



TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL
Thirtieth Session
OFFICIAL RECORDS

Wednesday, 29 May 1963,
 at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK

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President: Mr. Nathan BARNES (Liberia).

Temporary President: Mr. Jonathan B. BINGHAM
 (United States of America).

Present:

The representatives of the following States: Australia, China, France, Liberia, New Zealand, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

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

Opening of the thirtieth session

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT declared open the thirtieth session of the Trusteeship Council.
2. He welcomed the delegation of Liberia, which had become a member of the Trusteeship Council.
3. Mr. BARNES (Liberia) thanked the President for his words of welcome. Liberia was determined to serve the objectives of the Council and looked forward to a fruitful co-operation with the other members.

Adoption of the agenda (T/1605 and Add.1)

[Agenda item 1]

4. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT pointed out that the order in which the items had been listed in the provisional agenda (T/1605 and Add.1) was not necessarily the order in which they would be discussed. It was for the Council to decide on that order.

The provisional agenda (T/1605 and Add.1) was adopted.

Report of the Secretary-General on credentials

[Agenda item 2]

5. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT explained that the Secretary-General had not yet received the creden-

tials of all the members of the Council and had therefore not been able to submit his report. In the absence of objections, that item would be postponed to a later date.

It was so decided.

Election of the President and the Vice-President

[Agenda item 3]

6. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT called upon the Council to elect its President.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Mr. Barnes (Liberia) was unanimously elected President.

7. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT said he regretted having to sever his connexions with the Trusteeship Council. The Trusteeship Council had a record of great successes which had been insufficiently appreciated in the world, and its work would continue to have a great and good influence. The very fact that its membership had shrunk reflected its success in helping the various Trust Territories to achieve independence.

Mr. Barnes (Liberia) took the Chair.

8. The PRESIDENT first congratulated Mr. Bingham who had been President of the Council at its twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions, on the ability and effectiveness with which he had presided over the Trusteeship Council.

9. As the new President of the Trusteeship Council, he was fully aware that, by electing him, the members of the Council had wished to pay a tribute to the country he represented. Not only on his own behalf but on behalf of Liberia, he thanked them for that mark of confidence and assured them that Africa and its people would be deeply appreciative of their gesture of goodwill.

10. It was a matter of great significance that eight of the eleven Territories placed under the International Trusteeship System had attained the objectives of that system, either by becoming independent States or by becoming part of other independent States. The Council's task continued to be the promotion of the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the remaining Trust Territories and of their progressive development towards self-government or independence in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the people.

11. He called upon the Council to elect the Vice-President.

A vote was taken by secret ballot.

Mr. Corner (New Zealand) was unanimously elected Vice-President.

12. Mr. CORNER (New Zealand) said he was glad that the Council should have as its President so experienced

a diplomat as Mr. Barnes, whose wisdom had been demonstrated on many occasions.

13. He deeply appreciated the honour that the members of the Council had done him and his country in electing him Vice-President. As the Administering Authority responsible for bringing Western Samoa to independence, New Zealand had come to value the Trusteeship Council greatly and to see in the Trusteeship System a very useful way of bringing dependent peoples to a fruitful independence.

14. He associated himself with what the President had said about Mr. Bingham, who had been a most able President of the Council.

15. Mr. SEYDOUX (France) congratulated the President on his brilliant election, for which he had many qualifications. The presence of Liberia on the Trusteeship Council symbolized the importance of the African continent on the international scene. The French delegation also welcomed Miss Brooks, who would represent Liberia on the Council, and wished Mr. Bingham, who for a year had so ably presided over the Council, all possible success in his new duties as United States representative on the Economic and Social Council. It also congratulated Mr. Corner on his election to the post of Vice-President.

16. Sir Patrick DEAN (United Kingdom) congratulated the President most sincerely on his election. It illustrated the high regard in which the President and his delegation were held in the United Nations; and it was also an acknowledgement of the close, constructive attention which that delegation had paid to the affairs of the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. The United Kingdom delegation looked forward to a harmonious session of the Trusteeship Council under the President's direction.

17. He also wished to congratulate the New Zealand representative on his election as Vice-President. New Zealand's progressive and devoted administration of the Territories for which it was responsible had been widely recognized in the United Nations, and the Council's choice of Vice-President thus reflected its appreciation of New Zealand's role in relation to the Trust Territories.

18. He joined in the tribute paid to the outgoing President, who well deserved the Council's thanks.

19. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) congratulated the President on his election and recalled that he had served on the Security Council, of which he had also been President. She had no doubt that he would conduct the Council's proceedings with success.

20. On behalf of her delegation she also wished to congratulate the New Zealand representative on his election as Vice-President, and she thanked the French representative for the welcome he had extended to her.

21. Mr. BRYKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) congratulated the President on his election and paid a tribute to the Liberian delegation, which had so much experience in questions relating to dependent territories. The presence of Miss Brooks, who had been a capable Chairman of the Fourth Committee, was one more proof of the importance which Liberia attached to the questions with which the Council had to deal. He hoped that the presence of representatives from Africa, which had more experience in the liquidation of colonialism than any other region, would enable the Council to take concrete decisions for the application to

Trust Territories of the General Assembly's Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples (resolution 1514 (XV)). The fact was that in the Pacific region there still remained some Trust Territories whose Administering Authorities sought in various ways to hinder their achievement of independence. The Soviet delegation hoped that, thanks to the efforts of the President and of the countries of Africa and Asia, the Council would succeed in guiding the Trust Territories along the lines laid down in the General Assembly's Declaration and also at the Conferences held at Bandung, Accra and Addis Ababa. The Soviet delegation would give those efforts its entire support.

22. He also congratulated Mr. Corner on his election and, while recalling that his delegation had not been satisfied by the results of the twenty-ninth session of the Council, he expressed his best wishes to the outgoing President and Vice-President.

23. Mr. Chiping H. C. KIANG (China) addressed his congratulations to the President and Vice-President on their election and welcomed Miss Brooks to the Council.

24. Mr. McCARTHY (Australia) congratulated the President and Vice-President and paid a tribute to their experience. He assured them of his delegation's support. He wished the outgoing President success in his new duties.

25. Mr. YATES (United States of America) said his delegation accepted gratefully the generous tributes that had been paid to the outgoing President. He offered his congratulations to the new President and Vice-President.

Organization of work

26. The PRESIDENT proposed that the Council should start by examining conditions in the Trust Territory of Nauru and then pass on to the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and New Guinea, in that order, in accordance with the tentative time-table submitted by the Secretariat.^{1/}

27. Mr. BRYKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) wondered whether the Council would conduct its work in the old way, or shether it would be guided by the spirit of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples, in view of the profound changes that had taken place in the world. The Trusteeship Council was the only organ of the United Nations which ignored those realities and remained unaware of the course of history outside the walls of the United Nations. Whereas the Special Committee on Territories under Portuguese Administration, the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and the Special Committee for South West Africa, among others, had adopted decisions in 1962 concerning territories still under colonial domination, the Council had been content to act as if the General Assembly's Declaration were none of its business, despite the fact that the Trust Territories were mentioned first in paragraph 5 of resolution 1514 (XV).

28. If it was to do anything worth-while, the Council must change its methods and pass from words to deeds. In his opinion, the question of the achievement of

^{1/} Not reproduced as an official document.

independence by the Trust Territories should occupy a position in the centre of the Council's discussions, not at the end, and should be accompanied by an examination of the situation in each Territory, so that the question could be tackled with a clear idea of the situation in that respect.

29. With regard to the question of drafting committees, he considered that the Council should not decide in advance to set up such committees, since the Council itself was perfectly capable of working out recommendations concerning the Territories. The elimination of the drafting committees would also save time.

30. Turning to the matter of petitions, he recalled that the petition in document T/PET.10/35 contained a request to be heard from Mr. John Hosmer. He felt that that petitioner should be heard when the Council proceeded to examine the situation in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

31. The PRESIDENT said that an invitation had already been sent to the petitioner in question.

32. He proposed the adoption of the tentative timetable submitted by the Secretariat.

It was so decided.

33. The PRESIDENT proposed that the question of establishing drafting committees should be postponed until a later date.

It was so decided.

Report of the Trusteeship Council (General Assembly resolution 1858 (XVII))

[Agenda item 9]

The Council took note of General Assembly resolution 1858 (XVII).

The meeting rose at 12.5 p.m.