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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, 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 conditions in the Trust Territory of Western Samoa: annual report of the Administering Authority (T/1119, T/1122, T/1126) (continued)**

[Agenda item 4 (b)]

*At the invitation of the President, Mr. Edmonds, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Western Samoa, took a place at the Council table.*

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

1. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa), referring to the table in the section entitled "Organization" of the observations of UNESCO on the annual report of the Administering Authority for 1953 (T/1126), explained that the drop in the number of mission schools was probably due to the fact that several of them had been amalgamated. He also drew attention to a mistake in the table in the section entitled "Policy and administration", in the same document: the funds from New Zealand for the year 1953 amounted to £28,470 and not to £37,200. With regard to the final paragraph of the document, most of the pupils attending the pastor schools were children; as far as he was aware, adult education was provided by those schools. He explained that the reduction in the number of government schools during the year had been due to reorganization and amalgamation.

2. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) was gratified to hear of the opening of Samoa College, which was an important step in the educational advancement of the Terri-

tory. He wondered whether the Administering Authority had assumed the entire cost of building the College.

3. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the Administering Authority had originally made a grant of £88,000 to build Samoa College. Owing to rising prices, the estimate of the total cost of the College had since increased by some £50,000, which would be met by the Administering Authority. Of the figure of £28,470 already mentioned as granted in 1953, £15,000 had been spent in 1953 on the building of the College.

4. Mr. MAX (France) asked whether the mission schools were subsidized.

5. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that no direct grants were made to mission schools. Some missions believed that such grants would not be desirable. They received assistance, however, in other ways; for example, mission school teachers could take training and three-week refresher courses at the Teachers Training College, during which they had no expenses to pay. Lastly, the missions received exemption from duty on materials and equipment used for building and equipping their schools.

6. Mr. MAX (France) felt that the mission schools ought to be given direct financial assistance in view of the important part they played in Western Samoa, as in most parts of Oceania.

7. He also considered that it was desirable both for scientific purposes and in order to preserve the Samoan cultural heritage to propagate Samoan folklore in written form. Such work would now be possible, as a dictionary and grammar of the Samoan language had been prepared. Samoans would also be much more interested in reading if books recalling their own traditions were available.

8. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the Administering Authority intended to expedite such work, and explained the current position.

9. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what the percentage of children who received no education was in relation to the total number of children of school age. In view of the normal population growth, that percentage seemed likely to increase from year to year.

10. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that it seemed that about 12 per cent of children aged from 6 to 14 did not attend school. As the number of pupils increased each year, the main problem confronting the Territorial Government was the training of a continuously increasing number of teachers. The school rolls, particularly those of mission schools, were not always accurate or up to date; hence the figures in various documents for the number of children attending educational establishments contained a wide margin of error. At the beginning of the current year, 1,600 new pupils had been admitted to government schools. That figure, which more than

compensated for the normal annual increase in population, showed that the percentage of children of school age attending school had increased. The Administering Authority hoped that the organization of concentrated training courses for teachers would make it possible to solve the problem of the increase in the number of pupils. He would try to get more accurate figures concerning present primary school enrolments.

11. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the Administering Authority intended to supervise the mission schools and eventually to assume full responsibility for education in the Territory.

12. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that there was an increasing amount of supervision of the mission schools. Some of them found it difficult to obtain trained staff, and mission school teachers were therefore given the opportunity of taking refresher courses at the Teachers Training College established by the Government. Since 1953 persons at the stage of Form II could sit an examination for the primary school leaving certificate, which was required for entrance to Samoa College. The missions had displayed great interest in that certificate and it was thus probable that the mission school curricula would be changed to meet its requirements. Relations between the mission schools and the Director of Education and his staff were excellent.

13. The USSR representative's second point brought up a matter which would have to be settled by the Territorial Government, which was largely a Samoan Government, rather than by the Administering Authority. The future of the mission schools would depend largely on the beliefs and ideas of the Samoan leaders. The mission schools were likely to have an important part to play in education for some time to come. The education they gave was generally excellent. The best shorthand and typing school in the Territory was conducted by the Catholic Mission at Apia. To judge by the deliberations of the Council of the Territory, the Government did not intend to assume full responsibility for education in the Territory, because, in particular, it had neither the necessary financial resources nor trained staff.

14. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stressed that the educational situation was unsatisfactory and asked whether the Administering Authority had taken positive steps to develop the facilities available in the Territory for training new teachers.

15. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the Administration had already decided to extend the Teachers Training College. The only question still to be settled was whether the project would be financed by the Territorial Government or whether an application for a special grant would be submitted to the Administering Authority.

16. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) was pleased to note that the senior officers of the Education Department were conducting refresher courses for the teachers in their districts and requested some information about the education which those officers, many of whom were Samoans, had received.

17. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that most of the Samoan inspectors had been trained in the Territory but had all been in New Zealand for periods and considered that such secondments to New Zealand had been ex-

remely useful. The Administering Authority intended to continue that policy, which had produced excellent results.

18. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom), speaking on the basis of his personal experience in the Gold Coast, said that Dr. Beeby, Director of Education in New Zealand, had rightly stressed in his report the need for developing district primary schools so as to leave Samoa College free to concentrate on secondary education. The special representative had announced that four of the eight new district schools which the Department of Education was planning to establish were already open. That was excellent news. According to the annual report,<sup>1</sup> the Administration intended to staff those schools entirely with Samoan teachers, while Dr. Beeby recommended that they should be in charge of New Zealand head-teachers in accordance with the system that had been so successfully applied in Maori schools in New Zealand. He asked which of those aims was likely to be adopted.

19. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that the aims with regard to Samoa College and the district schools were really complementary. He personally was convinced that Dr. Beeby's suggestion would be quite acceptable to most Samoans, who, as they regarded knowledge of English as an essential part of their education, would be pleased if New Zealand teachers ran the district primary schools and conducted the English courses.

20. It was the intention of the education authorities to convert Samoa College into a fully secondary school, but that process would take time. At present, there were 54 secondary pupils and 200 primary pupils at the College. The Administration was actively continuing its district school building programme and hoped to work on two more schools in the current year, at Leulumoega (Upolu) and Moataa, not far from Apia.

21. Mr. TARAZI (Syria) noted that page 151 of the annual report indicated that no distinction was made between the various sections of the population in the matter of school attendance. It appeared, however, from page 148, that there was a combined school for the Samoan and European children living in the Apia area. He asked whether the special representative could explain the apparent contradiction.

22. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that it was a question of abolishing the last remaining distinction in the educational field. The fact was that the European community in Apia, which had formerly been numerous and had spoken only English, had had a school at Leififi attended only by European children, while the Samoans had sent their children to the school at Malifa. In 1952, in view of changes in the European community, most of which had gradually come to use the Samoan language, the two schools had been combined and there was now only the Apia primary school, which was open to the children of all inhabitants, whether of European or Samoan status.

23. In reply to other questions by Mr. TARAZI (Syria), Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) explained the method whereby pupils given scholarships in New Zealand were selected. The candidates were chosen by examination from among the likeliest pupils in the various schools, then questioned

<sup>1</sup> See *Report by the New Zealand Government to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of Western Samoa for the Calendar Year 1953*, Department of Island Territories, Wellington, 1954.

by a selection board consisting, he thought, of the Director of Education, the *Fautua*, the Chairman of the Standing Education Committee of the Assembly, who was a Samoan, and one of the assistant secretaries. The Administering Authority normally accepted the recommendations of the selection board. The scholarship holders pledged themselves to return to the Territory and place their services at the disposal of the Administration. A scholarship holder could, of course, secure release from that pledge in exceptional circumstances, but as a general rule they all entered the public service.

24. Apart from the training courses organized in New Zealand for Samoan civil servants, the scholarships were the only form of aid provided by the Administration for persons desiring to continue their studies abroad. It should not be forgotten, however, that the missions also gave scholarships to their pupils; in addition, a part-Samoan boy was at present in the United States under a scholarship granted him pursuant to General Assembly resolution 557 (VI).

25. In reply to Mr. TARAZI (Syria), who asked for information about the libraries available to schools, Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that the Department of Education had a library of 5,200 volumes, which it circulated among the schools in turn so that all could derive the maximum benefit therefrom.

26. Mr. ROBBINS (United States of America) recalled that the 1952 report<sup>2</sup> had referred to a scheme for adult education through the radio, and inquired whether the Administration had taken any action in the matter.

27. Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) said that as a result of the report on adult education by Mr. Greenberg, Secretary of the New Zealand Broadcasting Department, the Executive Council had considered the matter in 1953 and had asked the Public Service Commissioner to appoint an officer who would be adult education officer and public relations officer. Since those two functions required different qualifications, the Public Service Commissioner had had some difficulty in finding a qualified candidate and had decided, after consultation with the Administration, to await Dr. Beeby's views on the organization and content of adult education in Western Samoa. The relevant recommendations in Dr. Beeby's report would be studied and no doubt carried into effect. Meanwhile, some educational talks for adults were broadcast by the Apia radio station.

28. Replying to an inquiry from Mr. S. S. LIU (China) as to whether the Administration still intended to send scholarship holders abroad even after Samoa College had been expanded, Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) replied that that was the present intention. The Administration would try, however, to increase the number of scholarships for higher education and decrease the number of those for education at lower grades.

29. In reply to a further observation by Mr. S. S. LIU (China), Mr. EDMONDS (Special representative for Western Samoa) pointed out that slightly more than half the pupils attending public primary schools were girls, whereas in the mission schools slightly more than half the pupils were boys.

<sup>2</sup> See *Report by the New Zealand Government to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of Western Samoa for the Calendar Year 1952*, Department of Island Territories, Wellington, 1953.

*The meeting was suspended at 4 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.*

#### GENERAL DEBATE

30. Sir Alan BURNS (United Kingdom) said the annual report on Western Samoa and the special representative's replies to the questions put to him had confirmed the favourable impression gathered from the visit he had made four years before to the Samoan people, certainly one of the most contented and fortunate people in the world. In Western Samoa, the indigenous community, justly proud of its traditional society, had been able to blend with its own customs the modern technical services and the political methods brought to it by the Administering Authority, which also deserved commendation for its wise and sane solution of the inter-racial problems.

31. Briefly recounting the main events of the year under review, he said that the Council had reason to be gratified at the care with which the Administering Authority was preparing the Territory for self-government. Past experience showed that it was better to put every new political or administrative institution to a practical test before embodying it in a constitutional document. In that connexion, he applauded the establishment of the standing committees of the Legislative Assembly, and also the Administration's intention, announced by the special representative, to appoint elected members of the legislature as chairman of committees, thus taking the first step towards the appointment of a Samoan as speaker.

32. The understanding way in which the Administering Authority carried out its responsibilities was notably apparent in the creation of the Apia Town Planning Committee. The special representative had said that some of the problems to which that Committee would attend should ideally be dealt with by a municipality. The Council should commend that statement. It should not forget, however, that, although by definition the purpose of its activities was to bring about ideal conditions in the Trust Territories, such conditions could not always be attained immediately. While keeping its ultimate ideals before it, the Council must sometimes be content with the most sensible solution of political, economic and social difficulties, having regard to the existing circumstances.

33. Members of the Council realized that self-government for any territory such as Western Samoa, if it was to mean anything at all, required not only a sufficient number of men and women willing and able to take an active part in political life, but also sufficient dedicated and trained persons to staff the public services and the judiciary. The training of the Samoans in political behaviour was possible only inside the Territory; it was difficult to specify what action should be taken, particularly in view of the fact that the Samoans already possessed an extremely effective community system of their own. Training of the future civil servants, however, could be conducted more precisely both in the Territory and in New Zealand, and the United Kingdom delegation noted with satisfaction what had already been accomplished in that respect.

34. The high standard of social services in Western Samoa was illustrated by the results achieved in the campaign against yaws, the treatment of lepers and the fall in the incidence of infant mortality. The development of educational work was another example of the commendable intentions of the Administering Au-

thority and its desire to facilitate the advancement of the Samoan people towards self-government.

35. While the Administering Authority was rightly satisfied that it was discharging its responsibilities under the Charter, it was nevertheless aware of the problems that were still to be overcome, for the Samoans, happy and prosperous though they were, would be faced with important decisions in the near future. The main political task confronting the Administering Authority and the Samoan political leaders would be to prepare, in consultation with the inhabitants of the Territory, a development plan and consider the pace at which the plan should be given effect. The special representative had explained to the Council that the conditions of society in Samoa inevitably affected the consideration of the political arrangements proposed by the Government of New Zealand. The United Kingdom delegation felt that the greatest prudence should be exercised and that nothing should be done to disrupt a society that had so much good in it. Moreover, the Samoans had always shown remarkable adaptability, which could be relied upon in the years to come. Accordingly, his delegation considered that the Council should endorse the arrangements proposed by the Administering Authority for discussion of the development plan by the Samoan people.

36. The special representative had stated that the economic survey of the Territory had not yet been completed. Sir Alan would therefore merely say that his delegation shared the concern felt by the Administering Authority and the members of the Council regarding the fact that the Samoan population was increasing at a greater rate than the food supply. The new Director of Agriculture would have a difficult task and deserved encouragement.

37. However great the problems to be solved, the United Kingdom delegation did not hesitate to place its full confidence in the Administering Authority, which had so far fully merited such confidence.

38. In conclusion, he thanked the special representative for his helpful and courteous replies.

39. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) considered that the Government of New Zealand should be congratulated on the bold spirit it had shown in conceiving the constitutional proposals and on the wisdom with which it was executing them. The Administering Authority had decided to give Samoans the opportunity to understand projects and to discuss them fully, in a manner consonant with local tradition. He had also been struck by the emphasis that the inhabitants placed on the necessity of leaving Samoan customs unchanged to the greatest possible degree where constitutional matters were concerned: the Trusteeship Council would do well to respect that desire.

40. Reviewing briefly his previous remarks on taxation, production, customs duties, labour legislation and the establishment of a public library, he turned to the question of education. The Beby report had been cited in criticism of the organization of public education. It had been pointed out that a number of children did not attend school. It should be borne in mind that the Beby report sought to point out to the Samoans that, in spite of the privileged position of the Territory, much remained to be done. The report was therefore necessarily critical and ambitious. The 1951 census showed that out of a total of 21,500 children from 6 to 14 years of age, 20,607 children regularly attended primary school, without taking into account the pupils attending

pastor schools. It could thus be said that the entire population could read and write. Girls also attended school at least as regularly as boys. Those were results for which the Administering Authority deserved commendation. Referring to the question of Samoa College, he recognized the need to provide, as an annex to the secondary school, primary education facilities for children who would not attain the necessary standards in the existing schools. Primary instruction should be provided in other schools, however, while district schools improved their methods, and Samoa College should provide secondary education only. In that connexion he pointed out that the College had been financed by special grants-in-aid by the metropolitan Government of the Administering Authority.

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

### **General Assembly resolution 789 (VIII): Control and limitation of documentation (T/1120) (continued)**

[Agenda item 13]

#### **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONTROL AND LIMITATION OF DOCUMENTATION (T/L.477)**

41. Mr. SINGH (India), speaking as Chairman of the Committee on Control and Limitation of Documentation, submitted the Committee's report (T/L.477) to the Council, and pointed out that the Committee's conclusions and recommendations had been carefully considered and adopted without opposition.

42. Mr. LOOMES (Australia) congratulated the Committee and its Chairman on the rapid completion of their work and said that he supported the Committee's proposals and observations.

43. He was particularly glad that the Committee had suggested that the delegations should, wherever possible, supply special representatives with copies of questions that they intended to ask. That measure would tend to reduce the number of questions asked.

44. With regard to the observations on the date of the submission of annual reports, his delegation would undertake to follow the Committee's suggestion by submitting documents several months in advance, although their preparation required a great deal of work by the Administering Authorities.

45. Mr. QUIROS (El Salvador) supported the report and congratulated the Committee. He particularly welcomed the statement in the report regarding observations made during the questioning period.

46. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) noted that the Committee's report supported the proposals made by the Secretary-General in report T/1120. The USSR delegation did not agree that the drafting committees, in formulating draft conclusions and recommendations, should take into account only formal draft resolutions. His delegation opposed the adoption of such a procedure.

47. According to paragraph 9 of the report, the Committee attached importance to including the individual observations of members in the Council's report to the General Assembly. However, the report went on to propose that the representatives' opinions should be condensed. He pointed out that that was directed mainly against the non-administering members of the Council since the Administering Authorities could, by acting together, block any proposal from being included

in the recommendations of the Council. Consequently, his delegation could not agree to any condensation of the oral observations of the Council members.

48. His delegation also opposed the proposed change in the form of the Trusteeship Council's report to the General Assembly. That report was one of the main documents of the Trusteeship Council. The General Assembly should be given a complete report every year, not every three years. The same was true with respect to the report to the Security Council. All sixty Members of the United Nations should be kept informed of the Council's activities.

49. On the other hand, it was advisable that the questioning period and the general debate should not be rigidly separated. The practice whereby members of the Trusteeship Council could make their observations during the questioning period had been found to be fully justified.

50. The situation with respect to the date of submission of annual reports had not improved. Nor were sufficient copies of the reports available. In view of those circumstances the USSR agreed with the Committee that the Trusteeship Council should draw the attention of the Administering Authorities to the need to comply with rule 72 of the rules of procedure.

51. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) noted that the procedure of submitting written questions prepared in advance had already been tried but without success. Failure was due to the desire to make the questions completely formal. It would be useful, as the Committee suggested, if the delegations advised the special representative informally of the points on which they desired additional information. That procedure would save time.

52. With regard to the drafting of conclusions and recommendations, he agreed with the USSR representative that not all the observations to be included in the report should necessarily be in the form of draft resolutions. The delegations themselves could distinguish between the observations which they wished to submit to the Administering Authorities and those that they wished to incorporate in formal recommendations to the Council. When preparing the drafting committees' work, the Secretariat could easily bear that distinction in mind, and the Council's work would be made much easier.

53. With regard to individual statements by members of the Council, a proposal made by a representative could of course properly be recorded in the Council's report even if that body had not accepted it, as the USSR representative wished. It was not necessary, however, to record all the statements made during the consideration of the annual reports, and, if the Secretariat confined itself to referring to those submitted by representatives in writing or even orally but not adopted, the Council's report would be much shorter and more readable and at the same time embody what was essential.

54. He agreed with the Committee's views with regard to the other proposals.

55. Mr. SINGH (India), speaking as the Chairman of the Committee on Control and Limitation of Documentation, said that the Committee had asked that the annual reports should be submitted well in advance only because of recent delays in their submission and in order to limit documentation.

56. With regard to proposals by representatives, the Committee had merely asked that the conclusions and recommendations for incorporation in the Council's

report should be indicated clearly in order to avoid omissions. It was only to help members that the suggestion had been made that their conclusions and recommendations should be presented formally. Paragraph 7 of the report, dealing with that point, was merely to ensure that the drafting committee's report recorded all recommendations and conclusions that members wished incorporated in it.

57. As to giving observations made during meetings in a summary form, the members concerned would undoubtedly be happy to see that done.

58. Finally, with regard to the report to the General Assembly, it would be for the Assembly itself to decide on the Committee's recommendation. To reproduce the same information year after year was no mark of efficiency; if such repetition was discontinued, fresh facts would be highlighted.

59. Mr. ASHA (Syria) entirely agreed with the Chairman of the Committee. The drafting committee's work would be speeded if representatives made specific proposals, as had been done in the Drafting Committee on Somaliland.

60. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) observed that the text of paragraph 7 fully covered the point raised by the USSR representative, providing as it did simply that members of the Council should submit their proposals either in the form of written drafts or by incorporating them in statements made during the discussion. Obviously, members of the Council should themselves make clear, in one way or the other, which of their observations they wished to be incorporated in a recommendation in order to help the Secretariat and prevent the report from being too bulky.

61. Mr. SINGH (India) agreed; the second sentence of paragraph 7 of the Committee's report made it quite clear that members of the Council remained entirely free to choose either method.

62. Mr. HOO (Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self Governing Territories) said that the Secretary-General's views were in full accord with those set forth by the Committee in its report. At the 528th meeting he had explained that the Secretary-General's suggestions were simply that members of the Council should indicate those observations which they would like the drafting committees to take into consideration, either by submitting the text in writing or by giving such indications in their statements during the discussion, but that they would in no way be bound to adopt the first method. The important thing was that the Secretariat should know members' intentions and should not have to incorporate in the document it was preparing, as it now did, all the observations made during the discussion, even those which the speaker did not wish to have reproduced as recommendations by the Council, and it would consequently be able to draft a less bulky document. Proposals in writing would be considered in the context of all the opinions expressed during the debate; the Committee's terms of reference would still be to prepare conclusions and recommendations which it considered as reflecting the majority opinion of the Council. Consequently, if it so happened that the consideration of conditions in a Territory called for a recommendation by the Council which had not been the subject of any written or oral proposal by a member, the Committee could on its own account add a new recommendation to those proposed by members of the Council, using the records of the meetings for the purpose.

63. The USSR representative had said that under the new procedure individual observations by members of the Council would not be inserted in the report. That was not at all the Secretary-General's intention; as he had already stated, under the Secretary-General's proposal no limit whatsoever would be placed on the right of any delegation to have its opinion on any subject included in the report of the Council. Conversely, the Secretariat would no longer have to prepare a bulky document which under the present procedure was almost automatically reproduced in the report.

64. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) observed that, according to the Assistant Secretary-General's statement, the procedure hitherto followed would not be appreciably changed but simply rearranged so that the drafting committees could work better. Thus, it was generally agreed that that procedure was, on the whole, satisfactory. The Council might therefore express an opinion to that effect in its report and add that, in order to facilitate the drafting committees' work, it considered it desirable that delegations should indicate more clearly what conclusions or recommendations they were proposing. Nothing in the rules of procedure prevented members of the Council from submitting their proposals in writing, if they so wished. What the USSR delegation could not accept was that they should be compelled to do so. He had already pointed out that the wording of the Committee's report was open to misinterpretation on that point.

65. Mr. HOO (Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) repeated that the Secretary-General's report should be construed in the light of the explanations which he himself had given at the 528th meeting, as the Committee had done in its report. In that context there could be no misunderstanding about the Secretary-General's opinion that members of the Council would be in no way bound to submit their proposals or recommendations in writing.

66. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) felt that the adoption of a formula such as that suggested by the USSR

representative would not be enough to solve the problem. Each member of the Council should indicate explicitly that, in his opinion, the Council should make some recommendation, in order that the Secretariat could know what it should incorporate in the document it was preparing. The Belgian delegation pledged itself to give the requisite indications very clearly so that the Secretariat would never have to incorporate any observation made by it unless it had stated explicitly that it would like to have that observation reproduced in a recommendation.

67. Mr. ASHA (Syria) said that he was not opposed to the Secretary-General's proposal. He did, however, appreciate the USSR representative's misgivings and thought that members of the Council should not be bound by any such obligation. He accordingly proposed that paragraph 7 should be amended by the addition, at the end of the second sentence, of the words "if they so desire".

68. Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) said that the Council could not amend the Committee's report.

69. Mr. ASHA (Syria) believed that nothing in the rules of procedure prevented the Council from amending a report which it was considering.

70. Mr. SINGH (India) and Mr. LOOMES (Australia) believed that the Council could not amend the Committee's report. However, when it adopted its own conclusions on the basis of the report, it could either adopt the Committee's wording or redraft it, if it deemed fit.

71. The PRESIDENT said that the Council must, in any case, first take note of the Committee's report.

72. Mr. SINGH (India) moved the adjournment of the meeting.

73. The PRESIDENT put the motion for adjournment to the vote.

*The motion was adopted by 6 votes to none, with 5 abstentions.*

The meeting rose at 6.10 p.m.