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**President: Mr. Emilio ARENALES CATALAN**  
(Guatemala).

*Present:*

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

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

**Examination of petitions**

[Agenda item 5]

TWO HUNDRED AND FIRST REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS: PETITIONS CIRCULATED UNDER RULE 85, AND COMMUNICATIONS CIRCULATED UNDER RULE 24, OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL (T/L.812)

1. Mr. JAIPAL (India) observed that the Standing Committee on Petitions had examined the six reports submitted by the Committee on Classification of Communications (T/C.2/L.310-315). In most cases it had approved that Committee's recommendations. When no formal recommendation had been made the Standing

Committee had itself made a recommendation to the Trusteeship Council.

2. The PRESIDENT suggested that the Council should adopt the recommendations contained in the first three reports of the Committee on Classification, as they appeared in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of document T/L.812.

*These recommendations were adopted without objection.*

3. At the request of Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), the PRESIDENT put to a separate vote the recommendation set forth in the first sentence of sub-paragraph 6 (a) of document T/L.812.

*That recommendation was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.*

4. Mr. JAIPAL (India) asked for a separate vote on each of the remaining sentences of sub-paragraph 6 (a).

5. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) failed to see how the Council could vote on a text which was a statement of fact rather than a proposal.

6. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) maintained that the three sentences to which the Indian representative had referred did indeed contain recommendations, and he asked the President to put them to the vote separately. The Soviet delegation would vote against those recommendations because they would have the result of eliminating petitions dealing with important questions or making them inadmissible, which was contrary to the provisions of rule 81 of the rules of procedure.

7. Mr. JAIPAL (India) said that he did not think the second sentence of sub-paragraph 6 (a) should be put to the vote, since it referred to a proposal which had already been rejected by the Standing Committee on Petitions.

8. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what treatment would be given to the petition in document T/PET.4 and 5/11, to which the proposal referred.

9. The PRESIDENT considered that, by taking note of the report, the Trusteeship Council would confirm the decision taken by the Standing Committee on Petitions.

10. Mr. JAIPAL (India) recalled that the petition in T/PET.4 and 5/11 had first been provisionally classified by the Secretariat. Subsequently the Committee on Classification had recommended that it should be reclassified in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure. In the Committee on Petitions it had been proposed that the established procedure should be applied to the petition, but the proposal had been rejected. The Indian delegation now made a formal proposal that the Classification Committee's recommendation should be put to the vote.

11. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in the second sentence of sub-paragraph 6 (a), which concerned document T/PET.4 and 5/11.

*That recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.*

12. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) could not see the point of the vote which had just taken place; he wondered what would have happened to the various petitions if the Council had not adopted the recommendation of the Standing Committee on Petitions. In future the Council should not be invited to vote against a decision of the Standing Committee on Petitions unless a formal proposal for a specific classification of the document in question had been submitted to it.

13. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in the third sentence of sub-paragraph 6 (a) of the report, which concerned documents T/PET.7/531 and T/PET.7/533.

*That recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.*

14. The PRESIDENT put to the vote the recommendation in the last sentence of sub-paragraph 6 (a), which concerned document T/PET.5/888, section 2.

*That recommendation was adopted by 8 votes to 1, with 5 abstentions.*

15. At the request of Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), the PRESIDENT put sub-paragraph (b), (c), and (d) of paragraph 6 to the vote separately.

*The recommendation in sub-paragraph 6 (b) was adopted by 11 votes to none, with 3 abstentions.*

*The recommendation in sub-paragraph 6 (c) was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.*

*The recommendation in sub-paragraph 6 (d) was adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.*

16. With regard to paragraph 7, Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), proposed that the established procedure should be applied to the petitions circulated under symbols (T/COM.7/L.56 to 70, inclusive).

*The USSR proposal was rejected by 7 votes to 5, with 2 abstentions.*

17. At the request of Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), the PRESIDENT put the recommendation in the last sentence of paragraph 7 to a separate vote.

*That recommendation was adopted by 7 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions.*

*The recommendations in paragraph 7, as a whole, were adopted by 7 votes to none, with 7 abstentions.*

18. Mr. ZADOTTI (Italy) pointed out that the recommendations which the Council had just approved referred in particular to petitions from Somaliland under Italian administration. Most of the petitions were directed against the Somali Government. In view of the Territory's constitutional development and its Government's position, he reserved the Italian delegation's attitude with regard to those petitions.

*The recommendations in sub-paragraph 8 (a) were adopted by 8 votes to none, with 6 abstentions.*

*The recommendations in sub-paragraph 8 (b) were adopted by 7 votes to 1, with 6 abstentions.*

#### REQUESTS FOR HEARINGS (T/PET.5/1095 AND ADD.1-3)

19. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the petitioner, Mr. Ngondjeu Paul, complained of having been wrongfully dismissed from the Société commerciale de l'ouest africain on the pretext that his accounts were

not in order. The Administering Authority stated in document T/OBS.5/115 that the Société had brought an action against the petitioner for misappropriation of funds and that the matter was before the court at Yaoundé.

20. As the question was a complicated one, the Council might perhaps decide to refer the request for a hearing to the Standing Committee on Petitions, asking it to submit a report as soon as possible as to whether or not it should be granted.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Report of the Trusteeship Council covering the period from 15 August 1956 to 12 July 1957 (General Assembly resolution 1205 (XII))**

[Agenda item 10]

21. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should take note of resolution 1205 (XII) in which the General Assembly recommended that, in its future deliberations, the Council should take into account the comments and suggestions made in the course of the discussion, at the twelfth session of the General Assembly, of the report of the Trusteeship Council covering the period from 15 August 1956 to 12 July 1957 (A/3595 and Corr.1).

*It was so decided.*

#### **Attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories (General Assembly resolution 1207 (XII))**

[Agenda item 12]

22. The PRESIDENT recalled that General Assembly resolution 1207 (XII) requested the Council to examine the measures taken by the Administering Authorities to ensure that the five African Territories which were still under trusteeship achieved self-government or independence at an early date. He proposed that the Council should take note of that resolution in order that it might be taken duly into account when the various annual reports were examined.

23. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) supported that suggestion on the understanding that the Council would have an opportunity of reverting to the question later if it felt that it should be examined in greater detail.

24. Mr. JAIPAL (India) concurred. He pointed out, however, that it would be advisable not only to take note of General Assembly resolution 1207 (XII), but to refer it specifically to the committees responsible for drafting the different sections of the Council's annual report relating to each of the Trust Territories, in order that they might bear it in mind when drafting the conclusions and recommendations which the Council, in its resolution 1369 (XVII), had requested them to prepare on the question of the attainment of self-government or independence.

25. Mr. HOOD (Australia) did not think that the Council could formally draw the drafting committee's attention to a General Assembly resolution. The Australian delegation interpreted the President's proposal as meaning simply that when they examined the reports relating to the various Territories, members of the Council could refer to resolution 1207 (XII) if they thought fit.

26. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) pointed out that in any case the Council would have to approve

the reports submitted to it by the drafting committees, so that it would have every opportunity of reverting to the question later.

27. Mr. MUFTI (Syria) agreed in principle with the President's proposal that the General Assembly resolution should be examined at the same time as the annual reports submitted by the Administering Authorities. It would be well, however, for the Council, when it had completed the examination of those reports, to devote one or two meetings to the question of the attainment of self-government or independence, since it would then be in a position to form a general idea of the situation.

28. Turning to the substance of the matter, he noted that in its resolution 1207 (XII) the General Assembly noted with disappointment that the Administering Authorities concerned had not yet submitted the estimates of the periods of time required by the Trust Territories for the attainment of the final objective of trusteeship, and he hoped that that comment would stimulate the Administering Authorities to greater efforts. Some of the annual reports appeared to have been drafted before the adoption of the General Assembly resolution. The Syrian delegation therefore hoped that the special representatives of the Administering Authorities concerned would be in a position to supplement the reports and to supply the Council with any new data which would enable it to examine that important question with full knowledge of the facts.

29. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should follow the procedure he had suggested, taking into account the reservations which had been made.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories (General Assembly resolution 1210 (XII))**

[Agenda item 15]

30. The PRESIDENT announced that the Secretariat was preparing a document on the anticipated effects of the European Economic Community on the development of certain Trust Territories, which would no doubt not be submitted before the Council's twenty-second session. The Council would, however, be examining at its present session the situation in three of the four Territories on which the European Economic Community would have repercussions. It would perhaps be desirable for the Council to bear that point in mind when it examined the annual reports.

31. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) thought that it would be difficult to study the question as long as the information to be supplied by the Administering Authorities and the Secretariat's study were not available. He asked whether the question would appear as a special item on the agenda of the twenty-second session and whether he could feel sure that the examination of the question would not be limited in the future by the fact that the Council had already studied the position in three of the Territories concerned at its present session.

32. The PRESIDENT replied that the question would be included in the provisional agenda of the Council's next session.

33. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) proposed at the present session the Council should hear any observations which delegations wished to make on the question of the effects of the European Economic Com-

munity on the development of certain Trust Territories, and ask the Administering Authorities to supply it, during the present or the succeeding session, with all the information they had on the subject. It would be advantageous for the members of the Council to have such information in advance in order to be able to supplement it when the question was examined at the twenty-second session.

34. Mr. KOSCIUSKO-MORIZET (France) emphasized that his delegation had no intention of trying to evade a study of the effects which its membership of the European Economic Community would have on the economy of the Trust Territories. It was premature, however, to supply the information requested for the time being. There would be no changes during the present year. It would be better to wait for such information to be collated by the Secretariat, more particularly under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

35. The PRESIDENT said that the question would appear on the provisional agenda of the Council's next session and that in the meantime representatives were invited to bear it in mind when the annual reports were examined.

*It was so decided.*

36. Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) said that his delegation was absolutely unable to supply any information whatsoever concerning the application of the European Common Market to Ruanda-Urundi during the year under review.

37. Mr. MUFTI (Syria) felt that the decision as to which questions the special representatives should answer and the questions on which no replies could be given should be taken at the time the annual reports were examined.

38. Mr. JAIPAL (India) emphasized the importance of the problem raised by the Common Market, and felt that the reaction of the representatives of France and Belgium was somewhat disappointing. He hoped that the Administering Authorities and the special representatives would be able in the course of the present session to give an idea of the nature and extent of the association and of the role devolving upon the Trust Territories.

#### **Situation in the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration (General Assembly resolution 1211 (XII))**

[Agenda item 16]

39. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should take note of General Assembly resolution 1211 (XII), the wording of which he recalled, and bear it in mind when the situation in the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration, and the terms of reference of the periodic visiting mission to West Africa in 1958, were examined.

*It was so decided.*

40. In reply to a question from Mr. JAIPAL (India), Mr. COHEN (Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) said that owing to the General Assembly's directive to limit documentation (resolution 1203 (XII)), the observations and suggestions made during the twelfth session of the General Assembly could not be set out in separate documents but members of the Council

would find the information they desired in the summary records distributed to them.

### **Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi:**

- (i) **Annual report of the Administering Authority for 1956 (T/1338, T/1352, T/L.810);**
- (ii) **Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1957 (T/1346)**

[Agenda items 4 (b) and 6 (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

41. Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) introduced the report of the Administering Authority for 1956<sup>1</sup>

42. After the First World War, when the boundaries of the Mandated Territory had been fixed, due account had been taken of the existence of its two kingdoms. As a result Ruanda-Urundi, for which Belgium was responsible, was a compact and homogeneous Territory from the physical and human point of view but was characterized by a deep-seated political dualism. The climate was relatively healthy and conditions were favourable for population growth. Despite similarities of origin, language, customs and social and political structure, the inhabitants nevertheless lived according to the tradition of two states (pays) which cherished their individuality, and it was on that foundation that the Belgian Administration was continuing their development.

43. The respect shown for that particularism had sometimes been criticized. It was felt by some that progress would have been more rapid had the past been erased and a unitary organization imposed upon the inhabitants. Paradoxically, the very same critics had sometimes deplored that European intervention in Africa had displayed lack of concern for the views of the population. But the United Nations Charter itself called for a proper consideration of the conditions peculiar to each Territory and the freely expressed aspirations of the inhabitants. The inhabitants had always favoured retention of the political individuality of the two states. Ruanda-Urundi would certainly have developed more slowly had the Administration not based its action on the traditional political organization of the two countries. The results achieved in Ruanda-Urundi had been the outcome of the joint efforts of the Belgian Administration and the indigenous inhabitants under the authority of their leaders. From the outset their co-operation had been full and fruitful and it remained the best guarantee of future progress.

44. There was another principle to which the Administering Authority attached the greatest importance: economic and social advancement must go hand in hand with political advancement. Progress in any country was an indivisible whole. It was by widening their personal horizons, by learning to manage their own affairs and by seeing their level of living rising that

<sup>1</sup> *Rapport soumis par le Gouvernement belge à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies au sujet de l'administration du Ruanda-Urundi pendant l'année 1956* (Brussels, Imprimerie Fr. Van Muysewinkel, 1957). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1338).

the Africans would learn to take an interest in public matters.

45. Turning to the economic sphere, he drew attention to the large sums expended on health and education. Sixteen per cent of the budget for 1957 had been allocated to the health service and 22 per cent to education. Furthermore, Belgium was doing a great deal to improve the equipment of the public services and to develop the economic infrastructure. Interest-free loans amounted to nearly 3,000 million Belgian francs.

46. Lastly, he expressed his delegation's thanks to the Chairman and members of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1957, which had recently been in the Territory for their courtesy in paying the Belgian Administration the tribute they felt it deserved.

47. Mr. LEROY (Special Representative) commended the Visiting Mission on the objectivity and accuracy of its report (T/1346). Referring to paragraph 9 of the report, he noted that the Mission had seen the increasing rate at which the traditional society in Ruanda-Urundi was adapting itself to modern democratic ideas and forms. The Administration encouraged that development. The measures it had taken had not been imposed by the pressure of events. On the other hand, the setting of a time-limit for the achievement of self-government could only serve to hamper the rate of development. Too many imponderables came into play. The Administration did not seek to delay the achievement of self-government, it merely wished to point out that the fixing of a date would be arbitrary or fanciful.

48. The Mission had clearly understood the Batutsi-Bahutu<sup>2</sup> problem. The Administration would be happy to see that term disappear. Moreover, it had never attached any institutional value to the status of Tutsi or Hutu. The effort made by the indigenous inhabitants under the authority of the Belgian Administration and the chiefs, usually Batutsi, should continue in an atmosphere of close union.

49. The Bahutu Manifesto (T/1346, annex I) advocated the giving up of certain customs and the codification of laws and customs. While custom presented certain disadvantages, hasty codification might well be even more dangerous. The Administration sought gradually to give a more satisfactory form to the complicated traditions. It was therefore reluctant to embody them too hastily in texts that might appear to be definitive.

50. In paragraph 53 of its report, the Visiting Mission referred to the view expressed by Mr. Van Bilsen that the legislator of 1952 had been at fault for having failed to advocate at the outset what Vice-Governor-General Harroy had had the courage to do when he had organized elections. However, Mr. Van Bilsen had failed to say that the 1952 law represented enormous progress over the 1943 Order and that the executive authority had been in a position to organize elections in 1956 only because the legislator had thought of that possibility. In fact, the elections had been held at the proper time, when it had been possible to hold them.

51. On 29 October 1957 the General Council had approved the loan of \$4,800,000 proposed by the Inter-

<sup>2</sup> "Batutsi" is the plural form of "Matutsi". The word "Tutsi" may be used to replace either of those forms. Similarly, "Hutu" may replace "Bahutu" (plural) or "Muhutu" (singular).

national Bank for Reconstruction and Development. At its January 1958 session, the General Council had been composed of twenty-four Europeans, eighteen Africans and an Asian. The African members had taken an active part in the discussions. The Mission stated in paragraph 77 of its report that there had been some opposition to the establishment of the General Council in certain European circles. It had apparently been misinformed. While those circles may have wanted Ruanda-Urundi to be represented in the Government Council at Leopoldville in order to ensure that the interests of the Territory would be better protected, they also wished to see the importance of the General Council enhanced.

52. The Mission had been surprised by the reluctance of the indigenous inhabitants to express views which the Administration might consider unconventional. Such reluctance was not surprising since the inhabitants of the Territory had lived for centuries in an atmosphere of intrigue, denunciation and reprisal. Some trace inevitably remained. Moreover, even among the most advanced peoples some persons preferred to invest their grievances with the cloak of anonymity rather than run the risk of having to substantiate their views.

53. The Mission had approved the Administration's economic actions. The ten-year plan was being carried out and, since 1952, Belgium granted the Territory an annual loan of 400 million francs. On 30 September 1957, appropriations had been distributed as follows: 40 per cent for economic development, 24 per cent for social affairs, 20 per cent for scientific equipment and public services and 16 per cent for construction work. Moreover, the number of Africans liable to the personal tax had increased from 262 in 1951 to 3,100 according to the latest figures, a striking indication of the continual improvement in their economic conditions. The co-operative movement continued to develop. The delicate question of distributing, between Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo, all the import duties collected for the customs union as a whole was currently under study.

54. Agriculture, particularly coffee, had had a good year in 1957. The cotton yield had increased from 637 to 824 kg. per hectare. A tea planter's co-operative was being formed.

55. The mining industry was in a less satisfactory position. The decline in world prices had compelled some concerns to reduce operations.

56. The Mission gave an accurate account of social advancement in its report. Emigration, brought about by the growth of the population, was fairly substantial and the Administration had taken steps to settle emigrants in the northern part of Katanga Province, in the Belgian Congo. Working conditions were governed by new legislation. The minimum wage had been raised in spite of difficult economic conditions for employers. That was why the family allowances scheme had not yet been adopted. The workers' pension scheme had come into force on 1 January 1957. Several professional associations had been established since the entry into force of the Decree of 25 January 1957. Five of them had sent representatives to the General Council.

57. The Administration had opened ten dispensaries. It was proceeding with its campaign against malaria and tuberculosis. Social welfare centres and workshops played an important part in the advancement of indigenous women. Huts were being replaced by dwellings built of more durable material.

58. Racial discrimination no longer existed. In every branch of activity Africans had been able to break down the barriers. Any differences which still existed were based on differences of education, language and customs, and they would quietly disappear within the next few years. Relations between Europeans and Africans were closer from day to day. The very principle of discrimination was rejected by all.

59. On the other hand, education was inadequate in spite of the fact that it already consumed 22 per cent of the Territory's annual resources. In 1957 the Administration had nevertheless been in a position to open a secondary school, an *école de monitrices* and three domestic science schools. It had appointed a committee on education which was examining conditions. Lastly, it had inaugurated at Astrida a new section of the State University for the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

#### ***Statement by the Chairman of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1957***

60. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti), as Chairman of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1957, introduced the report on Ruanda-Urundi (T/1346). Members of the Visiting Mission had tried to stress in the report certain problems which arose in that attractive but poor and over-populated Territory and they hoped that their observations, which supplemented the information from the Administering Authority, would be useful to the Council.

61. He had been impressed by the remarkable work undertaken in Ruanda-Urundi with regard to anti-erosion, reforestation, water supply and so forth.

62. He had also been struck by the fact that, contrary to his apprehensions, there had been a real political awakening in the Territory among the indigenous inhabitants, who were no longer content to confine their activities to traditional and customary institutions. That awakening had, however, complicated the serious and delicate problem of the co-existence of the Batutsi and the Bahutu, which created a number of difficulties peculiar to Ruanda-Urundi. He hoped that the Council would continue to pay close attention to the situation. He stressed that he had returned from East Africa more convinced than ever of the advisability and possibility of drawing up for the Territory, in addition to a ten-year plan for economic development, a political programme providing for progressive stages of development towards self-government and independence.

63. Educational advancement, which was very marked, also gave grounds for satisfaction. The Administration had set up a certain number of official and secular schools, where it was beginning to apply the principle of interracial education, although still on a modest scale. But much more remained to be done. Although there was a real thirst for knowledge among the population, the development of education gave rise to budgetary problems which were rightly a source of concern for the local authorities. He therefore hoped that the Administering Authority would give careful and favourable attention to the Visiting Mission's proposal to establish a special education fund (T/1346, para. 293).

64. On the other hand, the ignorance of the population of Ruanda-Urundi, including the large majority of the *élite*, of the existence, purposes and functioning of the United Nations and the Trusteeship System was to be deplored. That was a regrettable gap which the Administering Authority should take steps to fill.

65. As he was leaving shortly for Togoland under French administration as United Nations Commissioner for the elections and would not be able to participate in the debate on Tanganyika, he wished to submit some observations on that Territory, concerning which the Visiting Mission had also submitted a report (T/1345). The Mission had left Tanganyika in 1957 with a feeling of moderate optimism. Many indications, such as the speech made on 17 September by the Governor of Tanganyika, had caused them to think that the authorities were relaxing their attitude towards the political parties and were showing a desire for conciliation. Subsequent events had shaken that limited optimism; Press *communiqués* seemed to indicate that the visit in November 1957 of Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Secretary of State for the Colonies, had been accompanied by a regrettable stiffening of the official attitude. Thus, Mr. Lennox-Boyd had opposed any change in the electoral procedure, although some of the conditions required of the electors, such as the obligation to vote for three candidates of different races, had been criticized not only by the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU), but also by the United Tanganyika Party. In a statement delivered in the presence of the Secretary of State, the Governor had directly attacked the political parties in terms which were not likely to promote the desired conciliation. Furthermore, the resignation of Mr. Nyerere, President of TANU, from the Legislative Council was a great disappointment. Most of the members of the Trusteeship Council and of the Fourth Committee had been favourably impressed by the intelligence and moderation of the statements made by Mr. Nyerere at the United Nations.<sup>3</sup> His nomination to the Legislative Council in August 1957 had appeared as a promise of fruitful collaboration between the Government of Tanganyika and the African nationalist *élite*. It was regrettable that Mr. Nyerere had been obliged to resign because he thought that he could no longer play a useful part in the Council and because he had not found there the spirit of conciliation by which he himself was guided.

66. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) regretted that the Haitian representative would be unable to participate in the Council's debate on the situation in Tanganyika. He understood that, owing to his imminent departure, Mr. Dorsinville had wished to submit his observations on Tanganyika immediately, but his statements raised very important questions and he would no doubt be the last to wish the Council to prejudge them before having heard the representatives of the Administering Authority. The whole story had not been told and when it was he was sure that there would be found to be no good reason for the Haitian representative's disappointment.

#### **Statement by the representative of the International Labour Organisation**

67. Mr. METALL (International Labour Organisation) said he would submit to the Council general remarks on all the reports of the Administering Authorities. Since the attention of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office had been drawn to references made by several members of the Council to the collaboration that might be expected from the International Labour Organisation (ILO), he wished to

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Fifteenth Session, 592nd meeting and Twentieth Session, 817th to 820th meetings; Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Fourth Committee, 579th and 582nd meetings.*

stress the considerable work carried out by that agency with regard to the Trust Territories.

68. Taking as his first example the application of International Labour Conventions and recommendations, he stated that in 1957 various Territories had sent 327 reports on the application of Conventions, which had been examined by two committees of the ILO, one expert committee and one tripartite committee, and then by the General Conference of the Organisation; these bodies had had the support in their examination of a much more detailed documentation that that available to the Trusteeship Council in the reports submitted to it by the Administering Authorities.

69. In the second place, the Governing Body of the International Labour Office had authorized the Office to undertake a vast study of working conditions and social conditions in Africa. The first purpose of that study was to provide ministerial departments, employers' organizations and trade-union organizations with more complete information on the manner in which problems of common interest were dealt with and solved in neighbouring territories; the second purpose was to increase the knowledge of the whole world concerning the economic and social problems of the African continent; thirdly and above all, the study should serve as a point of departure for the future work of the ILO in Africa. For the final outline of the study, the International Labour Office would take into account comments made by the ILO Expert Committee on Social Policy in Non-Metropolitan Territories and by the United Nations, and also observations submitted by the other international organizations concerned.

70. He was not yet in a position to give the Council specific information concerning the machinery to be set up in the ILO to define labour policy in Africa; he could state, however, that the Governing Body of the ILO would have before it two proposals, one of them to replace the Expert Committee on Social Policy in Non-Metropolitan Territories by a tripartite committee (governments, employers and workers), in accordance with ILO traditions, and the other to set up an ILO centre in Africa.

71. With regard to the study of certain specific social problems, he informed the Council that proposals concerning the elimination of racial discrimination in employment and occupation had been submitted to the ILO and would be considered by the General Conference in June. The purpose of those proposals was to abolish all racial discrimination in such matters as vocational guidance and training, the possibility of finding employment to meet individual capacities, chances of promotion, security in employment, equal pay for equal work and working labour conditions in general. Any States, accepting the standards laid down would undertake to pursue a policy of preventing discrimination in public employment or in the operation of public employment services and to repeal or amend all legislative provisions and all administrative provisions and practices contrary to the policy of non-discrimination. It was also provided that the struggle against discrimination should be conducted jointly by the competent authorities, the representatives of employers and workers, and other interested bodies and that the appropriate educational programmes should be put into effect.

72. He recalled that the ILO had helped the Government to draw up labour legislation in Somaliland under

Italian administration and hoped that that legislation would soon be promulgated. The ILO had noted with satisfaction the importance which the Council attached to labour inspection in the Trust Territories and to the existence of a competent and adequate staff of inspectors enjoying a status which would enable them to carry out their task with all the necessary impartiality and authority. The ILO Expert Committee recognized that local conditions varied appreciably with regard to wage policies, but was of the opinion that minimum wages, including various allowances, should be sufficient to meet the needs of a stable family life. The Expert Committee had stated that a study of the wage policies pursued in various Territories, taking into account the needs of workers, the cost of living, the economic resources of the Territory and the need to assign to workers a fair share of the prosperity of the Territory as a whole, would undoubtedly make it possible to determine realistically the level at which the minimum wage should be fixed. The Committee had called for surveys of family budgets and for a more careful study of wage systems encouraging productivity and then noted the existence in some Territories of wage scales differing according to the origin of the workers. In the present circumstances, official bodies might have to continue to fix minimum wages, but future scales should be fixed, as far as possible, by means of collective bargaining. All measures for improving professional and human relations in industry

presupposed the development of independent and effective organizations of workers and employers. In that connexion, progress had recently been made in Tanganyika and also in Ruanda-Urundi, where legislation had been enacted recognizing freedom of association without distinction as to race.

73. The increasing interest in social security questions in Africa was extremely encouraging. All the Territories now had legislation dealing with industrial accidents and occupational diseases; the Territories under French administration had a system of family allowances and Ruanda-Urundi had established a system of old-age pensions. Sickness insurance systems, which had been introduced fairly recently in Africa, could not cover a large proportion of the population for some time, since in the present circumstances attention should primarily be concentrated on organizing satisfactory medical care. Nevertheless, the Expert Committee considered that the establishment of contributory sickness insurance systems might be undertaken in regions where considerable sections of the population were employed on a wage-earning basis.

74. Finally, it should be noted that in June 1958 the ILO General Conference would complete its discussion of a draft convention and a draft recommendation concerning labour conditions in plantations.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.