



CONTENTS

	Page
Opening of the fifteenth session.....	1
Adoption of the agenda (T/1144).....	1
Election of the Vice-President.....	2

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

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

Opening of the fifteenth session

1. The PRESIDENT declared the fifteenth session of the Trusteeship Council open.
2. He expressed the hope that the Trusteeship Council would perform increasingly fruitful work in the development of the International Trusteeship System. It had been repeatedly said that the paritary structure of the Council prevented it from following any definite policy or from adopting any resolution or recommendation, however trivial, to which the Administering Authorities were opposed. There was some truth in that statement; nevertheless it must be recognized that, thanks to the goodwill of the Administering Authorities and also to the help given by many delegations in the Council and the General Assembly, progress had been made on the road towards the final goal, the termination of the Trusteeship System.
3. He did not think he would be accused of undue optimism if he declared his faith in the capacity of the United Nations to carry out the enormous task of watching over the welfare and progress of vast numbers of human beings who would at some future time be called upon to share in all the benefits of civilization.
4. He welcomed Mr. BARGUES, who had replaced Mr. PIGNON as French representative on the Council; Mr. GRUBYAKOV, who had taken the place of Mr. TSARAPKIN as the representative of the USSR; and Mr. LALL, who was temporarily replacing Mr. KRISHNA MENON as Indian representative.
5. He also welcomed Mr. COHEN, Under-Secretary in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories, who had succeeded Mr. HOO, the former Assistant Secretary-General in charge of that Department. He wished every

success in their new functions to Mr. HOO and also to Mr. BUNCHE, former Director of the Division of Trusteeship.

6. The Trusteeship Council dealt with one of the most important aspects of United Nations work. He hoped that the work of the fifteenth session would be a worthy contribution towards the attainment of a world in which men and nations would respect, help and understand one another in the realization that the good of one was the good of all.

Adoption of the agenda (T/1144)

[Agenda item 1]

At the invitation of the President, Miss Davila (Colombia), Mr. Osman (Egypt) and Mr. Carpio (Philippines), representatives of States members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, took places at the Council table.

7. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1954, recommended in paragraph 4 of its report on Somaliland under Italian administration (T/1143), that the Council should include the report in the agenda of its current session, because of the urgency of a number of problems in the Territory. He asked for the views of members of the Council on the question.

8. Mr. GUIDOTTI (Representative of Italy as Administering Authority for Somaliland) assured the Council that his Government would study the 1954 Visiting Mission's report with the greatest care. It was not, however, in a position to debate it immediately, especially as the report contained a number of criticisms of the Administering Authority, of which some might be justified since human nature was fallible, but others, he felt, were not justified at all.

9. Italy fully realized the difficulty of the task ahead and for that very reason it felt that the Trusteeship Council, before formulating any recommendation, should have a complete picture of the situation. At the next session of the Council the Italian Government would have submitted its report for 1954 and the special representative would be able to give up-to-date information about the work of the Administration in various fields and the report of the Advisory Council for Somaliland would also be available. He therefore urged that a consideration of the Visiting Mission's report on Somaliland under Italian administration and also item 11 of the provisional agenda, which concerned General Assembly resolution 855 (IX) on the financing of the economic development plans of Somaliland under Italian administration and which was closely linked with paragraph 328 of the Visiting Mission's report, should be postponed to the sixteenth session of the Council.

10. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) thought it might be useful if the members of the Visiting Mission were given an opportunity to present their views.

11. Mr. FORSYTH (Australia) and Mr. BARGUES (France) supported the Italian representative's suggestion.

12. The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any objection, item 11 of the provisional agenda (T/1144) and the consideration of the Visiting Mission's report on Somaliland under Italian administration (T/1143) would be postponed to the sixteenth session.

It was so decided.

The provisional agenda (T/1144), as amended, was adopted.

13. Mr. LALL (India), in view of the fact that several of the agenda items required further study, and that Mr. Krishna Menon would not return to New York before March, asked whether item 15, on the Togoland Unification problem and the future of the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration, could be considered after the items relating to Ruanda-Urundi. He proposed that item 6, concerning arrangements for the periodic visiting mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, which was obviously connected with item 15, should be considered at the end of the present session, in March.

14. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) and Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium) agreed to the proposed rearrangement of the time-table.

The Indian proposal was adopted.

Election of the Vice-President

15. The PRESIDENT noted that the President and Vice-President of the Council were elected on an individual rather than a national basis. Mr. Pignon's departure therefore left the Council without a Vice-President, an unprecedented situation for which the rules of procedure made no provision. The Council

might consider electing a Vice-President to serve for the unexpired part of Mr. Pignon's term. Under rule 19 of the rules of procedure, the Council elected its President and Vice-President in June. If it wished to proceed to the immediate election of a Vice-President, rule 19 could be suspended, in accordance with rule 106.

It was so decided.

16. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) nominated Mr. BARGUES (France) to succeed Mr. Pignon as Vice-President.

17. Mr. S. S. LIU (China), Mr. EGUIZABAL (El Salvador), Mr. SCHEYVEN (Belgium), Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) and Mr. SEARS (United States of America) supported the nomination.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	12
<i>Invalid ballots:</i>	1
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	11
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	11
<i>Required majority:</i>	6
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Mr. BARGUES (France)	10
Mr. Lall (India)	1

Having obtained the required majority, Mr. BARGUES (France) was elected Vice-President of the Council for the unexpired part of Mr. Pignon's term.

18. Mr. BARGUES (France) thanked the Council for the honour it had done to his country in electing him Vice-President. His career had been devoted to the administration of French Overseas Territories and he had endeavoured to the best of his ability to assist backward populations in their political, economic, social and cultural advancement. He was no stranger, therefore, to the principles and problems with which the Trusteeship Council was concerned.

The meeting rose at 12.10 p.m.