



**TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL**  
 Twenty-seventh Session  
 OFFICIAL RECORDS

Wednesday, 19 July 1961,  
 at 3.15 p.m.

NEW YORK

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**President: U TIN MAUNG (Burma).**

**Present:**

The representatives of the following States: Australia, Belgium, Bolivia, Burma, China, France, India, 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; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; World Health Organization.

**Adoption of the report of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly (T/L.1036 and Add.1 and 2) (concluded)**

[Agenda item 18]

1. Mr. RASGOTRA (India) said that his delegation would support the adoption of the text<sup>1/</sup> proposed in paragraph 2 of document T/L.1036/Add.2, which would be added to the outline of conditions in the Territory as set forth in document T/L.1017 and Add.1. He suggested however, that there should be a foot-note to the proposed new paragraph, stating where the observations referred to in the last sentence were to be found.

2. Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) recalled that at the previous meeting the Indian representative had suggested that in the section relating to the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples the paragraphs which reproduced the statement by the USSR representative should be either put in the past tense or placed in quotation marks. In his view it would be appropriate to put the statement in quotation marks, so as to make it quite clear that it was an exact reproduction of the USSR statement.

*The United States proposal was adopted.*

*The draft report (T/L.1036 and Add.1 and 2), as amended at the previous and present meetings, was adopted by 12 votes to none, with 1 abstention.*

**Closure of the session**

3. The PRESIDENT observed that in just over a month and a half the Trusteeship Council had successfully disposed of its rather heavy agenda, on the whole in an atmosphere of cordial co-operation though not

<sup>1/</sup> Subsequently reproduced in A/4818, p. 26, para. 30.

without occasional clashes of personalities and ideologies. That was in his opinion a healthy sign and indicated that despite its irregular composition the Council was still very much alive. Those who had been intimately associated with the work of the Council could not fail to be satisfied with the genuine efforts that had been exerted to make the International Trusteeship System work in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

4. The present occasion had a special significance for the Burmese delegation, since the twenty-seventh session was the last regular session of the Trusteeship Council in which it would participate. During the six consecutive years of Burma's membership the Trusteeship Council had accomplished much. A number of Trust Territories in Africa had achieved the goal set out in the Charter and within the next few months two Trust Territories in East Africa and one in the Pacific would attain independence. After serving for nearly four years on the Council, he felt he could say that, despite certain inherent weaknesses, the International Trusteeship System had functioned in a satisfactory manner.

5. He would cherish the memory of the cordial and courteous collaboration of all members of the Council and of their unremitting efforts in a great humanitarian cause. He had always maintained that the Trusteeship Council should be the first clearing house in which conditions in the Trust Territories should be thoroughly and dispassionately examined and solutions to their problems sought through peaceful means by specially qualified persons, as laid down in paragraph 2 of Article 86 of the Charter. The basic principles of the discussions in the Council must be complete objectivity and the triumph of reason and prudence over passion and feeling. He was satisfied that that obligation had been conscientiously discharged by all members of the Trusteeship Council.

6. There was no need to remind the members of the Council that conditions in at least two Trust Territories in the Pacific would long engage the attention of the General Assembly through the Fourth Committee. As a member of that Committee he would await with interest the results of close collaboration between the Administering Authorities and the inhabitants of the Trust Territories. There could now be no doubt that Tanganyika and Western Samoa would achieve independence on 9 December 1961 and 1 January 1962 respectively. One of them was already assured of a seat in the United Nations; the other might decide to apply for membership later.

7. The Administering Authorities, which were responsible for the speedy advancement of dependent peoples in the Trust Territories and for leading them to freedom and independence, should not relax their efforts in the discharge of their obligations under the Charter. In the light of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples

contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), the colonial Powers would be well advised to adapt their policies quickly to changed circumstances and to the tempo of the time. He would urge them to establish targets and plans for the complete emancipation and independence of those peoples without waiting until an explosive situation arose.

8. He expressed his delegation's thanks and appreciation to the specialized agencies and to the members of the Secretariat who had so greatly assisted the Council in its work.

9. He also paid a tribute to Mr. Bingham of the United States delegation, the Vice-President, who had ably filled the office of President when the President himself had been unavoidably absent.

10. Mr. RASGOTRA (India), speaking on behalf of the delegations of the United Arab Republic and the USSR as well as his own, paid a tribute to the President for the wisdom, fairness, objectivity and patience with which he had conducted the meetings of the Council. During Burma's membership of the Council, U Tin Maung had visited practically all the Trust Territories and it was therefore most fitting that the last session at which Burma would participate should be presided over by him.

11. The session had been an eventful one; the Council had for the last time discussed the affairs of two Trust Territories—Tanganyika and Western Samoa. Those two Territories, as also the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration, would soon be outside the Council's jurisdiction and that fact had itself lent special importance to the session.

12. Perhaps the most inspiring event of the session had been the visit of Mr. Julius Nyerere, a great African statesman; it had been gratifying to hear him say that the Council had during the years of its work discharged its duties with the greatest possible seriousness.

13. He expressed his delegation's thanks to the other members of the Council, particularly those who had served on the various Committees, and to the specialized agencies, the President and the Secretariat.

14. Mr. DIEZ DE MEDINA (Bolivia) paid a tribute to the President, to whom the success of the session was largely due. He also expressed his delegation's gratitude to the Vice-President and to the members of the Secretariat.

15. He hoped that the Council would continue its work, which was of great benefit to the peoples of the Trust Territories.

16. Mr. KIANG (China) congratulated and thanked the President, the Vice-President, the representatives of the specialized agencies and the Secretariat.

17. Sir Hugh FOOT (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the Australian, Belgian and New Zealand delegations as well as the United Kingdom delegation, praised the President's dignity, restraint and quiet authority, which had made a deep impression on him. It was true, as other and more experienced representatives had said, that the Council's work had been marked with success. As he had pointed out at the 1171st meeting, out of twenty-two and a half million people who had been inhabitants of Trust Territories when the International Trusteeship System had been established, twenty-one million would have reached

full independence by 1962. The United Kingdom delegation rejoiced in that progress and he believed that the other members of the Council would wish the Administering Authorities success in the completion of their task.

18. He had come as a devoted believer in the United Nations, and especially in the new nations, which might yet save the world. He realized how fortunate he had been to start his United Nations experience in the Trusteeship Council, and in particular under the Presidency of U Tin Maung, rather than in the more turbulent atmosphere of the Fourth Committee and the General Assembly.

19. He paid tributes to the Vice-President, the representatives of the specialized agencies, and all the members of the Secretariat who had assisted the Council in its work.

20. Mr. MONTERO DE VARGAS (Paraguay) said that his country would cease to be a member of the Trusteeship Council in December 1961. During its membership, his delegation had done its utmost to co-operate in the Council's work. Since Paraguay had joined the Council a number of Trust Territories had achieved independence and in a few months' time Tanganyika, Ruanda-Urundi and Western Samoa would also cease to be Trust Territories. He expressed the best wishes of the people and Government of Paraguay for the success, progress and prosperity of those new nations. It was a source of great satisfaction to his delegation to know that when it withdrew from the Council there would be only three Trust Territories left—New Guinea, Nauru and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. He hoped that those three Territories too would soon achieve independence. He thanked all the members of the Council for the co-operation his delegation had received.

21. He paid a tribute to the President, the Vice-President, the representatives of the specialized agencies and the Secretariat.

22. Although no longer a member of the Council, Paraguay would continue to follow with interest the work done by the Trusteeship Council, which redounded to the credit of the United Nations.

23. Mr. DE CAMARET (France) congratulated the President on the ability with which he had guided the Council in its work and expressed his delegation's regret that Burma's membership of the Council, as also that of several other countries, was coming to an end. He paid a tribute to the Vice-President, the representatives of the specialized agencies and the members of the Secretariat who had worked with the Council.

24. Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) thanked the President and other members of the Council for their kind remarks about his services as Vice-President, which, thanks to the President's conscientious performance of his duties, had been very limited.

25. Incidentally, he suggested that the Council might at some future time consider changing the rules of procedure so that the Vice-President, like the President, might have another spokesman of his delegation to express his views when he was in the Chair.

26. As a representative of an Administering Authority, he expressed his delegation's appreciation of the many useful and helpful comments made by other

delegations during the course of the debates. He was sorry that the delegations of Burma, Paraguay and the United Arab Republic were with the Council for the last time and felt sure that he was speaking for the other Administering Authorities in expressing appreciation of the devotion and hard work of those delegations and their contributions as members of the Council and as members of Visiting Missions.

27. He thanked the members of the Drafting Committees and of the Standing Committee on Petitions, as also the representatives of the specialized agencies and the Secretariat.

28. After spending one session in the Trusteeship Council and part of a session in the General Assembly, he wished that more Members of the United Nations could participate in or at least observe the work of the Trusteeship Council, which showed a high degree of non-political devotion to its task.

29. The Council had elected the President with every confidence that he would bring his great knowledge and understanding to bear on his task and that he would preside over its deliberations with dignity, patience, impartiality and good humour. Those expectations had not been disappointed. During the session the President had set a high standard of dedication to the task in hand and of honest effort to promote the interests of the peoples of the Trust Territories.

30. Mr. PROTITCH (Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) thanked the President, the Vice-President and the other members of the Council for their praise of the work of his colleagues in the Secretariat.

31. The PRESIDENT thanked all his colleagues for the kind words that had been addressed to him.

32. He declared the twenty-seventh session of the Trusteeship Council closed.

The meeting rose at 4.35 p.m.

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