



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Twenty-fourth Session

OFFICIAL RECORDS

1018th Meeting

Monday, 20 July 1959,
at 10.40 a.m.

NEW YORK

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President: Mr. Max H. DORSINVILLE (Haiti).

Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, Belgium, Burma, China, France, Haiti, India, Italy, New Zealand, Paraguay, 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 (continued):*

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1958 (T/1464 and Add.1, T/1472 and Corr.1, T/L.914);
- (ii) Petition raising general questions (T/PET.GEN/L.3);
- (iii) Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, 1959 (T/1451)

[Agenda items 3 (c), 4 and 6]

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.

*Resumed from the 1011th meeting.

GENERAL DEBATE (concluded)

1. Mr. HOOD (Australia) said he was glad to acknowledge the positive contributions that the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, 1959, had made to the work of the Council and to that of the Administration in New Guinea. The problems of the Trust Territory had been neither ignored nor underestimated during the debate and there was now a greater and more sympathetic understanding of the way in which the indigenous people, the missions and the Administration were pooling their efforts in order to surmount them. As the Australian Minister for Territories had said, the Administration was committed to the bringing into being of a new society in New Guinea. Mr. Hood had been encouraged to hear the representative of India express his country's confidence in the capacity of Australia to discharge its task in the Territory.

2. The representative of the United Arab Republic had emphasized the need for eradicating the legacy of the so-called cargo cult; and in the same connexion the representative of the United States had affirmed that it would be impossible to over-estimate the residual effects of the work of the Christian missions among the indigenous people in helping them to adjust to modern civilization. References had been made to the possible disadvantages which might arise from the multiplicity of religious missions in the Territory, but that multiplicity had not, in fact, caused any real administrative problems. He assured the representative of India that the educational policy of the Administering Authority was designed to ensure that contemporary ideologies were not presented to the people in such a way as to lend themselves to the revival or perpetuation of tribal feuds.

3. There was nothing sacrosanct about the existing composition of the Legislative Council; the Administration hoped to increase the number of its indigenous members. The role of that Council did not in any way jeopardize the identity and status of the Trust Territory.

4. Article 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement clearly authorized the existing administrative union between the Trust Territory and the Territory of Papua. That article gave the Administering Authority the right to determine whether the administrative union served the interests of the Trust Territory and was not inconsistent with the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System. The Administering Authority was convinced that that was the case. His delegation therefore felt bound to reject the view which had been expressed by one or two members of the Council that the Australian authorities thought in terms of a policy which would best serve the interests of Australia and Papua rather than those of the Trust Territory. For example, it was evident from the parallel statements issued on 6 November 1957 by the Governments of Australia and the Netherlands that the policies of both those

Governments in respect to New Guinea were based on the interests and inalienable rights of the inhabitants, in conformity with the provisions of the United Nations Charter, and were directed towards their political, economic, social and educational advancement until such time as they would be in a position to determine their own future. The Council would not wish to take seriously allegations to the effect that the Administering Authority was oppressing the people of New Guinea or that it was engaged solely in furthering its own interests. The Administering Authority had stated its policies and objectives openly; its resolve to continue to put the welfare and development of the inhabitants first was evident and should be accepted by the Council.

5. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that the many constructive observations made in the course of the debate would be of value to the Administering Authority, which would give them its careful attention.

6. In his statement during the general debate, the USSR representative had overlooked many relevant facts, had completely ignored the steps taken for the advancement of the indigenous peoples and had thus presented a distorted picture of the Territory. The USSR representative had questioned whether participation in the work of the local councils aroused any interest in the minds of representatives of the local population; yet in previous years the USSR delegation had criticized the Administration for not appointing indigenous inhabitants to those councils. The success achieved by the Administration in developing the local councils had been recognized by other speakers; it was generally held, however, that the number of indigenous members of the Legislative Council should be increased. Steps were in fact being taken to review the composition of that Council and to examine the practicability of increasing the number of indigenous members.

7. Certain representatives had criticized the administrative union of the Trust Territory with the Territory of Papua; the USSR representative had gone so far as to call it a violation of the Charter. After the Second World War it had become abundantly clear to the Australian Government that an administrative union could only be of benefit to both Territories; accordingly, with the approval of the General Assembly, a provision allowing for the establishment of an administrative union had been incorporated in the Trusteeship Agreement. That being the case, it was impossible to say that the administrative union was inconsistent with the provisions of the Agreement. The information provided each year by the Administering Authority made it clear that the status of New Guinea as a Trust Territory was being completely preserved. It was true that Australian practices and administrative policies in New Guinea and in Papua were identical: they were those best calculated to ensure the progressive development of the peoples of the two Territories. No shred of evidence had been produced that either Territory was holding the other back. Australia had no intention of compelling the virtually identical peoples of the two Territories to form a single State but it would regard it as equally inconsistent with its basic responsibilities under the Charter to deny to those peoples at some future date the right to choose such a solution. It was for the inhabitants of the two Territories alone to decide what their relations with one another would be in the future; at present, they gave

little or no thought to the final political forms which the two Territories would assume.

8. The representative of Burma had implied that, in an address given in 1958, the Minister for Territories had been referring to deficiencies and vacant posts in the Public Service in that year. That was not the case; the Minister had made it clear in his address that the deficiencies to which he was referring had existed many years previously—in fact, at a time not so long after the war. In his opening statement (1001st meeting), he himself had furnished full information about the striking expansion in the Public Service in the previous ten years. Moreover, the efforts being made by the Administering Authority to bring the Public Service up to its full establishment and to enable more of the indigenous inhabitants to enter it had been recognized and favourably commented upon by the majority of the members of the Council.

9. There seemed to be general agreement with the decision of the Administration to concentrate its efforts mainly on the work of consolidation until sufficient staff could be trained for it to be possible to undertake the penetration of the small uncontrolled areas still remaining, which totalled 5,350 square miles. The Administering Authority desired to promote the even development of the people of the Trust Territory and would bring the entire Territory under its administrative control as soon as practicable.

10. The two income tax bills to which he had referred in his opening statement had passed through their final stages in the Legislative Council on 14 July 1959.

11. Relying in part on statements in the Press, the representative of the Soviet Union had asserted that the Administrator had said that the Australian representative had been incorrect in stating that there were no land shortages in the Territory. Mr. Jones was authorized to assure the Council that the Administrator had not denied the accuracy of the statements which the Australian representative and he himself had made in the Council concerning the land question. The statements made in the Council had accurately reflected the position. There was indeed a possibility that, as a result of the rising population and the increased growing of cash crops, there might in the future be insufficient land in some of the more heavily populated areas to meet the needs of their people. As it was, there was still sufficient land available in those areas for the traditional subsistence agriculture, while in the Territory as a whole there was ample land not only for subsistence agriculture but also for cash crops. Certain village communities were reluctant either to cultivate all the lands they owned or to make the uncultivated lands available to others, but the Administration was endeavouring to persuade them to adopt a more progressive outlook. Preliminary investigation showed that a shortage of land was undoubtedly developing in one or two areas. The Administering Authority would, however, take whatever steps were necessary to protect the interests of the indigenous people and to ensure suitable conditions for their economic development in the future.

12. Certain members of the Council had referred to the need for a comprehensive economic survey of the whole of the Territory. The Administration had already embarked upon such a survey. Aerial surveys had been initiated many years previously; ground teams of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization had been operating for some time, while

mineral and forestry survey teams were continuously at work. In saying that more emphasis would now be given to the economic advancement of the people of the Territory, the Minister for Territories had undoubtedly had in mind the need to expand and accelerate the work of survey.

13. The representatives of Burma, the USSR and the United Arab Republic had stated that the wages paid to indigenous workers were too low. They had apparently overlooked the fact that, over and above their cash wages, workers were provided free of charge with food, clothing, bedding and other facilities to a total value of over £5 per month, so that the total earnings of a worker on the lowest cash wage were at least four times greater than the representatives in question had claimed. The majority of such workers were young people whose families were engaged in subsistence agriculture and for whom employment was a form of apprenticeship. The only means of improving the real income of workers in New Guinea was by increasing their productivity. The Administration was actively pursuing that aim.

14. The USSR representative had repeated the allegations he had made at the twenty-second session that the absence of labour legislation in the Territory led to exploitation of the workers by the employers. Mr. Jones therefore felt obliged to repeat his reply at that session (916th meeting) that a labour code and labour regulations had been in force in New Guinea since 1922 and that the information on the subject provided in the annual report then under consideration ^{1/}should make it clear that the Administration provided all possible safeguards for the protection and well-being of indigenous workers. The number of industrial accidents, deaths of workers, labour disputes and complaints was extremely low in relation to the size of the total labour force.

15. In education, good progress had been made, though it had fallen short of expectations. The Administering Authority would continue to pursue its aim of ensuring primary education for all and introducing more extensive facilities for secondary and higher education. The Administration was fully aware of the importance of education in the modern world.

16. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the special representative was mistaken in thinking that the USSR delegation had in any way altered its position regarding the appointment of indigenous inhabitants to the local councils. On the contrary, his delegation was in favour of appointing as many indigenous inhabitants as possible to those councils. Moreover, it would like those councils to be given real authority and to be more than purely consultative bodies. In stating that the indigenous people did not seem interested in taking part in the work of the councils his delegation had intended to show that the situation was due to the fact that they were in such a minority in the councils that they found themselves bereft of any power or authority. That was why in some districts the indigenous inhabitants had boycotted the councils.

17. The South Pacific Post had frequently published articles containing information which was at variance with the statements made before the Trusteeship Council by the representatives of the Administering Authority. The matters referred to included statements to the Trusteeship Council by the representative of Australia regarding the shortage of land in the Trust Territory, the fact that Europeans were paid more than indigenous inhabitants, and the unsatisfactory situation in education. If the information published by the newspaper was inaccurate, the Administering Authority should try to indicate that fact to the newspaper concerned.

18. His delegation would certainly not be reluctant to commend the Administering Authority if real progress had been achieved in the Trust Territory and a clear proof of progress could be given. If the Administering Authority could place before the Trusteeship Council a suitable plan showing definite objectives to be achieved by specified dates, the Council would be able to judge whether the plan was being carried out successfully. No such plan had been presented and there was no indication of any progress. That was particularly true of education; indeed, according to an article in the South Pacific Post, nothing of substance had been done to develop educational facilities in the Trust Territory during the past ten years.

19. Mr. HOOD (Australia) said that the earlier statements of the USSR representative had in no way been misrepresented by the special representative, whose comments had been based on a very thorough scrutiny of the USSR representative's observations to the Council. The USSR representative was merely trying to use his right of reply as a means for reopening the general discussion. There was no reason why the special representative should be called upon to reiterate explanations he had already given.

20. It was not clear whether the USSR representative had been complaining that it was he or the South Pacific Post that had been misrepresented. Any member who cared to quote newspaper articles was at liberty to do so; the South Pacific Post, however, had no representative at the Council and had no official standing with the Council. At all events its comments were of an entirely unofficial nature.

21. Mr. JONES (Special Representative) said that in view of the Australian representative's statement he would make no further comment.

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

APPOINTMENT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE

22. The PRESIDENT proposed that the drafting committee which would prepare the Council's report on New Guinea should consist of the representatives of China, Haiti, Italy and New Zealand.

23. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked for those nominations to be put to the vote.

The nomination of China was approved by 9 votes to 4, with 1 abstention.

The nomination of Haiti was approved by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

The nomination of Italy was approved by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

^{1/} Commonwealth of Australia, Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of 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).

The nomination of New Zealand was approved by 13 votes to none, with 1 abstention.

Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration (continued):

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1958 (T/1454, T/1471 and Add.1, T/1475, T/1476, T/1477, T/L.921);
- (ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions (T/COM.11/L.309 to 329, T/PET.GEN/L.2, T/PET.GEN/L.3, T/PET.11/L.28, T/PET.11/L.29 and Add.1, T/PET.11/L.30-41);
- (iii) Report of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration (T/1444)

[Agenda items 3 (f), 4 and 15]

At the invitation of the President, Mr. de Holte Castello (Colombia) and Mr. Baradi (Philippines), representatives of States members of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration, and Mr. Gasbarri, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory, took places at the Council table.

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

Political advancement

24. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked the special representative for information about the programmes of the various political parties in the Trust Territory.

25. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) said that the principal object of the Hisbia Dastouri Mustaqbil (Independent Constitutional Somali Party), formerly known as the Hisbia Dighil Mirifle, was the establishment of a federation in Somaliland. That was the only difference between its programme and those of the other parties, which envisaged a united Somaliland.

26. The Great Somalia League was a new political party resulting from a split in the Somali Youth League. Its chief object was the creation of a so-called Great Somalia consisting of the present Somaliland under Italian administration, French Somaliland, British Somaliland and the Somali provinces of Ethiopia and Kenya. As far as internal affairs were concerned, the Great Somalia League was in favour of elections to be held after the census.

27. The Somali National Union, formerly known as the Benadir Youth Union, was in favour of international peace and universal friendship. With regard to internal affairs, it supported the view that elections should be held after a census had been taken.

28. The statutes of the Liberal Somali Youth Party were not yet available. As far as foreign affairs were concerned the party wished to remain neutral and not to be affiliated with any bloc; as far as internal affairs were concerned it supported a united Somaliland.

29. The Somali Youth League was the oldest political party in the Territory, having been established in 1943. Its main purpose was the achievement of national unity and the eradication of tribalism. Where external affairs

were concerned the party favoured neutrality. It was strongly in favour of women's rights.

30. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the special representative could give the approximate number of members of the various parties.

31. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) said that that was a difficult question to answer because the political parties did not declare the number of their members; all he could do was to give an estimate on the basis of the latest municipal elections.

32. In eighteen out of the forty-five districts no election had taken place because there had been only one list. In the other twenty-seven districts the elections had been held according to the provisions of Law No. 15 of 25 June 1958. The Hisbia Dastouri Mustaqbil had competed in twenty-one districts with the Somali Youth League (SYL). In all twenty-one districts each party had obtained 34 per cent of the valid votes. The SYL had competed with the Great Somalia League in eight districts; the SYL had obtained 33 per cent of the valid votes and the Great Somalia League only 17 per cent; the Liberal Somali Youth Party had competed with the SYL in eight districts; the SYL had obtained 34 per cent of the valid votes, the Liberal Somali Youth Party only 16 per cent. The Somali National Union had competed in only two districts, Mogadiscio and Merca; in those districts the SYL had obtained 29 per cent and the Somali National Union only 13 per cent of the valid votes.

33. The figures he had given would serve as an indication of the strength of the various parties.

34. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether there had been any complaints from the opposition parties about the conduct of the elections and if so, what had been the reaction of the Administering Authority.

35. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) said that there had been complaints but that the Administration on principle interfered as little as possible in the internal affairs of Somaliland.

36. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics), referring to page 23 of the annual report, 2/ asked why Hajji Hussein had been expelled from the Somali Youth League.

37. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) explained that Hajji Hussein, the President of the Somali Youth League, had been expelled from that party in May 1958 because he had issued a statement of policy without first consulting the Standing Committee of the party, as was required under the party's statutes.

38. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how many people in the Territory had the right to vote on the basis of the current electoral Law.

39. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) said that so far it was only for municipal elections that there was a register of electors. The number on that register was 156,000. He could not give a figure for general elections, for no census had yet been taken. In the

2/ Rapport du Gouvernement italien à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration de tutelle de la Somalie, 1958, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome, Istituto Poligrafico dello Stato P. V., 1959). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1471).

eleven districts in which general elections had been held there had been 323,000 voters, but it was not known whether all those who were entitled to vote had done so.

40. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether the Administering Authority intended before the termination of the trusteeship to take a census in the Territory, as was highly desirable not only for electoral purposes but also for the establishment of an economic development plan.

41. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) replied in the affirmative. Both the Administering Authority and the Somali Government wished a census to be taken, not only for the purpose of elections but in order to obtain statistics regarding the economic and social conditions of the country and the possibilities of development. An act had been passed providing for such a census and operations had actually been begun, but unfortunately in three provinces the figures collected had proved to be unreliable and the census had had to be suspended. Nevertheless, the Somali Government intended to proceed with it.

42. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked who had drafted the Somali Electoral Law, on what basis the law had provided for cash deposits and for elections to be held only in districts where more than one list of candidates had been presented, and what attitude the Administering Authority had taken in regard to those provisions.

43. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) replied that the first draft of the electoral law had been prepared by the Government and submitted to the Legislative Assembly on 26 May 1958. That draft, which had not been approved, had contained no reference to districts with single lists but had provided for a deposit to be made by political parties. In November 1958 the Legislative Assembly had decided, after lengthy debate, to ask the Government to submit a new electoral law taking into consideration the ten points on which agreement had been reached. The deposit had not been one of the main points, for there had been no disagreement on that point; the original draft law had provided for a deposit of 90,000 somalos for each list, but when the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian Administration had suggested that that was too high a figure the Legislative Assembly had reduced it to 1,000 somalos for each seat.

44. The decision to have no election where only one list had been presented had been reached after much discussion. The majority had felt that since every political party was free to participate in the elections there was no reason to involve districts in the tremendous expense of holding an election where there was no competition. The same provision had been applied in the general elections of February 1956, and in the municipal elections of October 1958 with satisfactory results.

45. The Administering Authority had been satisfied, from the debates in the Legislative Assembly, that the Assembly's solution of the difficulties was the only possible one.

46. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wished to know whether the Administering Authority was satisfied with the way in which the elections had been held.

47. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) pointed out that, in view of the Trusteeship Council's recommendation that the elections should be completed no later than by the end of March 1959 (A/3822, Vol. I, p.38) there had been no time to hold a census before the elections. Taking that fact into consideration, the results, in the opinion of the Administering Authority, could be considered good.

48. Some changes in the machinery of the Electoral Law would certainly be advisable. For instance, article 58 of the Electoral Law of 12 December 1958 provided simply that the results of the elections in the thirty-six districts were to be validated by the Regional Judge, whereas the Municipal Law provided that, if elections were invalidated or if for some reason a deputy could not assume office, the next candidate on the list would be substituted. Some such provision was obviously needed in the Electoral Law. There were other deficiencies, perhaps, but they were mainly of a technical nature. He was certain that, once the census had been taken, there would be no controversial points at all.

49. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked how many of the officials in charge of the Territory's six regions and thirty districts were Italians.

50. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) replied that since May 1956, when the territorial organization and administration had been transferred to Somali officials, no Italians had been in charge of the six regions, the thirty districts, the two sub-districts and the forty-seven Municipal Councils.

51. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) referred to the statement on pages 6 and 7 of the annual report that the Consul-General of the United States and the Consul-General of the United Kingdom had informed the Prime Minister of Somaliland that their Governments were prepared to render economic assistance to Somaliland after it had attained independence. He would like to know on what conditions that assistance would be offered, whether any instruments had been drafted on that subject and, if so, whether they had been considered or approved by the Somali Government.

52. Mr. SEARS (United States of America) said that he could only repeat what had been stated the previous year by the United States Consul-General at Mogadiscio, namely that such assistance was an integral part of the United States foreign policy, that was subject to the necessary United States legislation and appropriations and that it would be supplementary to the assistance provided to the Somali State by other nations.

53. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) said that a letter had been sent to the appropriate authority of the Somali Government by the representative of the United Kingdom and that the Somali Government had duly expressed its appreciation.

54. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked what were the basic provisions of the draft constitution and what were the reactions to it of the various political parties.

55. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) replied that a Technical Committee had worked on the draft constitution for about a year and on 1 November 1958 had submitted it to the Political Committee, in whose

hands it was at present. The Political Committee was composed of twenty-three members, including the President of the Legislative Assembly, the Prime Minister, all Ministers and Under-Secretaries, three Government officials and other people working in the political field. Although he found it a little difficult to give even the main points of the draft constitution at that stage, the Trusteeship Council would in due course be dealing with the question of the transfer of powers and an annex listing the main points would appear in the relevant document (T/1477). He asked that the discussion should be postponed until that important document was taken up.

56. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that he had intended to reserve his delegation's right to ask questions relating to the transfer of powers after the relevant document had been made available in Russian.

57. He would like some particulars of the training of diplomatic and consular personnel, to which reference was made on page 22 of the Administering Authority's report.

58. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) said that one Somali official had already been appointed to serve with the Italian Embassy at Cairo. Another was to be appointed to the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations, and a third was to be appointed to the Italian Embassy at Washington. Others would shortly be appointed to the Embassies in Paris and London. Some officials had been sent for training with the Consulate-General of Italy at Nairobi and in Aden and Tanganyika.

59. Mr. EL-ZAYAT (United Arab Republic) reserved his delegation's right to discuss certain points when the Council considered the plan for the transfer of powers.

60. He asked the special representative whether the law transforming the Legislative Assembly into a constituent assembly had yet been passed.

61. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) said that it had not, but that that would be done shortly.

62. Mr. EL-ZAYAT (United Arab Republic) thought that it was important for Somaliland to adopt certain fundamental laws before achieving independence. One of them was a citizenship law. The recently adopted law on original citizenship had been a step forward, but it provided that only persons with Somali fathers could be considered Somali citizens. The Advisory Council had been assured by the Administering Authority that the law, which was considered incomplete, would be supplemented by legislation for acquisition of citizenship. He wished to have some assurance from the Administering Authority that such supplementary legislation would be enacted before the termination of trusteeship.

63. Mr. GASBARRI (Special Representative) recalled that, in his inaugural speech before the new Legislative Assembly on 26 May 1959, the Administrator of Somaliland had said that important laws were on the agenda of the Legislative Assembly and that the first law was that of citizenship.

The meeting rose at 1.5 p.m.