b)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Powles, special representative of the Administering Authority for the

Trust Territory of Western Samoa, took a place at the Council table.

OPENING STATEMENTS

1. Sir Leslie MUNRO (New Zealand), introducing the report of the Administering Authority for 1954¹, said that the events which had occurred in Western Samoa since the fourteenth session, when the Council had last considered the Territory, had been most significant for its political development. The Samoa Amendment Act, 1947, had given impetus to political progress, but with the appointment of the Executive Council in 1953 that phase of constitutional development had been close to completion.

2. The Constitutional Convention of Western Samoa that had been held in the Territory had offered the Samoan people a unique opportunity to express their views freely, through their chosen representatives, on the complex issues that arose for a Trust Territory approaching the goal of self-government. A verbatim record of the proceedings and the related papers had been made available to the Council members. The debates at the Convention had shown that, if the Samoans felt that they could shortly assume the burdens of self-government, they also wished to do so in their own way, which might differ in its outward manifestations from some of the accepted patterns of democracy but was nevertheless an expression of their free will.

3. The letter from the Minister of Island Territories to the Acting High Commissioner of Western Samoa, giving the New Zealand Government's observations on the recommendations of the Convention, had been circulated to Council members (T/1192). The Government's position could be briefly summarized. First, it agreed that there should be a single legislature, which, it suggested, should be convened towards the end of 1957, and it conceded that for the time being suffrage might be limited to *matais*. Secondly, it considered that a period of experience would be required before the introduction of full cabinet government. Thirdly, it was considering the possibility of amending the Public Service legislation to give the Government of Western Samoa a more direct voice in the control of the Public Service. Fourthly, other questions, including those of the Head of State and the relationship of Western Samoa with New Zealand, were still under consideration.

4. Many difficulties remained to be overcome, some of which, in the social and economic fields, would require a rapid and basic adjustment of Samoan life. Nevertheless, with goodwill and co-operation on both sides it was possible to look forward with confidence to a fruitful and enduring partnership.

5. Mr. POWLES (Special Representative) said that during his six years as High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, there had been close and

¹ Report by the New Zealand Government to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of Western Samoa for the calendar, year 1954, Department of Island Territories, Wellington, Government Printer, 1955.

valuable contact with the Trusteeship Council, and his faith in the Trusteeship System had been amply confirmed.

6. Commenting on the report of the Administering Authority, he said that the Constitutional Convention had been the outstanding event in Western Samoa during the year under review. In July 1954 the Working Committee had issued provisional recommendations on eight constitutional matters, which had been publicized and discussed in the Press and in radio broadcasts. The Working Committee had also adopted recommendations on the composition of the Constitutional Convention and had prepared a draft statement on the place of the judiciary under the new Constitution.

7. The Convention had been a great success. The delegates, the great majority of whom were Samoans, had thoroughly discussed the Working Committee's recommendations and had passed seven resolutions relating to political, administrative and judicial matters. The resolution on the relationship of Western Samoa with New Zealand had been passed almost unanimously, while on the others there had been some abstentions and, in one case only, a few dissenting votes. It had passed no formal resolution on common citizenship, tacitly accepting the Steering Committee's recommendation that common domestic status should be more fully studied before any decision was taken.

8. The letter from the Minister of Island Territories to the Acting High Commissioner containing the New Zealand Government's comments on the Convention's recommendations had been distributed to all the delegates to the Convention and to Trusteeship Council members. The new Minister of Island Territories, who had visited the Territory in February, had made a second visit at the end of June, after the publication of his letter, and he had met a joint session of the Legislative Assembly and the Fono of Faipule at which the recommendations of the Constitutional Convention had been reaffirmed.

9. In the field of local government, the District and Village Government Board had been very active. Water supply authorities had been set up under the Board's auspices. The members of the Board had held consultations with village leaders and district representatives with a view to revising Samoan village regulations and establishing local government schemes. It had laid down a series of principles for the establishment of district or village councils and it was supervising the preparation of the register of *matais*. The Apia Town Planning Committee had made several recommendations with regard to local government for the town, but they had evoked little interest.

10. As a step towards the transfer of the New Zealand Reparation Estates to Samoan control, an advisory committee had been set up in 1954 to assist the general manager of the Estates in making policy recommendations to the Minister of Island Territories.

11. During the year under review, the district judges had been closely supervised by the full-time Commissioner of the High Court of Western Samoa, and the Samoan Government had decided that an efficient working system of district judges would better meet the country's requirements than the establishment of inferior courts of justice. The District and Village Development Board supported that view and had recommended the extension of the district judges' term of office from three to six years.

12. The problems associated with common domestic status were still unsolved. The Constitutional Convention had left the question in abeyance and the special committee appointed by the High Commissioner to study the question had made little progress.

13. In August 1954, the Legislative Assembly had debated a labour bill. Opinion had been so divided that the bill had been withdrawn, redrafted and then referred to a select committee, which had recommended that a wages and arbitration board should be set up and that the Commissioner of Labour should try to obtain information that could be used as a basis for a workers' compensation and insurance scheme. The committee was to report to the Legislative Assembly at its next session. It was clear that local opinion found it difficult to understand the basic concepts of trade unionism.

14. The associate member system, the purpose of which was to associate the unofficial members of the Executive Council more closely with the work of the government departments and thus provide the nucleus of a cabinet, had been in operation for almost a year. It had been successful in many respects, although the associate members found it difficult to exercise initiative and some members of the Assembly and of the public seemed reluctant to accept the exercise of power by those members. The difficulties would probably disappear as the system became more generally understood.

15. An economic survey of Western Samoa had been carried out under the joint auspices of the Samoan Government and the South Pacific Commission. The report, which was available to members of the Council, emphasized that the *per capita* production of the Territory had not kept pace with the great natural increase in population.

16. The flying operations of the aerial survey had been completed in 1954 and photographic mosaics and maps were being prepared by the New Zealand Lands and Survey Department, while the photographs themselves were already in use in Samoa.

17. The Public Service Association of Western Samoa had made a strong plea for a general increase in the salaries paid to public servants, on the grounds of the increased cost of living. A special committee had been set up to consider wage scales and to take evidence on the cost of living, and it was hoped that a satisfactory solution would be found.

18. Work had been begun on the Samoan language project. The services of the University of London School of African and Oriental Studies had been obtained for the preparation of a dictionary and a grammar; a linguist from the school had arrived in Samoa and had begun field work in co-operation with a Samoan team.

19. The Banana Scheme, which handled the export of bananas from the Territory and had formerly been controlled by the New Zealand Government, had been handed over to the Government of Western Samoa. A full-time manager had been appointed and a special organization would probably be established to run the Scheme, since banana production was increasing.

20. The Samoan Government had made a determined effort to reform its revenue legislation, following the report of a departmental committee on tariff and taxation reform. The Legislative Assembly had decided to retain the British preferential tariff and to provide duty rates varying according to the essentiality of the goods imported, as suggested by the committee. It had also

abolished the port and service tax on imports and had established a sliding scale of export duty on cocoa. The departmental committee's principal recommendation on taxation had been that income tax should be substituted for the present system of stores and salary tax. The Legislative Assembly had passed an ordinance giving effect to the recommendation, but consideration of the schedules fixing the rates of taxation and depreciation had been deferred to the next session.

21. The value of both imports and exports had increased considerably. The Territory had broken its 1952 record and had ended the year with a favourable trade balance of over half a million pounds sterling. The increase in the value of exports had been mainly due to the high market price of cocoa and the increase in the quantity of bananas exported. The contract price for the sale of copra to the British Ministry of Food had been fixed at a level well above the price on the free market.

22. The volume of exports was not increasing proportionately to the increase in population; indeed, exports of copra were actually decreasing. Both the Administering Authority and the Samoan Government realized that the crucial problems of the Territory were those connected with increasing *per capita* production. It was hoped that, now the Samoans were assured their political objectives would be attained, they would direct their energies to agricultural and economic development. They would have to realize that, although political problems were easier to solve than social or economic ones, no political solution could be lasting without a sound socio-economic basis. The next decade would be a testing period for the Samoan people.

23. For many years, the Administering Authority, the Samoan Government and some private planters had been striving to increase production and to diversify crops. Banana and coffee cultivation had expanded, while experiments with the cultivation of pepper, rice and cotton were continuing and the cattle industry was increasing in importance. Nevertheless, the production of cocoa and copra, the Territory's two main crops, must be rapidly increased if the economic problem was to be solved. It was partly a question of education and partly one of pest and disease control, but it was also a social problem involving the population's attitude to work, land and life. The answer must be sought in the village, with the application of extension techniques, co-ordinated at the village level through an effective system of local government.

24. During 1954 ordinary revenue had increased by nearly £200,000 and payments by £136,000 over the previous year. Over £250,000 had been spent on capital development and a further £400,000 were earmarked for the same purpose in the current budget, while recurrent charges were estimated at nearly one million. Of the total estimated expenditure of £1,390,000, £94,650 would be covered by grants from the New Zealand Reparation Estates; £1,110,000 would be provided by ordinary revenue; £97,470 by the Capital Development Reserve Fund; and £91,380 by the General Fund. Public health accounted for just over 16 per cent of the total estimated expenditure and education for just under 16 per cent.

25. The Territory was in a sound financial position but unless production increased, it would soon be unable to use any of its current revenue for capital development. Services could not be greatly increased unless revenue were increased, and increased revenue was

dependent on increased production. The first balance sheet prepared for the Government of Western Samoa since 1946 had been presented to the Legislative Assembly in March 1954. It showed that the value of the Government's assets had tripled between 1946 and 1953. Such progress was most encouraging but it should be remembered that it could not be maintained without greatly increased production.

26. In the field of education, the Legislative Assembly had adopted as a general guide the recommendations made in the report² of the New Zealand Director of Education, Dr. C. E. Beeby. It had been generally recognized in the Assembly that the full implementation of those recommendations, particularly those relating to compulsory education, would depend on the future prosperity and development of the Territory.

27. Some of the recommendations were already being implemented. Dormitories and other facilities were being constructed at Samoa College, for instance, and the Teachers' Training College was being enlarged, both projects being carried out with the aid of grants from the Administering Authority. Four district schools were being built with the aid of subsidies from the Samoan Government.

28. The secondary school enrolment at Samoa College had almost doubled compared with the preceding year and it was intended that the College should eventually become a purely secondary institution. A total of 186 students had enrolled for the current year at the Teachers' Training College and sixty-four had graduated at the end of the 1954 school year. The College had also trained eighty-seven temporary assistants for infant work, in two three-month courses.

29. Under the Administering Authority's scholarship scheme, six more scholarships had been awarded at the end of 1954. Eight members of the Samoan Public Service had been seconded to the New Zealand Public Service for training and two others were studying in the United States, at Brigham Young University, and in Sydney.

30. With the aid of grants from the Administering Authority, a new maternity ward was being built and X-ray equipment had been installed at Apia Hospital, while a large dispensary was in the final stages of construction at Leulumoega. A staff doctor had been sent to New Zealand for special training in the treatment of tuberculosis. The anti-yaws campaign organized by the World Health Organization, using penicillin supplied by the United Nations Children's Fund, was just getting under way. A Samoan practitioner had gone to Fiji on a WHO scholarship for training in psychiatric medicine. The refresher course in environmental sanitation awaited formal approval for 1956 by WHO.

Mr. Powles, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, withdrew.

Arrangements for the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration, 1955 (T/L.585/Rev.1) (concluded)

[Agenda item 8]

² *Report on Education in Western Samoa*, Wellington, Government Printer, 1954.

General Assembly resolution 859 (IX): Hearings of petitioners from the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration (concluded)

[Agenda item 14]

31. The PRESIDENT called on the members of the Council to vote on the draft resolution proposed by the representative of El Salvador (T/L.585/Rev.1).

32. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) asked for a separate vote on operative paragraphs 2 and 3.

33. The PRESIDENT put paragraphs 2 and 3 of the operative part of the draft resolution (T/L.385/Rev.1) to the vote.

There were 6 votes in favour and 6 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 6 votes in favour and 6 against.

Operative paragraphs 2 and 3 were not adopted.

The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted by 8 votes to none, with 4 abstentions.

34. Mr. JAIPAL (India) explained that he had voted in favour of the resolution as a whole because, although paragraphs 2 and 3 had been deleted, he felt that paragraph 4 covered the two General Assembly resolutions in question.

35. He drew attention to the fact that a very large number of petitions, containing serious allegations, had recently been received from the Cameroons under French administration. In the Standing Committee on Petitions, the Indian delegation had asked the French representative for information on the subject and had been told that the facts would be communicated later. Nothing had so far been heard officially, although the French delegation had shown him several telegrams which suggested that the allegations were somewhat exaggerated. Nevertheless in view of the number of the petitions and the serious nature of the allegations he felt that the Secretary-General should be requested to draw the Visiting Mission's attention to them so that it could decide whether to investigate them on the spot and report on them to the Council.

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority on the administration of the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration for the year 1954 (T/1174, T/1176, T/1177, T/1188, T/1189) (continued)

[Agenda item 4 (a)]

Examination of petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council (T/COM.11/L.128, T/PET.11/L.13 to 17) (continued)

[Agenda item 5]

Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, on Somaliland under Italian administration (T/1143 and Corr.1) (continued)

[Agenda item 6]

Report of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration covering the period from 1 April 1954 to 31 March 1955 (T/1172) (continued)

[Agenda item 17]

General Assembly resolution 855 (IX): Financing of the economic development plans of the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration (T/1186) (continued)

[Agenda item 13]

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

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

36. Mr. CASARDI (Italy) recalled that at the 627th meeting one of the members of the Council had asked for information on the stage and purport of the conference between the Italian and Ethiopian Governments in connexion with the frontier between the Trust Territory of Somaliland and Ethiopia. He could now inform the Council that the contemplated interview between the Italian Ambassador in Addis Ababa and the Ethiopian Foreign Minister had taken place on 28 June, as arranged, and that at the conclusion of the interview the Ethiopian Foreign Minister had intimated that Vice-Minister Haddis would be the official entrusted with further negotiations on behalf of the Ethiopian Government. That was all the information he possessed for the time being. It was, of course, the earnest desire of the Italian Government that a solution satisfactory to both parties might be reached as soon as possible. In that connexion the Ambassador in Addis Ababa, in his recent contacts, had referred to the urgency of the matter in view of the terms of General Assembly resolution 854 (IX) of 14 December 1954.

37. Mr. Casardi emphasized that the boundary issue in no way affected the relationship between Italy and Ethiopia, and that that relationship had no bearing on Italy's attitude in respect of the fundamental aspects of the issue. Italy's attitude and action were inspired exclusively by its position as Administering Authority and by the interest shown in the matter both by the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly, by whose opinion Italy would loyally abide.

GENERAL DEBATE

38. Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that he had been impressed and encouraged by the progress achieved in Somaliland and by the Administration's obvious desire to foster advancement as rapidly as possible. There had been a change in the Administration, necessary, perhaps, in order to consolidate the gains already achieved by the former Administration, and the Somali people had been given a flag of their own. That last gesture was the greatest tribute that could have been paid by an Administering Authority to the people under its care. Indeed, the whole attitude of the Administration demonstrated its determination to lead the Somali

people to independence in 1960. Somaliland would be the first Trust Territory to achieve independence, and that would be one of the finest contributions Italy could make to the United Nations.

39. As the principal task of the Administering Authority during the next five years would be to develop political power and hand it over to the Somali people, the political harmony and signs of political maturity already evident were highly encouraging. He would urge the Administering Authority to pay particular attention to the Somali National Front, to strengthen its basis with active encouragement and guidance and to exploit its usefulness for the benefit of the Territory. It might be useful to set up a committee consisting of representatives of the various political parties to be consulted on all important matters of policy and internal administration. Such a committee might ultimately become a coalition cabinet or an executive council.

40. The Administering Authority was to be commended for its proposal to appoint the chairmen of the standing committees of the future legislative assembly as parliamentary assistants to the various heads of departments, as also for the progress achieved in the Somalization of the administrative services. That progress should continue; it would be watched more and more critically as the date for independence approached. India also welcomed the news that the elections to the Territorial Council were to take place in 1955 and that the Council had passed the electoral law. In that connexion, it might be useful for the Administration to select leaders of political parties who had been elected to membership in the Council — the future legislative assembly — for training in Italy in parliamentary methods, trade-union organization, etc. Other developments in the political field which the Indian delegation found encouraging included the appointment of increasing numbers of Somalis to assume command of units of the army and police force, the absence of political influences in those two services and the absence of discrimination as between urban and nomadic populations both in representation on the Territorial Council and in recruitment to those services. All those developments, together with the maintenance of an independent judiciary and the granting of further powers to the municipal councils, augured well for a politically stable independent Somaliland in 1960.

41. In the view of the Indian delegation, there were two potential sources of danger with which the Administering Authority would have to cope vigorously: the aggravation of tribal hostilities as a result of political controversies, and the unrest and anxiety generated by the unsettled question of the Somali-Ethiopian border. With respect to the first of those questions, the Administering Authority might consider deterrent action against those who fostered tribal animosities for personal or political reasons, but it should give the highest priority to the preparation, in co-operation with the Somali National Front, of a plan for studying the causes of tribal tensions and for settling tribal disputes so far as possible. With respect to the second question, while there now appeared to be some prospect that the preparatory commission already agreed to in principle might be set up, the negotiations had been extremely slow. On the other hand, the Somali people had become almost obsessed with the need to see the border question settled before 1960, for the very good reason that the provisional frontier cut across certain tribal areas, separating the tribes from their watering places and

pastures. The Indian delegation hoped that the two Governments concerned, acting in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 854 (IX), would co-operate fully in order to reach an early settlement of the border question. The Somali people were naturally anxious for such a settlement because it constituted one of the foundations for future friendly relations between the independent Somali State and Ethiopia. Mediation should be resorted to if the current negotiations proved fruitless.

42. With respect to Somaliland's economic position, the Indian delegation was much concerned about the budget deficit, the uneconomic nature of the banana and sugar industries, the difficulties of taxation, the adverse trade balance and the direction of trade, and the country's poor economic resources. It was encouraged to find that politically conscious Somalis were aware of those economic problems and willing to co-operate in their solution. India would watch the Administering Authority's efforts to cope with them very critically in the next few years. It was regrettable that current revenues of the Territory were barely sufficient to meet the costs of the salaries of Administration personnel: the present inflated salary scales should be reviewed and brought into line with available revenues. The question should be taken up with the new consultative committee and the National Front, if the new independent Somali State was not to be burdened by artificial salary scales which could only be met by external financial aid. While trade had been liberalized to some extent, greater liberalization was necessary, particularly to check its excessive diversion from the Territory's traditional sterling area. It was doubtful whether the artificial trade connexions developed with Italy could survive under conditions of freer trade, and it was essential to avoid giving the impression that Somaliland had become economically tied to Italy.

43. While India welcomed Mr. Spinelli's statement (625th meeting) that it was hoped to give Somaliland a chance of economic viability by 1960, it was somewhat sceptical about the future of the banana and sugar industries. The high market price created by the abnormally high cost of production, the need for a subsidy and the unfavourable climatic conditions for those highly specialized industries made the wisdom of increasing Somali participation in them appear doubtful.

44. The whole pattern of economy should, in fact, be revised and based on the productive capacity of the people. India supported the recommendation of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, to the effect that a team of experts from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development should be sent to Somaliland to assess its economic potential and advise on development possibilities. Italy was to be commended upon its announced intention to address the Bank directly on that subject. A Bank mission would be more satisfactory than a team of experts organized by the Secretary-General and the Council would do well to recommend that the Administering Authority should make a direct request to the Bank.

45. The implementation of the Territory's development plan had only just begun. India would welcome full information in future annual reports on the progress made and the difficulties encountered.

46. Finally, the Trusteeship Council and the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration should be

given some explanation regarding the manner in which the oil contracts had been issued. The Advisory Council felt that those agreements provided inadequate guarantees, gave the Government a low share in the profits and limited the Government's right to terminate them. They should have been given greater publicity and they clearly required some revision.

47. The Indian delegation would urge the Administering Authority to give earnest attention to the question of land disputes and Italian concessionaires. Somali resentment in that connexion clearly arose from the arbitrary actions of the pre-trusteeship Administration with respect to alienation of land. The problem should be dealt with with the co-operation of the people and the political parties, as wisely suggested at the 630th meeting by Mr. Aden and Mr. Hussien.

48. Social development in the Territory was impeded by economic factors. For instance, the settlement of the nomadic tribes was both an economic and a social problem. A scientific study should be made of the habits and traditions of the nomadic peoples, and the advice of the experts on fundamental education working in Dinsor should be sought. The Administering Authority might also make an attempt, on an experimental basis, to settle one or two semi-nomadic tribes on a large ranch where they could graze their cattle, grow their own crops and establish meat and dairy industries. The experience France had had in the establishment of nomadic schools should also prove useful and the French representative's offer to share that experience had been most welcome. India regarded the settlement of the nomadic people as the main social problem of Somaliland.

49. With regard to unemployment, a survey of the problem should first be made, with a view to its solution on the basis of the development plan and with the collaboration of the political parties. Women's groups could usefully be enlisted in improving conditions of social welfare, health and education; the National Front might be asked to assist the Administering Authority in that matter. A proper survey should also be made of the question of orphan children; the United Nations agencies concerned might be asked to supplement the assistance furnished by local political and religious organizations.

50. While there had undoubtedly been much improvement in urban areas, school attendance was still poor. More schools were needed, more vocational training facilities and more trained teachers. The suggestions in the two documents prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (T/1188) and by the World Health Organization (T/1176) were commended to the serious consideration of the Administering Authority.

51. The choice of a common language for Somaliland, to serve as the medium of instruction, must be left to the Somali people. The efforts of the Administering Authority and UNESCO to provide a script and a grammar of the Somali dialects were still in the experimental stage and it was obviously too early to use any one of those dialects for educational purposes. The Indian delegation agreed with the Somali people that they should not be forced to learn a language that was undeveloped and would therefore retard their progress, especially as it was impossible to develop the language sufficiently to be able to translate books into it and train teachers to teach it in the five years remaining before Somaliland would become independent. It was dangerous

to insist on making Somali the medium of instruction against the people's wishes. There was nothing political in the Somali people's desire to adopt Arabic: their geography, history and religion all indicated Arabic as the most suitable language of instruction. The paramount consideration, however, was that the people had chosen Arabic. Their desire to develop the Somali dialects in their own time should be recognized but their choice of Arabic for immediate use should be respected.

52. The Indian delegation appreciated the special representative's assistance in replying to the difficult questions put to him. It also thanked the representative of Italy for his co-operative attitude and Mr. Spinelli for his valuable contribution to the Council's work. The Administering Authority was further to be congratulated upon having attached to its delegation a young Somali official; India would welcome increasing participation of Somalis in the work of the Council. It had been much impressed by the performance of the two representatives of Somali political parties at the current session. The Advisory Council was also to be commended for its valuable work; the excellent relations between that Council and the Administering Authority were a source of gratification. Finally, the Governments of Egypt and the United States were to be commended for the assistance they were giving to Somaliland.

53. Mr. MULCAHY (United States of America) said that, as the only Trust Territory which was not a legacy of the Mandates System, the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration was a test case. The United States Government, confident that the goals laid down in Chapters XII and XIII of the Charter could be achieved there, had given its firm support to Somaliland's rapid progress towards self-government.

54. The Administering Authority was to be commended for the effect it had given to United Nations recommendations. The legislation already passed, or ready for consideration, on elections, the reform of the judicial system, the penal system, the settlement of land disputes and many other questions was impressive.

55. The United States Government had noted with satisfaction the increasingly good relations between the local political parties and the Administering Authority, and between the United Nations Advisory Council and the Administering Authority. An increasing number of Somalis were employed in the Administration, which could be expected to be entirely Somali by the time independence was achieved.

56. The United States had noted the favourable comments of the Visiting Mission and the Advisory Council on progress in the social field and it hoped that the problems of ex-servicemen and the urban unemployed would shortly be solved.

57. The Administering Authority's achievements in the field of education had already been noted. He hoped that the Administering Authority would continue to provide facilities for Somali students to study abroad, for teacher training and for the fundamental education of nomads.

58. The United States had been in favour of the dispatch of a mission from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to carry out an economic survey of the Territory and make recommendations for its development. His delegation's initial hopes had unfortunately not been realized, but he hoped that

the Italian Government would pursue its discussions with the Bank.

59. Somaliland would be independent in less than five years. Any assistance extended to the Territory should therefore stress the principle of self-help. In no other way could a healthy economy be established or the will to sustain it developed.

60. The United States had been gratified to learn that negotiations on the delimitation of the frontier between Somaliland and Ethiopia had been opened in Addis Ababa. He hoped that they would lead to a satisfactory settlement.

61. He thanked the representatives of Italy and the members of the Advisory Council for their helpful contributions to the debate.

62. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) thanked the representatives of the Administering Authority for the courtesy that had been extended to him during his recent visit to Somaliland under Italian administration. That short visit had helped him to understand some of the problems confronting the Administering Authority.

63. The first great problem was to prepare the Territory for self-government by 1960. The Administering Authority should be congratulated on what it had already achieved and on the steps it was taking to provide for the future. He had been impressed by the keenness and intelligence of the young Somali officials attending the School of Political Administration. New hospitals and schools had been built and the existing ones enlarged. The devotion of the medical staff and the enthusiasm of the teachers had been striking, and the friendly co-operation between all races in the schools and hospitals particularly gratifying.

64. Several important points emerged from a study of the documents before the Council. The progress in Somalization was very heartening, particularly the latest developments mentioned by the Italian representative. In the administrative sphere, the establishment of a committee of representatives of the political parties to assist the Administration was a step forward which would be welcomed by the Council.

65. The Council was aware of the grave economic difficulties with which the Territory was faced. The discovery of oil would, of course, be of the greatest assistance to the future independent State, but much could be hoped for from the Administering Authority's plans for the production and export of cotton and other textiles, and the development of the cultivation of maize and other cereals.

66. Substantial progress had been achieved, too, in the educational field. Both the elementary school enrolment and the attendance at adult evening courses had increased considerably and fourteen Somalis had enrolled in the newly established Higher Institute of Legal, Economic and Social Studies.

67. He thanked the representatives of the Administering Authority for their assistance in the discussion and extended his delegation's good wishes to the two petitioners. In view of certain comments he had made at previous sessions, he was glad to be able to commend the work of the Advisory Council.

68. Mr. CUTTS (Australia) noted with satisfaction the large amount of information which had been placed at the Council's disposal both by the Administering Authority and from United Nations sources. He welcomed the fact that the Advisory Council had been able

to intensify its activities and to work fruitfully in co-operation with the Administering Authority during the year under review.

69. He noted with a certain satisfaction that negotiations had finally opened between the Italian and Ethiopian Governments with regard to the frontier between Somaliland and Ethiopia, but it was regrettable that they had not opened earlier. He hoped that they would be brought to an early and satisfactory conclusion; in that connexion he welcomed the statement the Italian representative had made earlier in the meeting.

70. With regard to the administration of the Territory, the Administering Authority's policy and the results obtained during the period under consideration were generally satisfactory. In the political field, the Administering Authority should be commended for its extensive Somalization of the administrative services, favourable reference to which had been made by the two petitioners. The establishment of a committee representing the political parties of the Territory to advise the Administrator was an important development. Although it was at present principally an administrative organ, its potential political significance was enormous. He noted with satisfaction that the Administering Authority intended to establish standing committees of the future legislative assembly and to associate their chairmen with the working of government departments. The effect of that policy on the political education of the people would undoubtedly be beneficial. The modernization of the tribals *shirs*, the extension of the functions of the municipal councils and the establishment of the district councils were all welcome developments.

71. The Administering Authority's proposals for the constitution of the new legislative assembly were very far-reaching. The electoral provisions under which it was to be established constituted a radical departure from former procedure and had been ably and imaginatively conceived. The new deliberative powers, subject to the Administrator's veto, to be given to the assembly, reflected a progressive approach on the part of the Administering Authority. The speed and the nature of the changes being effected in that field were highly satisfactory. The two petitioners had expressed appreciation of the measures envisaged.

72. It was gratifying to note that the economic development plan which the Administering Authority had submitted to the Council at its fourteenth session³ was being energetically executed and that substantial help had been received, not only from the Italian Government, but also from Egypt and the United States. The implementation of the first stage of the plan had already increased the revenue and improved the balance-of-payments situation. The expanded taxation programme had contributed to the increase of revenue and might be expected to have greater effect in the future. The action taken by the Administering Authority with a view to encouraging the export of bananas and of meat and animal products and the further measures contemplated were of the highest importance, since for at least the next decade the economic life of the Territory would be largely dependent on the development of those two industries.

73. The Italian representative had made it clear that the Administering Authority would not only welcome

³ *Plans de développement économique de la Somalie, années 1954-1960*, Italian Trusteeship Administration, Rome, 1954, Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato.

but was anxious to receive an economic survey mission from the International Bank. The Australian delegation agreed that a decision was urgently needed and that the International Bank was the most suitable agency to undertake the task. The Council might wish to endorse the Italian Government's views and express the hope that the International Bank would be able to send a mission.

74. In the social field, continued efforts were being made to reduce inter-tribal conflict. The improvement of the economic and political conditions of the nomadic peoples which should result from the measures under way would be reflected in the improvement of their entire social environment.

75. The WHO report (T/1176) showed that much progress had been made towards developing a comprehensive health service but it was obvious that much still remained to be done. He was confident that the Administering Authority would address itself energetically to the tasks that lay ahead and would not neglect the advice of the appropriate international agencies from which it was already receiving assistance.

76. In the field of education, too, much remained to be done. The Council might wish to draw the attention of the Administering Authority to the UNESCO report (T/1188), which contained a number of valuable suggestions.

77. Like the other members of the Council, Australia entertained great hopes of the political future of the Somali people after 1960, but it would be unrealistic not to admit that the only sound basis on which the new State could be established was one of self-support. The Somali people themselves were aware of that fact, as was clear from the statements of the two petitioners who had appeared before the Council.

78. In attempting a realistic assessment of the future situation, there were grounds for cautious optimism. Mr. Spinelli had stated at the 625th meeting that the encouraging trends in the economy of the country would give the new State a chance of viability, and that if it were not entirely viable by 1960, it would be much nearer to it than five years before. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the Advisory Council had said that, in a few years, the economy of an under-developed country must be developed into that of a self-sufficient country, or at least of a country that was self-sufficient enough to ensure a certain independence. The representative of Egypt had pointed out that the entire revenue of the Territory was barely sufficient to pay the personnel of the Administration and had urged the United Nations to grant emergency aid to the Somalis for the development of their country after 1960. Due weight should be given to all those views.

79. In 1960, the majority of the population would still be living under the same primitive conditions as it had been for centuries and only about 8 per cent of the population would have attended or be attending school. Only about 2,000 would be attending secondary school and a mere handful receiving higher education. Such figures did not imply any criticism of the Administering Authority or any necessity for a review of the date which had been established for granting independence to the Somali people, but the Council must be aware of both sides of the picture. The unfavourable aspects of the situation could be alleviated but not radically changed, notwithstanding the great efforts of the Administering Authority and of the United Nations. The Council must realize also that time was a factor

in development which must never be discounted. If Somaliland was to become independent while still in obvious need of aid, that was not the fault of the Somalis, or of the Administering Authority, or of the Council: it would be due to the fact that human societies required time to effect the massive evolution which was a prerequisite to their independence in a modern world.

80. Mr. GRUBYAKOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the Administering Authority's past record in Somaliland and its future plans should be scrutinized with special care in view of the forthcoming independence of the Territory. A study of the political, economic, social and cultural problems of the Territory would provide some indication of its general development.

81. It was regrettable that the Administering Authority had accomplished very little in the way of developing the Territory's institutions of self-government during the past year, the more so in view of the fact that the Territory would soon have to take over the administration of its own affairs. The Territorial Council continued to hold the same functions as in the past and the USSR delegation doubted the appropriateness of the Administering Authority's plans for the Council's reorganization. While appreciating the difficulties arising from the nature of the Territory and its people, his delegation had serious doubts regarding the new electoral system, which seemed hardly democratic. The rural population would not have direct elections and women would not be entitled to vote. Local custom might oppose the idea of women voting but the Trusteeship Council and the Administering Authority should not be deterred by such traditions. His delegation also doubted the wisdom of providing for the representation of the various ethnic minorities on the Territorial Council. Naturally, the interests of all minorities should be safeguarded, but the proposed system would only tend to divide the people along ethnic lines, whereas all efforts should be aimed at unifying the population and converting it into a normal society.

82. The Administering Authority's plans for the future legislative assembly did not correspond to the recommendations made by the Trusteeship Council at its twelfth and fourteenth sessions (A/2427, p. 47; A/2680, p. 100) and resolution 755 (VIII) adopted by the General Assembly at its eighth session. In spite of the claim that the assembly would be a legislative organ, the fact was that it would still not have the right to initiate legislation and that all its decisions would be subject to the Administrator's veto. While some matters such as foreign affairs or defence could be left under the Administration's control, he suggested that all domestic matters might be transferred to the Territorial Council before 1960.

83. The Administration's plans included no provision for executive organs in which Somalis could hold responsible posts. The committees for the study of the management of public affairs were being continued and it might be asked whether the training provided by those committees was not being extended unduly.

84. With regard to local self-government, with the entire power vested in the district commissioners, the municipal councils exercised no real power, despite the Administering Authority's promise to extend the powers of the municipal councils by 1954. Training in administrative technique was admittedly desirable, but the Administering Authority's training system seemed unduly complicated. In addition to having to complete

certain training courses offered in the Territory, Somalis had to meet a number of other requirements before they were admitted to responsible posts in the Territory's Administration. The result was that, perhaps unintentionally, the Administering Authority was keeping many Somalis out of the public service who might otherwise be acquiring valuable experience in administration. The Visiting Mission, too, had noted the shortcomings of the system of training administrative workers.

85. The Trusteeship Council should therefore recommend to the Administering Authority that it should vest the Territorial Council with the power of initiating legislation in domestic matters, appoint representatives of the local population to responsible posts without waiting for them to complete lengthy training courses and extend the powers of the municipal councils with a view to giving them as large a measure of self-government as possible.

86. The Visiting Mission had noted that in the few years that remained before the Territory became independent, the local training institutes would be unable to train a sufficient number of public servants. The Administering Authority had stated in that connexion that Somaliland would have to employ a large number of foreign specialists, even after 1960. The Trusteeship Council should mention that matter in its recommendations and should point out that fewer foreign experts would be needed if the Administering Authority gave more Somalis practical training in administration by appointing them to responsible posts.

87. The Territory was faced with considerable economic problems, such as the budgetary deficit, the unfavourable balance of trade, the depletion of its natural resources, the lack of control of the export of capital and a system of land tenure reminiscent of colonialism. In fact, it was held in some quarters that the problems were of such magnitude as to make it impossible for the Territory to survive without outside help. Nevertheless, the statements made by the petitioners on the subject should serve to reassure the Trusteeship Council. In view of those economic difficulties the Administering Authority seemed hardly justified, in its budget estimates for the Territory for the period after 1960, in setting aside over half the total budget for outside expert assistance.

88. Banana production and sugar production — important both for export and for domestic consumption — were almost entirely in the hands of non-Somalis. Although the Administering Authority had stated that banana production was not profitable, the fact remained that in the past three years the area under banana cultivation had doubled. He regretted that the special representative had been unable to say exactly how much capital was exported from the Territory in the form of profits from the sale of bananas, and what proportion of that revenue remained in the Territory. Prohibition of capital exports was a vital matter for a young country like Somaliland.

89. With regard to stock-breeding, although the Administering Authority's efforts to provide water for the cattle were praiseworthy, it should also endeavour to seek outlets for the cattle products and to develop processing industries for those products, thereby providing work to the unemployed.

90. Speaking of the extraction of petroleum, Mr. Grubyakov said he took strong exception to the Administering Authority's action in granting oil con-

cessions to foreign firms for many years after the Territory became independent. Although the Administering Authority claimed to have acted with the agreement of the local population, the fact was that the Territorial Council was not in a position to speak for the people. As the petitioners had said, the Territory would have to decide for itself, after it became independent, whether it could honour such agreements. The Trusteeship Council should recommend that the Administering Authority should revise the agreements so as not to burden the Territory with heavy commitments for years to come. Similarly, in trying to induce foreign firms to invest capital in the Territory, the Administering Authority should refrain from concluding long-term agreements committing the Territory beyond 1960.

91. In the social field, it was quite inadmissible that there should be no labour or social security legislation for the workers of the Territory. The Administering Authority's statement that the people of the Territory were physically weak and did not like steady work was hardly acceptable; rather was it the absence of favourable labour conditions and laws that caused the workers to take no interest in their work and to prefer tending their own land and livestock. If, as the Council had been told, agricultural workers did not work a full day, that might well be due to certain surviving vestiges of the colonial system. The Trusteeship Council should recommend that the Administering Authority introduce the necessary labour legislation through the Legislative Assembly and that it take measures to liquidate the prevailing unemployment.

92. In the field of health, it had been pointed out that the people, particularly the nomads, were not used to calling for medical help. Perhaps, if there were indigenous doctors in the Territory — all doctors so far had been Europeans — the people might be less reluctant to ask for help than they were now. The Administering Authority should bear that point in mind. Moreover, current health expenditure was below the 1953 figure, whereas it should have increased in view of the increase in population. Medical care should be given free of charge; although the Administering Authority claimed that the fees charged were nominal, they had nevertheless given rise to complaints. In view of the many persons suffering from malaria, venereal disease and tuberculosis, the Trusteeship Council should recommend that health appropriations be increased and that indigenous doctors be appointed in the Territory.

93. Regarding education, he noted that the majority of the population were still illiterate, that there were no persons with university training, and that of the Territory's 252,000 children of school age only 10,000 were enrolled in schools and only 4 per cent were actually attending school. The schools were concentrated in the towns and there was only one secondary school, at Mogadiscio. In spite of its assurances that it would provide more secondary schools as the need arose, the Administering Authority had made no provision for such schools in its budget and plans.

94. The teacher-training programme was quite inadequate, as was obvious from the announcement that seventy primary school teachers would have to be engaged from abroad, although there should be every possibility for training indigenous teachers for primary teaching at least. If, as had been stated, the teaching

profession did not appeal to the Somalis, that was no doubt due to the small salaries paid. The teacher-training school opened in 1953 could hardly be regarded as a success, since there were only thirty-seven students attending it.

95. The Administering Authority must make every effort to promote the educational progress of the Territory in the few remaining years of the trusteeship. Nevertheless, whatever the state of education in the Territory might be by 1960, that should not interfere with its attainment of independence. Meantime, the Council should recommend that appropriations for the building of schools, teacher training and the establishment of secondary education in different parts of the Territory, in particular those inhabited by the nomads, should be increased.

General Assembly resolutions 752 (VIII) and 858 (IX) and Trusteeship Council resolution 1085 (XV): Attainment by the Trust Territories of the objective of self-government or independence (T/L.500, T/L.579) (continued)

[Agenda item 12]

96. The PRESIDENT announced that he had been informed by the delegation of New Zealand that it was willing to serve on the Committee set up at the 632nd meeting to consider the procedure the Council should follow in dealing with the above question. The members of the Committee would therefore be the delegations of Haiti, India, New Zealand, and the United States of America.

It was so agreed.

The meeting rose at 5.25 p.m.