



CONTENTS

	Page
Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Nauru (continued):	
(i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1958;	
(ii) Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, 1959	
General debate (continued)	93
Examination of conditions in the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi:	
(i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1957;	
(ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions	
Opening statements	97
Dissemination of information on the United Nations and on the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories: reports of the Secretary-General (General Assembly resolution 1276 (XIII))	99

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 Nauru (continued)

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1958 (T/1446, T/1465, T/1466, T/L.911);
- (ii) Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, 1959 (T/1448 and Add.1, T/1460)

[Agenda items 3 (d) and 6]

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

1. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) drew attention to some errors which had been made in the English interpretation of his statement at the preceding meeting. He had not used the words "loot" and "booty"; what he had said was:

"In fact the Administering Authority in its actions in the Trust Territory is guided, not by the Trusteeship Agreement, not by the Charter of the United Nations, but by the Agreement of 1919 between the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand, an agreement which, in full justification, can be called a colonial agreement on the subdivision and the plunder of the natural resources of the Territory. In this Agreement the portion allotted to each party is determined. Forty-two per cent goes to the United Kingdom, 42 per cent to Australia, and New Zealand gets 16 per cent. This is mentioned in article 14 of the Agreement."

2. He clarified that in his statement he had not said that a Chiang Kai-shek person had been illegally elected Chairman of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru, New Guinea and the Pacific Islands, 1959. In actual fact he had said:

"...and the Chairman of the Mission—a Chiang Kai-shek person, who was illegally appointed to the Mission and did not represent anyone..".

3. Lastly, in his concluding remarks, he had not criticized the reports of the Visiting Missions in general but only the report of the Visiting Mission on Nauru (T/1448 and Add.1).

4. The PRESIDENT said, with respect to the remarks of the USSR representative concerning the composition of the Visiting Mission, that he could only reaffirm the statement he had made at the preceding meeting.

5. Mr. KIANG (China) expressed surprise at the inclusion in the record of the inadmissible statements made by the representative of the Soviet Union at the previous meeting. He welcomed the statements made at that meeting by the representatives of Belgium and Italy in defence of the Visiting Mission's report.

6. Mr. BOTTOMLEY (United Kingdom) thanked the Soviet representative for his statement that he had not in fact used the terms "loot" and "booty".

7. Mr. KELLY (Australia) said that there were other misstatements in the speech of the Soviet representative which called for correction.

GENERAL DEBATE (continued)

8. Mr. JEAN-LOUIS (Haiti) said that Nauru, regardless of its small size, was as much deserving of United Nations attention as the other Trust Territories. He stressed the key part played by phosphates in the life of Nauru and hence the importance of the British Phosphate Commissioners. The future of the Nauruans, which apparently involved their incorporation in another community, in a territory subject to one of the Administering Authorities, raised a problem which was very different from those created elsewhere by the termination of trusteeship. For that reason, a specific decision by the United Nations would be necessary. The forty-year period which remained should serve

as a stimulus to hastening the search for a solution, the more so since within twenty years half the island would have been mined and demographic pressure would become considerable.

9. In those circumstances, the time factor became particularly important. There must be no delay in promoting the political, social and cultural development of the community as much as possible. It was unfortunate that that fact was not being taken sufficiently into account. On the political plane, the powers of the Nauru Local Government Council were still limited and it should be borne in mind, when the Council was accused of failing to exercise its powers sufficiently, that the members of the Council—in the six proposals which they had submitted to the Visiting Mission (T/1448, paras. 27-41)—were requesting more extensive powers. He welcomed the Administering Authority's announcement that it would re-examine that matter. It was also gratifying to learn that the Administering Authority would take account of the views expressed on the need to grant Nauruan judges a status more in keeping with the independence which they required.

10. In the economic field, although the individual situation of the Nauruans was satisfactory, it was unfortunate that, generally speaking, they had no field of specialization: bearing in mind the fact that they were neither farmers, cattle-breeders, fishermen nor traders, the question of their future became even more acute. The Administering Authority had important responsibilities in that connexion.

11. As regards public health and education, the Administering Authority deserved congratulations for the efforts which it had exerted, but it should not limit itself to those efforts: there were still numerous cases of tuberculosis and many improvements should be made in the system of education. The Visiting Mission had made some very relevant recommendations on the latter subject.

12. Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) regretted that the Trusteeship Council had not obtained information on certain fundamental questions, especially those relating to phosphates. It was to be hoped that the Administering Authority would next year supply all the information requested. The Visiting Mission also had a certain responsibility in that connexion: could it not have given the Council a fuller picture of the claims in respect of the phosphates? One of the members of the Mission had shown that he did not fully share the views expressed in the Mission's report. It might perhaps have been preferable for that member to set forth his opinion as a minority view, in accordance with rule 64 of the Council's rules of procedure.

13. Some representatives seemed to feel that the Council's interest in Nauru was somewhat out of place, in view of the dimensions of the island. However, since it was a question of international agreements and clearly defined contractual obligations, the interest of the Council could not be expressed in terms of the area of a Territory or of its geographical position or population figure. Moreover, small communities needed protection even more than large ones.

14. The departure of the Nauruans, either singly or collectively, to which the representative of one of the

Administering Authorities had referred, could be contemplated only under two conditions, namely, that it should be the result of the free choice of the Nauruans, and that the form of their resettlement should be such as to satisfy the provisions of the Trusteeship Agreement concerning achievement of the objectives of the Trusteeship System. However, the declared policy of the Administering Authority did not meet those conditions. On the one hand, the Administering Authority indicated that the question of achieving the objectives of trusteeship could not be raised in the event of resettlement, and on the other hand, it was acting in such a manner as to make the departure of the Nauruans inevitable.

15. The emphasis placed on the problem of resettlement and the ingenuity exercised in working out plans on that subject were turning the Nauruans away from the path of political advancement and self-government. Apathy was a very natural reaction to uncertainty concerning the future. The Nauruans could reach a mature and considered decision concerning their resettlement only when they had studied all the possibilities of political and economic development in their Territory. If some Nauruans really wanted to leave the Territory, was it not because they wished to escape from the state of political and economic stagnation in which the Administering Authority appeared to be keeping them?

16. In those circumstances, it would be extremely dangerous to suggest that the final plans for resettlement should be submitted to the Council when the next visiting mission went to the Territory. The Administering Authority should not be concerned primarily with the question of resettlement; it should devote itself rather to the political advancement of the inhabitants in accordance with Article 76 of the United Nations Charter and article 5 of the Trusteeship Agreement.

17. In the political field, the Nauru Local Government Council had not used its powers to the full on account of restrictions imposed by the Administering Authority and the minor tasks which it was obliged to do. Its apathy was due also to the fact that its activities did not extend to that large proportion of the Territory administered directly by the British Phosphate Commissioners and the Administering Authority. The last-named should therefore immediately set out to prepare a plan of reform, in stages, gradually extending the powers of the Local Government Council, which would eventually become a legislative body with competence extending throughout the Territory and over all sectors of the population. In the light of the experience acquired, it should also make a list of the subsidiary administrative tasks of which the Local Government Council could be relieved and which could be entrusted to another, purely municipal, executive body. Without necessarily relinquishing all possibilities of supervision, it should give the Council much greater freedom in handling the funds available and, while taking the necessary steps to safeguard the various interests concerned, it should progressively extend the Council's competence.

18. His delegation also hoped that the Nauru Local Government Council Ordinance would be amended in such a manner as to deprive the Administrator of his responsibility for counting votes and to set up a tribunal to study disputes in connexion with elections.

19. A third set of measures concerned the judicial field. He noted that there was no real separation between the executive and the judiciary, that the District Court judges and the official members of the Central Court and the Court of Appeal could be dismissed at any time by a decision of the Administrator without appeal to any disciplinary body, and most of the senior Government officers of the Territory might act in turn as judge, adviser or official. The courts of the Territory did not therefore at the present time provide all the necessary safeguards for satisfactory settlement of any disputes between the Nauruan people and the Administration, or between the people and the British Phosphate Commissioners.

20. With regard to economic conditions, the development of the phosphate industry was deterring the Nauruan population from making efforts to diversify the economy of the Territory and there was no sign of a more rational administration of the profits or of measures to promote exploitation of the other resources of the Territory. Moreover, the British Phosphate Commissioners dominated all the economic activities of the Territory. When he had made the plausible suggestion that there might be a conflict between the interests of the Commissioners and those of the Territory, the reply had been given that there was no conflict between the Nauru Island Agreements of 1919 and 1923 on the one hand and the Trusteeship Agreement and the United Nations Charter on the other, and that the three Administering Authorities of the Territory had not put themselves in such a position that the Commissioners could fail to discharge the obligations of the Administering Authority. Despite those reassuring statements, doubts persisted, the more so as the Commissioners gave no adequate information concerning their operations and as there was no Nauruan on the Board of Directors. It would accordingly be desirable for the Commissioners to transmit to the Council all the necessary information on their activities.

21. According to the annual report of the Administering Authority^{1/}, the British Phosphate Commissioners was not a profit-making organization. It was indeed working directly for three Governments, but those Governments, by purchasing phosphates at prices lower than those on the world market, were making a guaranteed saving which in fact constituted a taxable profit. That was an interesting question which might be taken up by the United Nations Commission on Permanent Sovereignty over Natural Resources.

22. With regard to the arable land which appeared to have been classified as phosphate-bearing land, he would draw the attention of the Council to the assurances given by the Administering Authority. It would be advisable for the Administering Authority to prepare a long-term economic plan with a view to providing the Territory with a diversified economy on the basis of an inventory of all available resources, with the assistance, where appropriate, of a group of experts from the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

^{1/} Commonwealth of Australia, Report to the General Assembly of the United Nations on the Administration of the Territory of Nauru from 1st July, 1957, to 30th June, 1958 (Canberra, A. J. Arthur, Commonwealth Government Printer). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1446).

23. Passing on to the question of labour, he recalled that there was in the Territory neither a service for inspecting organized labour nor any unified and complete labour legislation. It might be wondered how the application of existing legislation was supervised and there was reason for doubt as to whether methods of appeal open to workers were adequate.

24. With regard to public health, tuberculosis remained the outstanding problem. In that connexion it might be wondered whether nutrition, housing and labour conditions in the Territory were entirely satisfactory.

25. Turning to education, he pointed out that the progress achieved in teaching English would facilitate progressive unification of the three educational systems in force in the Territory. The statistics appearing in the Administering Authority's annual report would seem to show that there was some discrimination in favour of Europeans, which should be remedied if the Territory was to be provided with a satisfactory educational system and indigenous teachers given an opportunity to attain to the highest posts in education.

26. He concluded by congratulating the Administering Authority on the praiseworthy efforts which it had made in the Territory.

27. Mr. VELLODI (India) had only one suggestion to make in connexion with the report of the Visiting Mission, and that should not be considered as a reflection on the Mission itself: in future, when visiting missions went to the Territory, every effort should be made to see that they had the opportunity to discuss all aspects of life in the Territory with the Nauruan people.

28. Summing up his delegation's impressions of conditions in Nauru, as described in the report of the Administering Authority, he wished first to deal with the most important issue: namely, the future of the Nauruan community. It was regrettable to find that there had been very little progress in that connexion during the past few years. The Administering Authority said that there was no coherent opinion among the Nauruans themselves, but how could those simple people, who led a very artificial and unreal existence, be expected to make precise suggestions when they were told that there was no future for them on the island? His delegation thought that the Administering Authority should submit clear and specific proposals with regard to the future of the Nauruans. It would suggest that the three Governments concerned might find some way of relaxing their immigration laws in the case of those Nauruans who wished to settle in the metropolitan territory of the Administering Authorities.

29. But even if the fact was accepted that a stage would be reached when a large part of the population would have to leave the island, it was more than likely that a certain number would continue to live there. It would be impossible for them to survive unless measures were taken to tap resources other than phosphates, to which the economy of the Territory was so closely linked. The Administering Authority should give serious consideration to the possibility of regenerating the land from which phosphate had been extracted. In that connexion, his delegation would support the suggestion which had been made during the debate that recourse might be had to United Nations technical assistance.

30. In the political field, it was disappointing to find that the Nauru Local Government Council continued to be no more than a mere consultative body without executive or legislative functions. The manner in which the Local Government Council had put the six points on which it had made representations to the Visiting Mission proved that it was capable of discharging its responsibilities. His delegation wholly endorsed the Visiting Mission's observation that the Administering Authority should not be too reluctant to take a certain amount of risk in carrying out both its declared policy and the objectives of the Trusteeship Agreement. It had been happy to note that the Administering Authority had decided to give immediate consideration to the Visiting Mission's suggestion that housekeeping questions should be entrusted to the Nauruans. Moreover, his delegation agreed with the Visiting Mission that the Nauru Local Government Council should be able to exercise initiative without being inhibited by having to secure approval of its decisions by the Administrator. It thought that the Administering Authority might relax existing rules in that connexion. Only by full exercise of such rights and initiative could the Nauru Local Government Council acquire experience of government.

31. There was much scope for improvement in the judicial system of the Territory. In practice, there was no separation between the executive and the judiciary, as the magistrates of the District Court and of the Central Court were officers of the Administration. The Indian delegation felt very strongly that the Administering Authority should take the necessary steps to guarantee the independence of the courts.

32. With regard to the suggestions of the Local Government Council regarding the participation of Nauruans in the work of the Trusteeship Council—which had been supported by the Visiting Mission—the Indian delegation noted that the Administering Authority had agreed to consider carrying them into effect when the Trusteeship Council examined the report of the next visiting mission to Nauru. It hoped that the Administering Authority would not wait until 1962 before associating Nauruans in the work of the Council.

33. Turning to economic advancement, he noted that the relevant section of the annual report of the Administering Authority was both inadequate and confusing. The special representative had done his best to answer the many questions put to him, but the Administering Authority should see to it that a clearer and more precise picture of economic conditions in the Territory was presented in future. With regard to the phosphate industry, in particular, the report indicated the quantity and value of the phosphate exports from Nauru and the amount of the royalties paid to the inhabitants, but the detailed statistical table given in appendix XIII to the annual report covered the over-all operations of the British Phosphate Commissioners in all Territories in the area, although the Trusteeship Council had repeatedly requested the Administering Authority to provide separate figures for the Commissioners' operations in Nauru. The reasons given by the Administering Authority for not complying with that request were unconvincing. The Indian delegation was glad to note that the decision taken in 1957 to increase the royalties paid to Nauruans had at last been put into effect. However, it did not feel that the increase was large enough; it hoped

that the negotiations for a further increase which had been mentioned would take place without delay and that the question would ultimately be settled to the satisfaction of the Nauruans.

34. Regarding the phosphate-bearing land, the Indian delegation hoped that, in view of the serious shortage of arable land, the Administering Authority would not authorize the Commissioners to extend their operations to areas such as that around the Buada Lagoon which were at present being cultivated.

35. With regard to labour, the Local Government Council maintained that the employers practised racial discrimination, which was denied by the Administering Authority; but the Nauruan Workers' Organization had submitted to the Visiting Mission a communication regarding working conditions in the Territory (T/1448, para. 66) which stated that the hours of work were different for European and non-European employees of the British Phosphate Commissioners. He noted that the Administering Authority had stated its willingness to rectify the situation. The principle of equal pay for equal work should also be more fully applied.

36. The special representative had assured the Council that the Administering Authority exercised effective control over all activities in the Territory. However, article 13 of the Nauru Island Agreement of 1919 provided that there should be no interference by any of the three signatory Governments with the direction, management or control of the business of the Phosphate Commissioners. In the circumstances, the Administering Authority could hardly claim to exercise effective control over the phosphate industry. Added to that was the fact that no Nauruan occupied a policy-making post in that industry.

37. In regard to public health and social services, the Indian delegation was glad to note continued progress, and conditions appeared to be good. Nevertheless, tuberculosis seemed to be on the increase, which was attributed by some to the dispersal of phosphate dust in the area of the plants. The Indian delegation therefore supported the Local Government Council's suggestion that the World Health Organization should be asked to help solve the problem.

38. Progress had also been made in education. However, the Indian delegation did not think that the Administering Authority could justify the existence of separate schools for the different communities. Instead of trying to effect complete integration, the Administration encouraged European parents, by financial incentives and other means, to send their children abroad as soon as they had completed their primary education. The Administering Authority must abandon such measures if it really wished to apply a policy of equality. The Indian delegation noted that two Nauruans were now at the university; it hoped that an increasing number of Nauruans would follow that example and, when their university education was completed, would be given posts befitting their educational status in the Administration and with the British Phosphate Commissioners. It also hoped that, in the future, the inhabitants of the Territory would be able to take up scholarships offered by States Members of the United Nations.

39. Regarding the dissemination of information about the United Nations, the Visiting Mission had stated

that the only evidence it had seen of activity in that field had been a few United Nations posters on school walls. The Administering Authority had informed the Council that courses on the United Nations and the Trusteeship Council were given in the primary schools and that material on the United Nations was included in the curriculum throughout the secondary school course. The Indian delegation hoped that the Administering Authority would be willing to give more attention to the matter.

40. The Trusteeship Council had repeatedly expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would continue to adopt plans for the advancement of the Nauruans in all fields and that it would set target-dates for their completion, bearing in mind the particular circumstances of the Territory and the freely expressed wishes of its inhabitants. The Indian delegation trusted that, whatever future lay in store for the people of Nauru, those recommendations would not be forgotten.

41. In conclusion, he congratulated the Administering Authority on the good work it was doing in Nauru; he gave the assurance that his comments were prompted only by a desire to accelerate the development of the Territory.

42. Dr. SACKS (World Health Organization) said that, in the view of his organization, the Administering Authority should be congratulated on the strenuous efforts it was making in the field of public health in Nauru. Expenditure on public health had been 50 per cent higher than in the previous financial year and there had been a steady rise in the number of medical and health personnel. Preventive measures were playing an increasingly important part in the control of disease: tuberculin testing and BCG vaccination for tuberculosis, periodic examination of the population for leprosy, drug therapy and mosquito control for filariasis. The immunization of children of school and pre-school age against poliomyelitis had also been started.

43. There appeared to have been some difficulty in teaching the principles of child care. In its report, the Administering Authority stated that the group teaching of mothers had been tried, but had not proved satisfactory. Further efforts were therefore needed to increase the population's confidence in the maternal and child health centres. As soon as more mothercraft nurses became available, consideration might be given to the organization of a home-visiting service as a means of improving mother and child care.

44. The World Health Organization had noted with interest the idea of organizing inter-district competitions to improve environmental sanitation. To that end, more staff trained in health education were needed to work under the health inspector. It was hoped that, thanks to the educational advancement of the Territory, a larger number of students could be sent abroad for medical and health training. At the present time, only one assistant medical practitioner and one assistant dental practitioner were being trained at the Central Medical School at Suva. Nevertheless, it was encouraging that two girls were studying mothercraft nursing in Australia and that a third was starting her nursing training. WHO hoped that young Nauruans would also be sent to the Fiji Islands for training as health inspectors and in other similar occupations.

45. With regard to the question of phosphate dust, it was to be noted that the Administration was arranging for a new analysis to be made. If the dust contained only calcium phosphate, it was not hazardous to health. It was, however, a nuisance to the population and efforts should be made to eliminate it as far as possible. From the Visiting Mission's report, it would appear that the situation had somewhat improved and that active efforts were being made to find a way of reducing the dust. WHO would be happy to co-operate in that matter with the Administering Authority and the Trusteeship Council.

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

The meeting was suspended at 4.15 p.m. and resumed at 4.35 p.m.

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

- (i) Annual report of the Administering Authority for the year 1957 (T/1406, T/1442, T/1452, T/1461, T/L.909);
- (ii) Petitions and communications raising general questions (T/COM.3/L.23 to 25, T/PET.GEN/L.2, T/PET.GEN/L.3, T/PET.3/L.9)

[Agenda items 3 (a) and 4]

OPENING STATEMENTS

46. Mr. CLAEYS BOUUAERT (Belgium) presented the annual report of the Administering Authority.^{2/} The report showed the progress that had been made in Ruanda-Urundi, especially if considered in the light of previous reports of the Administering Authority and United Nations Visiting Missions. The Territory had formerly suffered from periodic famines as a result of the high population density, the frequent periods of drought, the predominant use of seasonal agricultural products for food, the lack of communications and the elementary subsistence economy, which made it impossible to meet shortages as they arose. The Administration had long been attempting to remedy the situation by introducing new crops and improved methods, by controlling soil erosion and by increasing the area of land under cultivation through drainage and irrigation. A crop cultivation and soil improvement programme had been organized, which the people had originally been required to carry out in their own interest, but which was now being undertaken by the indigenous authorities.

47. A good road network, the most complete in Central Africa, ensured that Ruanda-Urundi was no longer isolated in the centre of the African continent. Social development was gradually taking place as a result of improvements in public health and education.

48. In 1958, there had been 245,200 children at the many Government-inspected primary schools (com-

^{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 1957 (Brussels, Imprimerie Fr. Van Muysewinkel, 1958). Transmitted to members of the Trusteeship Council by a note of the Secretary-General (T/1406).

pared with 103,000 in 1950), and between 1957 and 1958 the number of students at institutions of higher education had increased from 59 to 116. Other notable achievements include reafforestation, progressive improvements in housing, and the provision of good drinking water for 3 million people in rural areas as a result of piping, the sinking of wells and the protection of springs from contamination.

49. With regard to public finance, he drew attention to the large subsidies granted by Belgium, totalling 3,300 million Belgian francs by the end of 1958, to finance capital expenditure under the plan. Expenditure under the local budgets, for which the indigenous inhabitants were entirely responsible, was equal to over half of the Territory's regular budget. As result of the association of Ruanda-Urundi with the European Economic Community, a total credit of 500 million francs had been granted to the Territory for the period 1958-1962. Projects to the total value of 50 million francs, described in the document containing additional information supplied by the Administering Authority (T/1452) had been approved for execution in 1958 by the authorities of the Development Fund for the Overseas Countries and Territories established by the Rome Treaty.

50. Nevertheless, the most fruitful progress had been on the spiritual plane. Gratifying results had been achieved through the establishment of an atmosphere of freedom and security, wider access to education, the spread of Christianity, and the persevering efforts of the Administration to democratize the indigenous feudal society and to lay the foundation for representative government while avoiding any premature weakening of the traditional machinery or the traditional incentives for collective action. The Belgian Government agreed with the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in East Africa (1957) that a gradual but far-reaching transformation of the Territory might be expected. As the result of a long apprenticeship, the people had developed the practice of frank and orderly discussion of the actions and plans of their authorities, and were taking an increasing part in the measures and decisions taken. The progress made by the people had been such that the nature, functions and powers of the political bodies had been completely transformed. The time was now at hand when that development would have to be reflected in legislation and political organization. On 1 December 1958, at the suggestion of the Vice-Governor-General, the Governor of Ruanda-Urundi, the General Council of Ruanda-Urundi had unanimously adopted a recommendation requesting the Belgian Government to send a committee of inquiry to the Territory to ascertain the people's views on the future development of political institutions. The committee had arrived in the Territory in April 1959 and would submit to the Minister a report containing a complete statement of its proposals and conclusions.

51. At present the Belgian delegation was unable to say what steps would be taken, but could give an assurance that legislative and regulatory powers would be extended to enable the people to take an increasing and direct part in decisions affecting them, and that there would be a parallel development of administrative machinery and an integration of the indigenous administrative services with those established by the Administering Authority. The people would have to choose between the separate develop-

ment of the institutions of the two States or an extension of the powers granted to the central bodies, which would be increasingly controlled by the people themselves; fiscal responsibilities might have to be re-allocated in the light of that decision. With a view to the democratization of institutions, it was likely that the forthcoming elections for the sub-chiefdom councils would be held on the basis of universal suffrage. Generally speaking, there was a marked difference between Ruanda and Urundi in customs, languages and the attitudes and desires of the people, and it was likely that the two States would wish to develop their own internal institutions. There would, however, have to be joint services to provide facilities for higher education and to deal with economic and monetary problems.

52. As the existing and future resources of Ruanda-Urundi were very different from those of the Congo, the same methods could no longer be followed in matters such as the recruitment and remuneration of staff in the two Territories. The Minister for the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi had thus decided to end the administrative centralization under which the Territory had been united with the Belgian Congo. Machinery would be established for co-ordination between the Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, but the Department in Brussels would be directly responsible for the latter in all matters relating to the duties and functions of the Administering Authority.

53. In conclusion he introduced Mr. Reisdorff, special representative for the Territory, to members of the Council.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Reisdorff, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi, took a place at the Council table.

54. Mr. REISDORFF (Special Representative) said that the progress of the Territory since 1957 had been marked by a series of social developments resulting from the desire for emancipation of the peasant population. The Governor of Ruanda-Urundi had stated in a speech made on 11 December 1958 that the "Hutu-Tutsi question" was the result of the inequality between the impoverished Hutu peasants and a Tutsi political aristocracy in whose hands the country's relatively limited wealth was concentrated. The abolition of the suzerainty contract for cattle had brought the situation of the small stock-raisers more into line with that of the arable farmers; the problem had thus become increasingly social rather than racial. In the desire to eliminate all traces of the former abuses that the Mwami of Urundi had so strongly criticized in 1957, the Governor had announced that he would impose severe penalties in all cases of abuses committed against the peasants by the traditional rulers. The Administration also hoped that the organizational reforms, which would enable representatives of all classes of the population to take a more direct part in public affairs, would reduce social stresses and have a stabilizing effect. Political movements such as the Mouvement social muhutu, the Association pour la promotion sociale de la masse and the Association des éleveurs du Ruanda already existed in the uplands of central Ruanda. Lastly, as the Government would try to maintain an equitable balance through a system of scholarships and free education, closer relations might be established be-

tween the young Bahutu and Batutsi,^{3/} since after having obtained the same diplomas, they would be able to discharge the same important functions in the life of their country. Unity and mutual understanding were the essential conditions for the success of the reforms and the admission of the people to the community of nations capable of self-government.

55. In 1958, the Administration, acting on the suggestion of the High Council of Ruanda, had decided to abolish compulsory agricultural work by individuals. The Administering Authority was fully aware of the serious nature of that decision in a country where climatic fluctuations might have grave repercussions on food production and economic activity, but it had confidence in the people's sense of responsibility; they would moreover receive valuable guidance from many devoted technical experts. In addition, a single statute governing all administrative officials had come into effect on 1 January 1959, enabling Europeans and Africans to belong to the same service. Thus, 213 African officials, including medical assistants, assistant agronomists, technical officers in the veterinary department, public works supervisors, and chief district officers had been entrusted with the duties of fourth-category officials, formerly reserved for Europeans. The promotion of some clerks to the rank of district officer was under consideration.

56. As regards the economic situation of the Territory, the decline in revenue resulting from the world recession and the increase in expenditure required for the development of the country had caused a budgetary deficit, which had been made good by an advance from the Belgian Government. Exports had decreased in volume and in value, owing among other reasons to the drop in the price of mining products. A decline in the price of coffee had been accompanied by a decrease in production, due to the fact that the 1957 harvest had been particularly abundant. In spite of the relative falling off in coffee exports, the campaign to extend coffee cultivation was giving satisfactory results. As regards cotton, the income derived from it by planters was considerably higher than in the previous year.

57. Although economic conditions had in some respects become less favourable during the year in question, a certain number of encouraging signs had been noted: the essentially seasonal migration to neighbouring Territories had decreased, local trade had continued to expand and the number of indigenous inhabitants on the tax rolls had increased. Owing to the recession, private industry had striven to lower its costs through better business organization and there had been an increasing trend towards specialization and modernization of equipment.

58. For its part, the Administration had endeavoured to improve agricultural techniques and to develop the economic equipment of the country. The construction of large-scale projects had been undertaken to facilitate transportation of goods and to ensure the production of cheap electric power. The necessary credits had been provided partly by Belgium and partly out of the loan granted by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. With regard to the

^{3/} Bahutu and Batutsi are the plural forms of Muhutu and Mututsi. The roots "Hutu" and "Tutsi" can be used without a prefix.

reconversion of the rural economy, the methods evolved by the pilot stations and by the Water Research Mission had enabled marked progress to be achieved not only in the indigenous agricultural settlements but in the zones of rural action. Reference should also be made to the extension of palm-tree cultivation and to the introduction of a tea-growing programme for the indigenous inhabitants. There had been a considerable increase in the catch by independent fishermen while the output of the industrial fisheries had remained stationary.

59. In the medical field, sixteen dispensaries had been opened, four hospitals had been or were being built and there had been an increase in the medical and auxiliary establishment. There had been a very encouraging decline in the incidence of malaria and yaws, and a large-scale vaccination campaign against small-pox, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis had been undertaken. Progress had also been made with the drinking water supply programme.

60. In the social field the Usumbura social and educational centre was carrying on a number of activities, and the Women Social Assistants' School at Gisagara also deserved mention. Youth movements were vigorously developing in Ruanda-Urundi.

61. With regard to education the number of primary school classes and pupils, particularly girls, was larger than in 1957. The teaching staff had been reinforced and the introduction of French in the first school year provided prospective candidates for secondary education with a better groundwork. Structural reforms of considerable importance had been made in the African secondary education programmes. The secondary schools followed either the metropolitan syllabus or the 1958 intensified syllabus. A new secondary institution, the Collège de Kitega, had been established. Vocational training was being steadily developed. As regards higher education, a growing number of students from the Territory were continuing their post-secondary and university studies in the African territories under Belgian administration, in the Cameroons or in Europe. A number of travelling and study scholarships had been granted by the Government, by missionary societies in the Territory and by the High Councils of two States. The first institution at university level in Ruanda-Urundi, the Agronomic and Veterinary School, had been opened at Astrida in October 1958. In 1958 two students from Ruanda-Urundi had obtained degrees in education at Lovanium University.

Mr. Reisdorff, special representative of the Administering Authority for the Trust Territory of Ruanda-Urundi, withdrew.

Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories: reports of the Secretary-General (T/1463, T/1467).

[Agenda item 13]

62. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of the Council to the two reports prepared by the Secretary-General (T/1463, T/1467). One concerned the measures taken for the dissemination of information in the Trust Territories and the other dealt with the specific question of the establishment of information centres in or near Trust Territories.

63. Mr. OBEREMKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) pointed out that according to paragraph 3 of the Secretary-General's report (T/1467), no requests had been received from the Administering Authorities for the establishment of information centres in any of the Trust Territories. It would be desirable to hear the views of the representatives of the Administering Authorities on that point.

64. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) thought that it might be better to postpone consideration of the two reports to a later date when the Council would have at its disposal information from all the Administering Authorities concerned.

65. Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) was ready to accept the Indian representative's suggestion provided that the drafting committees took the reports in question into account when drawing up the Council's recommendations and that the members of the Council were given every opportunity to question the Administering Authorities on the reports.

66. Mr. KELLY (Australia) accepted the suggestion to postpone consideration of the reports, but reserved his position as to the other suggestions.

67. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) felt that the Secretary-General's very brief report on the establishment of United Nations information centres in or near the Trust Territories was only of a provisional nature. He regretted that certain aspects of the question, inter alia, the financial aspect, had been neglected. He asked if the Secretariat intended to furnish more detailed information to the Council on that subject.

68. Mr. WIESCHHOFF (Secretary of the Council) said that the document in question could be considered as a final report but that every effort would be made to meet requests for additional information.

69. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) drew the Secretariat's attention to two points: the question of the funds available to the United Nations Office of Public Information and the question whether the Secretary-General had consulted the Administering Authorities on the possible establishment of information centres, since an information centre could be established only at the request or with the consent of the Administering Authority. In the light of General Assembly resolution 1276 (XII), the General Assembly—or the Secretary-General acting on its behalf—should take the initiative and if necessary request the consent of the Administering Authorities to the establishment of United Nations Information Centres. Only if it were able to provide the General Assembly with information on all those aspects of the question could the Council submit a complete report as requested by the General Assembly in resolution 1276 (XIII).

70. Mr. MUFTI (United Arab Republic) suggested that the Secretariat might prepare, between the current session of the Trusteeship Council and the fourteenth session of the General Assembly, supplementary reports taking into account any discussion which might take place in the Council on the two reports concerned.

The meeting rose at 5.45 p.m.