



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

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OFFICIAL RECORDS

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President: Mr. Alfred CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium)

Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, Belgium, Burma, China, France, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Italy, New Zealand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Republic, 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 conditions in the Trust Territory of New Guinea: annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1957 (T/1375, T/1380, T/L.851)

[Agenda item 3 (b)]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Jones, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of New Guinea, took a place at the Council table.

OPENING STATEMENTS

1. Mr. WALKER (Australia) emphasized that nature had presented special problems in the way of the Territory's swift development—problems similar to those existing in many other countries, where they were still far from solution. The Territory consisted of several islands between which communications were maintained by air or sea. Furthermore, even within some of the islands, such as New Guinea, the rugged nature of the terrain often made it difficult to construct and maintain roads suitable for use by modern transport; internal communications depended largely on aircraft and shipping. But those physical obstacles were probably slight when compared with the psychological and sociological difficulties. For thousands of years that area of the Southern Hemisphere had not been enriched by the civilizations of the East or the West. The peoples of New Guinea had always lived in small isolated villages with little contact even with their nearest neighbours. Even their languages were very

different. The people had achieved a certain adaptation to their environment and might have continued their way of life for further centuries if they could have been sheltered from all contact with the outside world, but that was no longer possible. Countries having but a primitive economic life and no national political organization of their own had no future in the modern world unless they were placed under the protection of more advanced peoples until they could develop the necessary basis for independent existence. After the end of the German colonial régime and the First World War, the Territory had been placed under Australian mandate. After the Second World War, during which the Territory was invaded by a distant Asian Power, the mandate was transformed on the initiative of the Australian Government, into a trusteeship.

2. At a time when Australia was embarking on the development of its own country, it was proud of the task entrusted to it and was devoting a not inconsiderable part of its national resources to the political, economic, social and cultural advancement of the peoples of New Guinea. The Administration was able to draw on the experience of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, of a number of Governments—including those which were members of the South Pacific Commission—and benefit by consultation and co-operation with the Administration of the neighbouring Territory of Netherlands New Guinea. For the moment the Administration was still engaged in establishing the foundations for more speedy advancement. It was therefore far too early to establish any date for the final attainment of the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System. Indeed, it was even questionable whether the ill-defined concept of intermediate target dates could be regarded as generally relevant to the requirements and psychological and sociological realities of the Territory. There could be no doubt, however, of Australia's readiness to promote the attainment of the objectives of the Trusteeship System in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and the particular circumstances in the Territory.

3. In conclusion, he stressed the considerable progress made during the past year with regard to agricultural training and agriculture, particularly in the establishment of cocoa production, and with regard to co-operatives, public health, education and local government.

4. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) reviewed the main events that had occurred in the Territory during the year under review and up to 31 March 1958. The Administering Authority had continued to co-operate with international organizations. It had taken part in the work of the South Pacific Commission, which, at the invitation of the Australian Government, would hold its Fourth Conference at Rabaul in April or May 1959. That conference would be attended by representatives of the local inhabitants, who might be accompanied by advisers. Eight indigenous officials of the

Departments of Health and Education had attended an eight-weeks' seminar on health education held at Nouméa in June 1957 under the auspices of the South Pacific Commission and the World Health Organization. The Chief of the Division of Plant Industry in the Department of Agriculture had attended the inaugural session, held at Rome in 1957, of the Group on Coconut and Coconut Products of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The Administration had also continued to co-operate with the authorities of Netherlands New Guinea.

5. Some Asian residents in the Territory were now eligible for Australian citizenship if they fulfilled certain conditions. Two hundred and sixty-four applications for naturalization had been received and more were expected; ninety-one certificates had already been issued.

6. Of the Territory's 93,000 square miles, 76,770 had been under full Administration control at the end of the year under review, representing an increase of 1,670 square miles compared with the previous year. In addition, 7,405 square miles had been under Administration influence and 3,050 square miles under partial Administration influence, and 5,775 square miles had been classified as penetrated by patrols. The last area was in part thinly populated by nomadic groups and extremely difficult to reach. The Administration was making every effort to consolidate its control over the areas described as under Administration influence or under partial Administration influence, but it had first to put an end to inter-tribal warfare. Since 30 June 1957 four new patrol posts had been established in the newly penetrated areas. It was not practicable at the moment to indicate in detail the remaining stages by which all areas of the Territory would be brought under full Administration control.

7. Elections for the Legislative Council set up by the Papua and New Guinea Act, 1949-1957, of the Australian Commonwealth Government had been held in August 1957, and the Council had met on 30 September 1957. Of the non-official members, seven were residents of the Trust Territory and five were residents of Papua. In the field of local government, four new councils had been established during the year under review in the Madang, Sepik, New Ireland and Morobe Districts. Since the end of the year, three more councils had been proclaimed, two in the Madang District and one in the Morobe District. In addition, one council in the Morobe District now covered a wider area. The establishment of those councils, now totalling thirteen and covering nearly 80,000 persons, demonstrated that the Administering Authority's policy was producing important results. On the one hand the councils were playing a very real part in the administration of their own affairs as was indicated by the expenditure figures set out in the table on page 30 of the annual report. ^{1/} On the other hand they were teaching the people to assume responsibility for local affairs in accordance with democratic procedures.

^{1/} Commonwealth of Australia, Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of the New Guinea from 1st July, 1956, to 30th June, 1957 (Canberra, A. J. Arthur, Commonwealth Government Printer). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1375).

8. The Administration was continuing to train administration officers to promote and consolidate local government councils; it was also training council members and employees. In October and November 1957, courses in Native local government had been held by the Australian School of Pacific Administration and had been attended by fifteen senior officers. All officers of the Administration could keep up to date on questions of concern to them through the Local Government Bulletin.

9. The Administering Authority had appointed twelve indigenous persons as members of district advisory councils. Although those councils dealt primarily with questions of non-indigenous interest, they would enable the indigenous inhabitants to familiarize themselves with such questions and to increase their participation in the Territory's political life.

10. The reorganization and general consolidation of the Territorial Administration had continued. Reorganization of the Department of Public Health and the Department of Customs and Marine had been completed during the year, the number of classified positions in those departments having increased from 404 to 881 and from 73 to 125, respectively. In the recently established Auxiliary Division, which was reserved for indigenous inhabitants, five categories of posts had been established, and the introduction of a final examination which would serve as a basis for entry into the higher divisions of the Public Service was being considered. At 31 March 1958, 176 appointments had been made to the Division. The Administration was endeavouring to improve the training of its officers, particularly in the new Division. Courses were being given at Lae, Rabaul, Madang and Lorengau and by correspondence.

11. Government revenue and expenditure had increased in 1956-1957. Administration expenditure on health services had been £1,797,136, on education £639,419 and on agriculture £416,094. Those figures did not include the cost of maintenance of buildings. The local government councils had spent about £10,322 on health services and £7,000 on education. In addition, the religious missions had spent £93,815 on health services and £375,860 on educational services. Internal revenue as well as the grants of the Administering Authority to the Territory had all increased.

12. A personal tax ranging from 10 shillings to £2 for males above the age of eighteen had come into effect on 1 January 1958. The rate of that tax was low since the real minimum income of indigenous workers was about £100 a year, and exemptions were provided for needy persons or those living in areas where there was no significant economic activity or where cash incomes were not available or relatively easily available. People already paying a tax imposed by the local government councils would pay only the difference between that tax and the personal tax. No difficulties had been experienced in collecting the tax. The tax had been introduced by the Administration because of the need to increase revenue without creating elaborate administrative machinery, to inculcate a sense of political responsibility in the indigenous inhabitants by linking social benefits with the financial contributions of the population, and to eliminate some of the difficulties encountered in the formation and financing of local government councils. The Administration was now reviewing Territorial revenues as a

whole, and that review might lead to the introduction of a more extensive system of direct taxation.

13. The Administering Authority had continued to encourage economic development and had established one new agricultural extension station and four new agricultural extension centres. It had continued to carry out the plans outlined in the annual report for 1955-1956. Members of the Division of Agricultural extension, of the Department of Agriculture, which was now made up of thirty-three officers, including one indigenous inhabitant, and fifty-seven indigenous assistants, carried out 408 patrols during which direct contact was made with 429,000 people, thereby making it possible to introduce improved methods of cultivation and new crops particularly cash crops. Day-to-day contact was maintained at the centres and stations with a total of 162,000 people.

14. The indigenous inhabitants had taken an increasing part in the cultivation of coconuts (they had produced 20 per cent of all the copra exported), of cocoa (a survey of which was to be made by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural Economics), of coffee, of rice, especially for local consumption, and of passion fruit (the production of which had again risen after dropping at the beginning of 1957). The indigenous inhabitants were also cultivating a larger quantity of vegetables for local consumption.

15. Two types of agricultural training were available to inhabitants of the Territory. The Division of Agricultural Extension, through its district centres, gave courses lasting from nine to twelve months which were intended to familiarize a large number of farmers with new agricultural techniques. At the end of the year under review, 219 persons had been attending those courses. At a higher level, twelve students from the Territory were attending the Mageri Agricultural Training Centre in Papua, which provided courses in such subjects as the theory and practice of agriculture, botany, agricultural economics and English. Agricultural training at that level would be gradually extended to centres in the Trust Territory. Beginning in 1960, a training course leading to a college diploma would be established.

16. At 31 March 1958 there had been 102 co-operative societies in existence, with more than 42,000 members. Their turnover had increased considerably but had then decreased, mainly because of the fall in the prices of copra and marine shells. Most of the co-operatives were nevertheless in a sound financial position, and the Manus Association of Societies had recently purchased a vessel, the sixth to be acquired by co-operatives. Copra production had declined consequent upon the introduction of an inspection system designed to control the quality of the product. To overcome that problem, a new type of hot air dryer suitable for use by family units had been designed by the Territorial Administration and made available to growers through co-operative organizations.

17. The officers of the co-operatives were gradually being given more managerial responsibility, but Administration assistance would be necessary for a long time in order to ensure the consolidation of existing societies and the development of the co-operative movement. In July 1958, the South Pacific Commission would hold a technical meeting on co-operatives at Port Moresby. It would be attended by about thirty delegates from various South Pacific Territories.

18. The Tolai cacao plantation scheme continued to develop satisfactorily. The future prosperity of the area would to a large extent depend on the success of their cacao cultivation, which had been practically non-existent before the Second World War. The five Tolai local government councils, which jointly covered some 94 per cent of the Tolai population, had, with the technical advice and active assistance of the Administration, developed the industry along sound lines. In 1955, cacao cultivation had grown to a point where the expenses involved in extending the programme had been beyond the resources of the local councils. Accordingly, a bank loan of £80,000 at 4-3/4 per cent interest was negotiated. The Administration guaranteed its repayment. That made it possible to construct and equip fourteen fermentaries. Each of them operated as a co-operative. The programme as a whole was managed by a board of management presided over by the District Officer and made up of representatives of each fermentary. A Cocoa Industry Committee met periodically to review the general marketing policy that was being followed. The cocoa grown was of excellent quality, and production continued to increase.

19. Attention was also being given to the development of fishing in order to enable the Territory to provide for its own needs. A fisheries research vessel had begun operations, and demonstrations were being held in order to encourage fishermen to improve their fishing methods.

20. The production of timber and timber products continued to increase and had given rise to an active export trade. Since July 1957, 870 acres had been planted with pine and 125 acres with teak.

21. The amount of gold produced had also increased considerably. The interest of the indigenous people in alluvial gold mining had continued to grow, and production from that source had shown a big increase. A general supervision was exercised over mining by indigenous inhabitants by the Department of Native Affairs and technical advice was provided by a Field Officer (Native Mining). The Administration had planned a survey of potential nickel and cobalt resources in the Morobe District.

22. Imports by the Territory had amounted to £10,918,981 and exports to £10,312,492. The most important products exported were cocoa, coffee, copra, coconut oil and meal, passion-fruit juice, timber and veneer sheets.

23. During the year under consideration, expenditure on capital equipment and on the construction of roads, bridges, hospitals and schools had amounted to some £1.9 million. Between 1 July 1957 and 31 March 1958 a total of £1,535,000 had been spent.

24. With regard to the status of women a committee of ten members, consisting of six officers of the Administration, two representatives of missions and two indigenous persons, had been established in August 1957 to plan and act in all matters bearing on the advancement of women. The aims of the committee were to correct as rapidly as possible the existing disparity in advancement between men and women. Sub-committees had been appointed in each district.

25. Four officials and six indigenous assistants would shortly be appointed to deal with social welfare

matters. With regard to labour, an ordinance had been passed establishing a minimum age for persons employed at sea; it complied with the requirements of Convention No. 58 of the International Labour Organisation. The Administration was at present considering further legislation concerning industrial accidents and employment; a Board would be set up to advise the Administrator on matters relating to cost-of-living and economic conditions of indigenous workers, minimum wages, margins of skill, tests for trade and other skilled work, and maintenance of dependants. The Board would first consider, as matters of urgency, a wage scale and the control of casual workers. A senior Australian official had visited the Territory in order to conduct a survey as a basis for detailed legislation regarding industrial safety. Under an arrangement between the Apprenticeship Board and the Department of Education, young persons wishing to learn a trade were able to attend two-year training courses at Administration technical centres. At present there were 200 such apprentices.

26. The staff of the Department of Public Health had substantially increased and the hospital building programme was going into operation in various districts. A number of new establishments would be opened before the end of 1958. The campaign against tuberculosis had continued throughout the Territory and a new plan for malaria control would shortly come into effect. The Maternity and Child Health Service clinics had also been extended. The medical officers and officials of the Territory were co-operating with international health organizations. Indigenous personnel were being trained for the health services at the major hospitals and special attention was being given to training girls for the infant and maternal welfare branch. The missions also maintained a number of medical institutions.

27. The Administration had spent over £666,000 on education, including £60,000 in financial aid to the missions, which made a substantial contribution to education. The number of Administration schools had increased by twenty to 152 and the number of pupils from 7,239 to 9,983. There had also been a decided increase in the number of indigenous teachers. Between 1 July 1956 and 31 March 1958, twenty-one primary schools, three teacher-training schools and one technical school had been established. Four intermediate schools, including one for girls, as well as a primary and a secondary school, were to be given priority under the building programme. The Administering Authority was making secondary education available to all qualified students by use of facilities in the Territory, as well as in Australia and in Fiji. That was only an interim measure, however; eventually secondary education would be provided entirely within the Territory. At present, the most urgent need was to extend and improve primary education. That did not mean that children who qualified for secondary education would not be provided for. Already 112 pupils, including sixty-two indigenous pupils, were attending secondary courses in the Territory. Mission schools were providing secondary education for fifty students, and many teachers were being trained. A training college for employees of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs had been approved. The teacher-training centres of the Territory were now under the direction of a newly appointed Superintendent of Teacher Training. The entrance examinations for

teacher-training courses and teaching were now standardized and greater emphasis would henceforth be placed on the teaching of English. Active measures were being taken to provide in-service training for teachers and vacation courses were provided for them. The type of course varied according to the teaching post envisaged.

28. Research in the economic and social fields was continuing with the co-operation of several specialists. Lastly, United Nations publications were being widely disseminated throughout the Territory.

Mr. Jones, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of New Guinea, withdrew.

The meeting was suspended at 4.10 p.m. and resumed at 4.30 p.m.

Reports of the Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories (T/1369, T/L.853) (continued)*

[Agenda item 9]

29. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation was disappointed in the progress of the Committee on Rural Economic Development in regard to Ruanda-Urundi. The Committee had not heeded the instructions in General Assembly resolution 1208 (XII) to study the situation with regard to alienation of land of the indigenous population and in its report (T/1369) had done no more than reproduce information already given in the Council documents.

30. The Committee should have given proper attention to the study of land alienation and the restoration of land to the indigenous population, since the shortage of land was one of the most serious problems in the Territory considering that the main activity of the population was agriculture and cattle raising, and that there was no industry at all in that Territory, whereas the land was poor and might be made poorer by erosion. The Administering Authority itself stressed in its annual report ^{2/}that Ruanda-Urundi was suffering from the ever-increasing lack of fruitful land. The increase of the population made the lack of land even more acute, since Ruanda-Urundi was the most densely populated Territory in Central Africa. The indigenous inhabitants owned, on an average, three-tenths of a hectare of arable land per person, whereas 21,850 hectares of the best land were held by 192 European settlers, which made an average of 115 hectares per settler. There was yet another difference. The Europeans had taken the best land and received considerable yields, whereas the indigenous inhabitants held land which had either lost its fertility or was losing it. Such glaring inequalities, the lack of industries, and the constant threat of famine compelled tens of thousands of indigenous inhabitants every year to emigrate to other colonies in search of work. Every year about 40,000 men went to Uganda and Tanganyika.

*Resumed from 890th meeting.

^{2/}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).

31. Although aware of those facts, the Committee not only found it unnecessary to stress the immediate need of restoring to the indigenous inhabitants all the alienated land but had in fact approved the policy of the Administering Authority and suggested its continuation. The Soviet delegation could not share the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee in that matter. The adoption of such a recommendation by the Trusteeship Council would indeed be an encouragement to the colonialist approach to that Territory in its worst form.

32. With regard to the other questions dealt with in the report, it was to be noted that agricultural training, which was provided in the secondary schools, was intended primarily for European pupils since, as was apparent from the last report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) (T/1352), less than 1 per cent of the indigenous children attended those schools. Two-thirds of all the children of the Territory did not receive even primary education.

33. At the same time it was impossible to overestimate the importance of the agricultural training of the indigenous inhabitants of a Territory like Ruanda-Urundi whose whole economy rested on agriculture. The experimental stations and the research done in the *secteurs pilotes* had brought no benefit so far to the majority of African farmers, who continued to employ primitive methods. The research was concentrated on cash crops for export, which were controlled by European planters. Lastly, the Committee had neglected the problem of animal husbandry, the products of which were not sufficient to provide the population with a normal diet. It merely made a few general remarks which were not even new. The Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories had so far not justified the hopes placed in it by the General Assembly and it should take measures to improve that situation.

34. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) expressed surprise at the criticisms made in the statement by the representative of the Soviet Union. The area of alienated land amounted to only 0.7 per cent of the total land of the Territory, and there was no indication that the best land was involved. Most of the land in question had been alienated, moreover, for public purposes, and he was sure that the greater part of the scientific research carried out so successfully had benefited the indigenous population, since it was concerned with coffee, the main crop of the indigenous inhabitants.

35. Speaking as Chairman of the Committee, he would point out that the Assembly had not asked for recommendations concerning the restoration of alienated land. The Committee could not be accused of not carrying out its terms of reference.

36. Mr. JAIPAL (India) introduced the Indian delegation's amendments (T/L.853) to annex II of the eighth progress report of the Committee on Rural Economic Development. While the report had been drafted with care, he would have preferred the conclusions to be more detailed.

37. With regard to the second and tenth amendments, concerning population pressure and overstocking of cattle respectively, the measures taken hitherto had not been adequate and the Administering Authority

should accordingly "intensify" its efforts. According to the sixth amendment, the introduction of individual rights in land should not be contrary to the wishes of the people. The eleventh and twelfth amendments dealt with land alienation. The Council would congratulate the Administering Authority on its policy, but would also state that it trusted that continued vigilance would be exercised in that regard.

38. Instead of mentioning that the total area of alienated land represented only 0.7 per cent of the total area of the Territory, it might perhaps be better to state the percentage of alienated land in relation to the total area of arable land. That figure—1.5 per cent—would be more significant.

39. The Indian delegation acknowledged the value of the efforts made by the Committee but regretted that it had not studied certain problems in greater detail. It suggested that in future the Committee should try to establish a set of principles for general application concerning land and dealing, for instance, with the registration of titles, individually or collectively, land utilization, safeguards against fragmentation of holdings, and conditions of purchase or the assignment of rights over land. Such principles would be valuable to the Council in its consideration of land problems.

40. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) asked the USSR representative in what land category he would place the areas occupied by airfields, roads, public buildings and schools.

41. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) replied that the construction of airfields did not satisfy the most urgent needs of the Territory, namely the creation of industries, elementary housing facilities, and so forth, and that the schools and hospitals could not possibly cover 16,500 hectares of alienated land. He remarked that there were various kinds of roads, the roads which led to independence, and his delegation was in favour of the construction of such roads. But there were roads which led to colonial exploitation of the peoples of Trust Territories, and were used to export raw materials, to export crops obtained through the exploitation of the indigenous people. He did not think that priority should be given to the construction of such roads.

42. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) observed that, as stated in paragraph 48 of annex I of the report, 16,420 hectares of land, or three-quarters of the land area held by non-indigenous inhabitants, were used for purposes which were in the public interest. When the Territory acceded to self-government or independence those lands would remain the property of the inhabitants.

43. He had doubts concerning the accuracy of the figure of 1.5 per cent mentioned by the Indian representative inasmuch as the lands held by the Government were not necessarily arable lands. He thought that most the amendments proposed by the Indian delegation would help to improve the Committee's report. Others, such as the replacement of the word "continue" by the word "intensify", were concessions to a phraseology which had become traditional in the Council. His delegation saw no reason why the Indian amendments should not be included in the Committee's report.

44. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said in reply to the United Kingdom representative that his delegation had wanted to draw the Council's attention to the most urgent needs of the Territory. He repeated some of the facts mentioned in his statement, referring to the latest UNESCO report (T/1352), the Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa, 1957, on Ruanda-Urundi (T/1346) and the Report of the Committee on Rural Economic Development of the Trust Territories (T/1369). He would also like to draw the attention of the Council to such facts as, in particular, the dying out of the Batwa population—the original inhabitants of the Territory—which was becoming extinct. Furthermore, 80,000 pygmies were living in deplorable conditions in the Territory and required the urgent attention of the Council. In raising that question his delegation was inspired entirely by humanitarian considerations.

45. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) observed that the debates at the preceding session of the Council and the annual report on conditions in Ruanda-Urundi satisfactorily answered the arguments put forward by the representative of the Soviet Union.

46. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) stated that he had no objection to the amendments proposed by the Indian representative, which seemed to him for the most part to improve the text of the report. With regard to the question of the percentage of land alienated, not all of that land, as the Belgian representative had pointed out, was agricultural land.

47. The Indian delegation's suggestions regarding the procedure which the Committee might follow in future were very interesting and deserved to be carefully studied by the Committee at a future meeting. The Council would be in a better position to consider such matters after it had received the observations of experts which FAO proposed to submit before the next Council session.

48. Mr. KIANG (China) said that his delegation attached equal importance to the three aspects of the land problem, namely, land alienation, land tenure and land utilization.

49. With respect to the Indian representative's first amendment to paragraph 3 of annex II of the report, he thought that the original wording was preferable. His delegation would like to see the Administering Authority play a more active part in developing individual rights in land, as was suggested in the preceding sentence of the same paragraph. The addition of the words "in accordance with the wishes of the people" might introduce a contradictory element into the text. His delegation would abstain if the amendment was put to a vote.

50. Mr. JAIPAL (India) observed that the present wording might be interpreted to mean that individual rights in land should be imposed on the people, particularly in areas where they were not yet convinced of the advantages of such rights. From the present wording it would appear that individual land rights were a panacea for all land problems. It was not just the establishment of individual rights in land but the registration of title to land that was important. If the introduction and development of individual rights in land were not carefully controlled,

they might well result in fragmentation of holdings and the eventual break-down of rural economic stability. The purpose of the proposed amendment was simply to indicate that if it was in accordance with the wishes of the population the establishment of individual rights in land would help to promote the attainment of certain economic objectives.

51. He withdrew his suggestion concerning the reference to the percentage of land alienated.

52. The PRESIDENT observed that as the amendments proposed by the Indian delegation did not appear to have given rise to any objections they could be considered adopted.

It was so decided.

53. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) wished to state before the Committee's report was put to a vote that his delegation was not entirely satisfied with the work of that body, of which it was a member. The intention of the sponsors of General Assembly resolution 1208 (XII) had been to request the Council and its Committee to study land tenure and land alienation problems with a view particularly to protecting the present and future interests of the population. The amendments adopted had given a different meaning to that resolution. The Committee had been guided by the terms of the resolution in drawing up its report. If the report had been put to a vote in the Committee his delegation would have abstained. In view of the desirability of improving the work of the Committee, his delegation had noted with great interest the suggestions made by the Indian representative.

54. The PRESIDENT invited the Council to vote on annex II of the report, as amended, paragraph by paragraph.

Paragraph 1 was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

55. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) requested a separate vote on the words: "... the Administering Authority has devoted much attention to education, health and welfare services and that its efforts have been attended by considerable success" in paragraph 2.

The words were retained by 13 votes to 1.

Paragraph 2 as a whole was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Paragraph 3 was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

Paragraph 4 was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

In successive votes, paragraphs 5, 6 and 7 were adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 8 was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

In successive votes, paragraphs 9 and 10 were adopted unanimously.

Paragraph 11 was adopted by 13 votes to 1.

56. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation had voted against paragraph 11 because the assistance provided by the Administering Authority was insufficient. The text of the paragraph gave the false impression that all the

resources made available to the Territory were being used to meet its needs, whereas earlier debates had shown that part of that assistance was being used for the benefit of Congolese undertakings.

Paragraph 12 was adopted by 13 votes to 1.

57. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) explained that his delegation had voted against paragraph 12 because it made no reference to restitution of alienated lands to the indigenous inhabitants, an omission which would open the way to further alienations.

Annex II as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

58. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) said that he had voted in favour of the report's conclusions because for the most part they simply took cognizance of the principles which had been applied by the Administering Authority for several years. The Belgian delegation maintained, however, the reservations which it had expressed to the General Assembly with regard to resolution 1208 (XII).

59. Mr. ROLZ BENNETT (Guatemala) said that his delegation had voted in favour of annex II as a whole, subject to the reservations which he had explained before the vote was taken.

60. The PRESIDENT said that in the absence of objections he would consider annex I of the report adopted.

It was so decided.

61. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) requested that the Council vote on paragraph 4 of the report embodying a procedural recommendation.

Paragraph 4 of the report was adopted.

Organization of the Council's work

62. The PRESIDENT said that at its meetings on the following day the Council would hear the petitioners and would then proceed to the general debate on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. He requested the members of the Council to be ready to make their statements as early as possible. If it should prove necessary to carry over part of the discussion on that question to a second day, the Council could continue its consideration of conditions in New Guinea.

63. Mr. LOBANOV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) recalled that he had already drawn the Council's attention (899th meeting) to the unusual order in which conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands had been considered. The Council had decided to discuss the question as the second item on its agenda. That decision was constantly being violated although world opinion was waiting for the Council to reach a decision on a problem of vital importance to all mankind.

64. The PRESIDENT said that he hoped all the members of the Council would be ready to speak the following day on conditions in the Pacific Islands.

The meeting rose at 6 p.m.