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President: Mr. Miguel Rafael URQUIA (El Salvador).

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

In the absence of the President, Mr. Barges (France), Vice-President, took the Chair.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Tanganyika: (a) annual report of the Administering Authority (T/1135, T/1149, T/1150, T/1158); (b) report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954 (T/1142, T/1162 and Add.1) (continued)

[Agenda items 3 (a) and 5 (a)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Grattan-Bellew, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, took a place at the Council table.

GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

1. Mr. REID (New Zealand) emphasized the complexity of Tanganyika, a vast country with marked characteristics, whose individuality must be respected if the work done there was to bear fruit. It was a country with undeveloped communications, inhabited by a great variety of peoples. Large areas of it had been damaged by erosion resulting from bad agricultural and stock-raising methods, and there was a lack of water in the greater part of the Territory. Hence, a tremendous effort would be required to develop the coun-

try, and the assistance of other peoples, in particular Asians and Europeans, would be essential.

2. His delegation was anxious to see Tanganyika achieve self-government within the shortest possible period, but it was unable to see how a time-table could be calculated which would be anything but a fraud on the indigenous inhabitants. In the absence of economic independence, political independence could exist only on paper. Moreover, the people of Tanganyika did not ask for such a date to be set. Until the question had been raised outside, no one within the Territory had considered it seriously. The proposal rested on a conviction that the people of Tanganyika should conform to a political philosophy which worked in other parts of the world. That was a theoretical approach which did not correspond to the facts. It should be accepted now that democracy in Tanganyika would differ from that in any other country. It was the Council's duty to encourage a development grounded on the consent of the people and their willing co-operation. For that reason, the Council should encourage the Administering Authority to put into effect its programme for local government. Only gradually could the horizons of the Tanganyikans be widened to encompass people who lived from ten to thousands of miles away and who, if they had been known at all, had been regarded as foreigners and possibly as enemies. Each new development represented a new idea to the population, and in each case their consent must be obtained.

3. The remarks made by Mr. Nyerere at the 592nd meeting showed clearly that the different groups of the population lived in harmony and worked efficiently together in the Government and social services. It would be wrong and dangerous to emphasize instances of racial discrimination and lack of understanding between the various groups of the population, as some delegations had done. The Government was now further developing harmonious relations by enabling all sections of the community to participate in the administration of the Territory. The Administering Authority should be commended for its success in developing its policy of inter-racial representation and co-operation. Such a system was already applied in no less than seventy-seven bodies.

4. The majority of the members of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, had expressed some impatience at the failure of the Administering Authority to impose Western electoral procedures in Tanganyika, ignoring the fact that such action must wait until the whole population fully understood and accepted the principle of elective representation. There had, however, been a remarkable development of effective institutions throughout the Territory, often not in patterns of Western democracy, but founded on local traditions. The Trusteeship Council should encourage the Administering Authority in its present policy of persuasion and guidance, which would certainly produce more effective and lasting results than any policy of coercion.

5. With regard to the question of administrative union, the evidence before the Council indicated that there was

no surrender of political authority by the Administering Authority or the Tanganyika Government and that the activities of the High Commission were confined to purely administrative matters, such as railways and harbours, the research services, collection of taxes and industrial licensing. Those activities had been more effective because they had covered a wider area with larger resources and the Territory had profited considerably by the avoidance of duplication of services and had had the advantage of the experience of neighbouring territories. The Territory had much to gain from that system. Nevertheless, his delegation supported the suggestion in the Visiting Mission's report (T/1142, para. 516) to the effect that there should be a periodic expert examination of the activities of the High Commission in so far as they affected Tanganyika. That could best be done by the Council's Standing Committee on Administrative Unions. The Visiting Mission had found that there were misgivings in some quarters about the meaning of administrative union and, in particular, fears that it might lead to a federation with other territories. The Administration had given categorical assurances to the contrary, which the Council would wish to support.

6. The rapid development of local and national government institutions had caused a serious drain on the Territory's resources of educated responsible leaders. Many chiefs had been compelled to choose between their chieftainship and wider service in the Territory. Although the majority of educated Africans chose careers other than the civil service, it was to be feared that there were not enough educated Africans in the smaller towns. The rule that civil servants should be free from political influence was a proper one; but it might be possible to relax in the smaller centres the ban on political activities of civil servants, except, of course, those in senior positions or in sensitive posts.

7. In the economic sphere, the Administering Authority had been steadily increasing revenue, both as a result of development and by establishing a more effective system of taxation. The contribution of Africans by way of direct taxation had considerably increased. The Government should also be commended for its policy of giving greater financial responsibility to the Native Authorities. The people of the Territory were beginning to recognize the relationship between revenue from taxation and economic development. The sisal industry continued to be the most important single economic factor in the Territory, but the value of sisal exports had dropped from £21.7 million to £12.7 million. Fortunately, the prices of coffee and cotton had continued to be high and the Territory had received nearly £6 million for coffee and nearly £4 million for cotton. The programme for the improvement of the livestock industry was making remarkable progress, in spite of difficulties and criticism. The Tanganyika Packers, Ltd. continued to provide a useful market for surplus cattle, and he hoped that it would be able to extend its operations to all the areas in need of its facilities. In the past four years, the exports of hides and skins had increased markedly — from £625,000 in 1949 to £1,600,000 in 1953.

8. With reference to the very important question of land, his delegation had been pleased to learn that the Government had appointed a Royal Commission consisting of well-qualified representatives, and that the Commission was making a thorough study of the inter-related problems of land and population. It would be

wise for the Council to defer any conclusions on the question until the Commission's report was available. With the aid of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, the Administering Authority was engaged in developing difficult areas notably by the Rufiji Valley project. His delegation was glad to note that the Administering Authority would use most of the land thus brought into cultivation for large-scale settlement of African farmers. The attention being given by the Administering Authority to long-range schemes was a clear indication of careful planning and an appreciation of the importance of looking ahead.

9. It was pleasant to note that all the influential sections of the community as well as the Administering Authority itself were conscious of the importance of foreign investments to the Territory's development. That attitude of African leaders, as exemplified by the President of the Tanganyika African National Union, was a proof of their political maturity.

10. The Administering Authority was also to be commended for the way in which it was mobilizing the Territory's financial resources. An illustration was the project for the supply of water on the Makonde Plateau, to which the African farmers contributed both labour and capital.

11. In recent years the Council had devoted much time to the question of the Meru land. Of course, the Government realized that it was essential to solve that problem as quickly as possible. It was satisfactory to note that the Government had already acquired two previously alienated blocks of land and had set up a committee including an African leader to advise on the disposition of that land for the benefit of the Wa-Meru. Inasmuch as a solution was being worked out and the Government was engaged in delicate negotiations with the parties concerned, it would doubtless be better for the Trusteeship Council to postpone any comments on the subject until it had been informed of the outcome of the negotiations.

12. The progress of the various development programmes had been extremely satisfactory. In particular the land usage scheme at Uluguru was a remarkable example of close co-operation between the people and the Administration which exemplified the advantages of the demonstration and educational methods.

13. The Visiting Mission had drawn the Council's attention to the accelerated expansion of a cash economy and had seen in that development a sign of economic progress in the Territory in recent years.

14. The Trusteeship Council would undoubtedly wish to commend the emphasis given by the Administering Authority to the development of communications. The expansion of the road system, the provision of airports and the improvement of the harbours at Tanga, Mtwara and Dar es Salaam were providing the Territory with the basic requirements for the speeding-up of its economic production. The Administration had also attempted to achieve territorial self-sufficiency in basic food supplies. The building programme undertaken by the Grain Storage Department would provide capacity for storing 70,000 tons of foodstuffs as a safeguard against periods of drought or other catastrophes.

15. The Visiting Mission and the Administration had commented on the growth of the co-operative movement, and particularly on the spectacular development of the cotton co-operatives in the Lake Province and the Chagga co-operative organization, which was a model

of its kind not only for Tanganyika but also for other territories, owing to its success in mobilizing African capital resources on a modest scale. It had a fine building in Moshi and a half-share in a coffee-curing company; it was investing in a commercial college for the Chagga; with the Administration's assistance and under the direction of eminent African leaders, it was progressing steadily and giving hope to people in other provinces. In view of the success of the producer co-operatives his delegation would urge the Administering Authority to consider the possibility of developing consumer co-operatives.

16. His delegation agreed with the Visiting Mission that more could be done to make loans available to qualified African farmers or groups of farmers to enable them to expand and diversify their crop production. To do so, however, the question of land titles would have to be settled.

17. His delegation hoped that the Administration would actively pursue the reservation of forest areas and that it would be successful in the near future in developing the hydroelectric and coal-mining schemes which were now under consideration.

18. From the comments of the World Health Organization (T/1158) it was clear that WHO was satisfied with the progress being made in the field of public health. The training of medical staff was an essential feature of continued progress and the Administering Authority had taken major steps in that direction by setting up new training schools. The missions were making a very substantial contribution to that work by providing a large number of hospital and dispensary beds and many other services.

19. He noted with satisfaction that new types of houses were being built at Dar es Salaam at a cost within the means of the African worker. Apparently, however, the Administering Authority had been unable to make similar progress in rural housing and his delegation hoped that more attention would be devoted to that problem.

20. The New Zealand delegation did not disagree with the recommendation on the abolition of corporal punishment in paragraph 647 of the Visiting Mission's report. It had noted with satisfaction that in paragraph 193 of its observations (T/1162) the Administering Authority had reported that a bill to reduce the number of offences subject to corporal punishment had been enacted and that the Administering Authority would attempt to induce public opinion to accept the abolition of corporal punishment as a penal sanction. The best example that the courts could offer public opinion would be to refrain from using that form of punishment.

21. The Visiting Mission had been greatly impressed by the development of public information media and the encouragement given to Swahili and other indigenous newspapers. The Trusteeship Council should encourage the Administration to continue its efforts in that direction, which were contributing to the political advancement of the population. The proceedings of certain legislative bodies, such as the Legislative Council and County Council, might be broadcast in order to establish closer contact between representatives, whether nominated or elected, and their constituencies.

22. Expenditure on education had again been increased. His delegation had noted with satisfaction that the number of women education officers had risen. In addition, the Administering Authority was using radio

broadcasting for the dissemination of educational programmes and rightly intended to expand middle and secondary schools. He agreed with the Visiting Mission that the number of women teachers should be increased. The Administering Authority also intended to establish university facilities in the Territory. In the near future it was likely that the university at Makerere would be unable to accept all the students available from Tanganyika.

23. Turning to the comments in paragraphs 649-654 of the Visiting Mission's report, he said that after considering the observations of the Administering Authority, he felt that the Government was right in endeavouring to unify education by degrees. The teaching given in the African schools should gradually approach the standard of education in non-African schools.

24. His delegation regretted that the Visiting Mission had been unable to submit unanimous recommendations which the Trusteeship Council could have accepted. Serious differences of opinion had arisen among the members of the Mission, and it was for the Council itself to draw conclusions on the basis of the facts before it. The Visiting Mission had produced a report which had been made known to the people of the Territory but which the Trusteeship Council would probably not accept. The New Zealand delegation felt that in making recommendations of such far-reaching import the Visiting Mission had usurped the functions of the Trusteeship Council and had made decisions which should have been left to the Council. It was important that the people of the Trust Territories should have complete confidence in the Trusteeship Council and in the Administering Authority appointed by the United Nations. Any undermining of that confidence would be a serious matter. For that reason his delegation was of opinion that the Council should give careful consideration to the terms of reference of future visiting missions and particularly to the question of the publication of their reports before the Council itself had had an opportunity to study them and to make recommendations to the Administering Authority.

25. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) said that at the thirteenth session of the Trusteeship Council his delegation had warned the Council of the serious difficulties which might arise from the existence of acquired rights in Tanganyika. The Visiting Mission's report and the reaction it had provoked had emphasized the gravity of the present situation. One class in the Territory dominated the other classes. The representative of the Tanganyika Unofficial Members' Organisation, who had been heard by the Council (590th and 591st meetings), had asserted that the other members of that organization were in full agreement with him, and had stated that for some time there could be no question of the 8 million indigenous inhabitants assuming the management of the Territory's affairs. According to him the European, Asian and African populations were all immigrants and only 20,000 true indigenous inhabitants. That was a dangerous theory for its advocates for, on the basis of the date of arrival, the rights of the Africans in the Territory should prevail over those of Europeans and Asians.

26. The special representative had told the Council that there were no privileged classes in the Territory. Yet how could the position of the European be explained save as the privilege of the white man? Any European, whoever he might be, belonged to the ruling

class and enjoyed the rights and the protection afforded by the Administering Authority, which did not permit him to lose face. The Asian class was also privileged; it was the intermediate class between the European and the indigenous inhabitants which, by its success in business and by its industry, had acquired interests which made it conservative in its outlook and therefore closer to the governing class.

27. The distinction between the various races was officially sanctioned. It would be well if, through appropriate legislation, the Administering Authority were at least to eliminate the practice of racial discrimination, if not racial prejudice. It was distressing that 8 million human beings were being refused the right to manage their own affairs in the foreseeable future and that the economic domination of certain classes was being defended, contrary to the rights of the peoples of the Trust Territories as expressly recognized in Chapter XII of the Charter. His delegation now understood the violent reaction to some of the Visiting Mission's recommendations in certain circles in the Territory. His delegation would vote for the Visiting Mission's report when the time came.

28. He pointed out that Mr. Nyerere, the representative of the Tanganyika African National Union, who had been heard at the Council's 592nd meeting, had displayed moderation. As the spokesman of 8 million indigenous inhabitants, he had agreed to equal representation during the transitional period, rejected the notion that political stability might indicate stagnation and asked that after a reasonable period Africans should be given a majority in public bodies. He had also asked the Administering Authority to define what it understood by "independence". Lastly, he had protested vigorously against two aspects of the Administering Authority's policy which might prejudice the Territory's future, namely immigration and land alienation. If the intent was to strengthen the European element's control, obviously the number of settlers must increase rapidly and land must be placed at their disposal.

29. The inhabitants were well aware that technicians and capital were needed if the Territory's resources were to be developed. The Administering Authority should, in a spirit of understanding, prepare the ground by training indigenous inhabitants to be the technicians of the future. That was being done in the Non-Self-Governing Territory of the Gold Coast. Any difficulties that might be encountered would not be due to the ignorance or the laziness of the indigenous inhabitants.

30. In conclusion, he said that the Trusteeship Council should, first, condemn the subjugation of 8 million Africans by European and Asian minorities; secondly, recommend that the Administering Authority should liberalize its policy by allowing more Africans to participate in the proceedings of the Executive Council and Legislative Council as well as in the local councils; thirdly, recommend the elimination of racial discrimination in public establishments, the Administration, hotels, schools etc.; fourthly, urge the Administering Authority to exercise all possible caution in admitting foreigners to the Territory and in granting land; fifthly, recommend that the Administering Authority should define the status of the Territory's inhabitants with a view to establishing a Tanganyikan nationality and should ensure that persons who did not meet the requirements for Tanganyikan citizenship should not be allowed to hold public office or to exercise political rights.

The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 4.35 p.m.

31. Mr. SEARS (United States of America) said that most of the present political issues in Africa could be traced to racialism, nationalism or the ownership of land. Accordingly it was not surprising that those three causes of friction had been referred to again and again by the Visiting Mission in its report and by the members of the Council in their statements.

32. It was unfortunate, however, that debate on specific issues had obscured the progress achieved in the Territory. In its report the Visiting Mission had pointed out that considerable progress had been made since the war thanks to the determination of the Administering Authority and its representatives in the Territory.

33. His delegation did not think that the development of the Territory towards self-government could be accelerated in any way by setting a date for the achievement of independence. The fact was that the British administrators were trying to bring about self-government in the African Territories as rapidly as possible. Proof of that was to be seen in the cases of Togoland, the Gold Coast, Nigeria and the Cameroons.

34. Although the overwhelming majority of the inhabitants of Tanganyika were African, there was no reason why the other elements of the population, both European and Asian, should not contribute to the Territory's development. The Africans themselves would eventually have to make a very important decision: they would have to decide on a system to protect certain rights of Europeans and Asians when Tanganyika became self-governing. That decision was of basic importance to the economic future of the country. In that connexion he quoted statements made by Lord Lloyd, the Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Sir Godfrey Huggins, the Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

35. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that Africans, Europeans and Asians would work together in a spirit of understanding to further the development of Tanganyika.

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[Agenda items 3 (b), 4 and 5 (b)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Leroy, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi, took a place at the Council table.

OPENING STATEMENTS

36. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium), introducing the report on the administration of Ruanda-Urundi for the year 1953,¹ emphasized the confidence which characterized relations between the indigenous inhabitants and

¹ *Rapport soumis par le Gouvernement belge à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies au sujet de l'administration du Ruanda-Urundi pendant l'année 1953*, Brussels, Etablissements généraux d'imprimerie, 1954.

the Administering Authority and the peaceful atmosphere in which the Territory had continued to progress at a steady pace in all fields.

37. Turning first to political matters, he referred to the Decree of 14 July 1952, which had established elected councils. Since 1954, over 8,000 councillors, most of them belonging to the new élite, had been familiarizing themselves with the management of public affairs. The same decree had conferred real legislative power upon the Native Authorities, acting with the concurrence of the councils, thus putting an end to the exclusive rule of custom as a source of law.

38. In the economic field, ordinary budget expenditure had doubled between 1949 and 1954; Belgium had advanced the necessary funds under the ten-year development plan. The volume of imports had increased tenfold in comparison with 1938, a fact that reflected both the increased purchasing power of the masses and the size of the economic and social investments.

39. In social matters, he drew attention to the close network of medical assistance centres. Health expenditure had amounted to 16.29 per cent of total expenditure. School attendance had almost doubled in the last three years, expenditure on education accounting for 15 per cent of the budget. One social phenomenon that deserved mention was the success of Christian evangelization, whereby at least 45 per cent of the population had been converted. The missions gave the Government valuable assistance, in return for which they received large subsidies from the Government.

40. Turning to the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954 (T/1141), he said that he did not question either the good faith of the authors or their concern for the welfare of the population. Neither did he doubt their desire to give credit to the Belgian Administration where they considered it due, as was apparent from paragraphs 190, 209, 101, 223, 224, 228, 289, 293, 291, 290 and 309 of the report. Nevertheless, the Belgian Government had the most serious reservations to make with regard to several aspects of the report.

41. In the first place, the Mission did no more than make a passing reference to a few outstanding achievements which impressed all visitors, such as reforestation (para. 44), which now covered 50,000 hectares; the two tuberculosis sanatoria (paras. 56 and 84), which were unique in tropical Africa; the processing of hides (para. 218); fish farming (para. 65); and measures to combat erosion.

42. Secondly, he drew attention to the guarded terms the Mission used in referring to any achievements which were to the credit of the Administration; examples of that were to be found in paragraphs 21, 27, 37, 46, 51, 58, 203, 210 and 289. Yet all those cases concerned facts which the Mission could easily have checked. Moreover, when referring to programmes which were in progress the Mission adopted a negative attitude; instead of giving its opinion of the work that had already been accomplished it merely drew attention to what had yet to be done. That was the case with respect to the secondary vocational school being constructed at Usumbura (para. 22), the houses built by the Bureau for African Housing (para. 26), and the Ruzizi electrification project (para. 220). Elsewhere the Mission, as if it was suggesting new projects, invited the Belgian Government to do the very things for which specific provision had already been made in its programme, or to go on with certain action when there was nothing

to lead the Mission to suppose that such action was to be abandoned (paras. 27, 146, 202 and 293).

43. Lastly, the report called for more serious reservations, to which the Trusteeship Council should devote the fullest attention, since they concerned the spirit in which the Mission had conceived its role and drawn up its report. The task of a visiting mission was to help the Council to give a proper interpretation of the figures and the standard terms used in the Administering Authority's report, as also to make a detailed examination of any special questions which the Council might instruct it to study and to investigate on the spot the allegations set forth in petitions. A visiting mission would be exceeding its authority if it prejudged the Council's conclusions and made recommendations to the Administering Authority. Unfortunately that was what the 1954 Visiting Mission had done, although it had spent only three weeks in the Territory, which none of its members had ever visited before. Basing itself on preconceived ideas and historical examples foreign to Ruanda-Urundi, it had made detailed recommendations to the Administering Authority on its policy, the date for the achievement of independence, the rate and stages of development, the composition of councils, all of which betrayed a total ignorance of conditions in the Territory. It was noteworthy that for the first time in the history of visiting missions, the Chairman of the Mission had refused to associate himself with the principal conclusions reached by his colleagues, feeling that there was not sufficient evidence available to the Mission upon which to formulate its recommendations (para. 136). Previous missions had adopted their reports unanimously, a fact that ensured their balance and gave them authority.

44. A striking example of the Mission's lack of balanced judgment was to be found in the passage relating to certain anonymous petitions (paras. 90 to 96). By preserving the anonymity of the petitioners, the Mission had done them more harm than good, because it had confirmed their fears, and it had done the Administering Authority an injustice, for it had given the indigenous inhabitants the impression that it shared their apprehensions about possible reprisals. Equally serious was the fact that the procedure it had followed was not in conformity with the instructions and the established practice of the Trusteeship Council. In no case, unless the Council decides otherwise, could anonymous petitions be given general distribution. The members of the Mission, who had not participated in the work of the Council when it had dealt with that question, could be excused for not having known or for having overlooked that principle; the Secretariat should, however, have reminded them of it before allowing a summary of an anonymous petition to be included in the Mission's report, which would be given general distribution.

45. Lastly, he referred to two passages in the report where the lack of balanced judgment went so far as to allow of the use of intemperate language. One instance of that was paragraph 307, which declared that foremost among the difficulties to be overcome in the social field was "the declared policy of the Administering Authority of going slow in deference to the under-developed nature of the people"—a charge that was patently absurd. Another instance was to be found in paragraph 129, which stated that the Administering Authority placed "greater emphasis on economic progress than on political development", which was not true. It

was in order to promote political advancement that the Administering Authority was emphasizing economic, social and cultural development, which was a prerequisite for political development. It was, indeed, anxious that the people of Ruanda-Urundi should become able to govern themselves in accordance with the standards of a civilized democracy.

46. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the differences between the views of the Visiting Mission and the considered policy of the Administering Authority would not confuse the minds of the people in the Territory and destroy the confidence that had allowed progress to be made in the past and which was the guarantee of still greater progress in the future. He asked the Trusteeship Council to regard his statement as an integral part of the Administering Authority's comments (T/1164 and Corr.2) on the Visiting Mission's report.

47. Mr. LEROY (Special representative for Ruanda-Urundi) said that he would confine himself in his introductory statement to providing some explanations and some additional information. He would follow the order used in the Visiting Mission's report (T/1141).

48. To supplement the figures given in paragraph 7 of the report, he stated that according to the most recent calculations the indigenous population of the Territory was now 4,261,933 persons — an increase of more than 100,000 over 1954. During the same period the European population had increased by 153 and the Asian population by 300 persons.

49. It was stated in paragraph 10 of the Visiting Mission's report that legislation for the Territory was normally enacted by the Administering Authority in Belgium. It should be added that in almost all cases that legislation was enacted on the proposal of the African Administration and based on that Administration's drafts.

50. Contrary to what was said in paragraph 11, the indigenous courts dealt not only with customary cases but also with certain violations of statute law, such as the provisions concerning public drunkenness, nocturnal disturbance, games of chance and also all the violations provided for in the Decree of 14 July 1952 on political reorganization.

51. Expenditure under the budget mentioned in paragraph 12 had amounted to 672 million Congolese francs² in 1954. The budgetary estimate for 1955 was around 762 million francs.

52. Agricultural production had increased by 16 per cent from 1953 to 1954. Despite the misgivings of the Visiting Mission, coffee production had been maintained in 1954 and had reached a total of 13,600 tons. To complete the information given in paragraph 19 it should be noted that Usumbura now had a population of about 38,000 persons, including 2,500 Europeans and 750 Asians. Up to 31 December 1954 the Bureau for African Housing had provided some 2,000 houses for indigenous inhabitants. Throughout the Territory straw huts were gradually being replaced by houses built of tamped earth and other more durable materials.

53. When the Visiting Mission had attended a meeting of the Usumbura extra-customary councils it had gained the impression that the councillors were being consulted on matters that had already been decided and that they were not taking an active part in the meeting. He could reassure the Trusteeship Council on that score: when

the councillors were interested in an agenda item they were able to defend their point of view with great energy.

54. He assured the Council that the Administration would leave adequate pasture lands for the cattle-raisers who were affected by the implementation of the plans for the development of the Ruzizi plain.

55. Referring to the opinions cited in paragraph 61, he acknowledged that the dual problem of over-population and an excess of cattle was particularly acute in Ruanda. However, the problem also existed in Urundi, where there were seventy-one inhabitants and thirteen head of cattle per square kilometre. The over-population made it necessary to replace pastures by food crops, and the number of cattle should therefore be reduced.

56. The Visiting Mission had attended a play at the *Cercle des évolués* at Astrida and had interpreted the fact that the feminine role had had to be eliminated as proof that education for girls in the Territory was at a low level. In fact the cast had been drawn exclusively from the indigenous staff of the IRSAC (Institute for Scientific Research in Central Africa), on which there were no girls.

57. The children referred to in the complaint mentioned in paragraph 68 had not been admitted to the Astrida school group because they did not meet all the requirements — not because of their nationality. It was therefore not true that those children had been the victims of discrimination.

58. From 1953 to 1954 the European staff of the central Administration had increased by 5.8 per cent and the African staff by 15.2 per cent. Since 16 June 1953 the meetings of the Council of the Vice-Government-General had been public except where the President decided otherwise because of the topics under discussion. The recommendation contained in paragraph 152 was superfluous, since both in the Council and in the courts everyone could use the language that he preferred. The Africans who were capable of participating in the Council's work all understood French and were accustomed to use that language in discussing the questions brought before the Council.

59. He wished to elaborate on his opinion as recorded in paragraph 159 of the Visiting Mission's report. He recalled having stated that heads of the technical services could easily be chosen from among indigenous inhabitants, but that the exercise of executive power by the indigenous inhabitants might lead to clashes with the present local authorities, particularly in view of the reluctance in both Ruanda and Urundi to form a union. However, he had expressed those general views merely as his personal opinion and they did not represent the position of the Administering Authority. The final solution of the problem would depend to a great extent upon the Africans and their resources and abilities.

60. Attention should be drawn to the large sums placed at the disposal of the States and the chiefdoms. In 1953, the indigenous funds had had available to them a total of 328 million francs, whereas the Territory's revenue had amounted to about 619 million francs.

61. In view of the concern of some members of the Council, he had investigated the situation as regards the present chiefs: out of 81, 17 had succeeded their fathers; 16, close relatives; and 52, persons to whom they were not related. That showed that the office was not strictly hereditary, as some believed.

² 100 Congolese francs equal 100 Belgian francs.

62. The difficulty mentioned by the Visiting Mission in paragraph 170 was more theoretical than practical, since the Administration of the Territory was always consulted in all matters. Moreover, it should be borne in mind that for the past twenty years the Governors-General of the Belgian Congo had been former high officials of Ruanda-Urundi who were very well acquainted with the Territory's problems.

63. The indigenous welfare fund had spent 71 million francs in Ruanda-Urundi in 1954. The year 1954, in which there had been a considerable drop in coffee prices, had not been a bad one for the indigenous inhabitants, who had sold most of their crop before prices had collapsed. The drop had chiefly affected non-indigenous exporters.

64. The implementation of the ten-year plan for economic and social development was going forward and a number of new construction projects had been undertaken during the last quarter of 1954. The Administration considered that the development of transport should be left largely to private enterprise and it noted that transport was gradually being developed, although it called for large capital investment.

65. Industrial crops had increased by nearly 90 per cent in tonnage between 1949 and 1954, while food crops had increased by 77 per cent. The area of land under cultivation had also increased. Progress was being made in land conservation and reclamation by the use of ditches and hedges, the draining of marsh lands and irrigation. Contrary to the statement at the end of paragraph 203, there had been no appreciable amount of alienation of land in 1954, even for the establishment of new mission posts.

66. He was glad to report to the Council that an electric power plant with an annual capacity of almost 100 million kilowatt hours would be constructed near

Bukavu. It would probably be in operation within three years.

67. To correct an error contained in paragraph 247 of the report, he stated that Mr. Barnabé Ntunguka had been sentenced for ordinary criminal offences.

68. Labour regulations, which had undergone major changes in 1954, included new provisions concerning non-adult labourers. The employer was required to supply suitable housing for the worker and his family. In some regions an allowance might be paid in lieu of housing. The employer was not required to provide housing or to pay such an allowance to workers whose wages were above a certain level, to be determined by the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi. Contrary to the statement in paragraph 280, labour inspectors were responsible for the application of all legislative provisions relating to labour.

69. The Administration shared almost all the Visiting Mission's opinions in the matter of education.

70. Taking up the report of the World Health Organization (T/1159), he said that in 1955 the medical service would begin a large-scale anti-malaria campaign throughout the Territory. It was stated in the WHO report that the budget of the health service had amounted to 78,699,736 francs in 1953. That was an error: the budget had been 101,546,000 francs and had increased to 110,637,000 francs in 1954. Since 1954 all medical practitioners were required to take a fifteen-day training course in X-ray work. It was expected that a sanatorium and two hospitals would be opened in the first half of 1955. The school at Kabgayi should be added to the training schools for assistant midwives mentioned in the report. At the end of 1954 the medical staff had consisted of sixty-four doctors, one biologist and one radiologist.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.