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PROVISIONAL VERBATIM RECORD OF THE THIRTEEN HUNDRED AND  
SIXTY-SEVENTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Wednesday, 10 June 1970, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Sir Laurence McINTYRE (Australia)

- Examination of annual reports of the Administering Authorities on the administration of Trust Territories, for the year ended 30 June 1969: [4] (continued)
  - (b) Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (T/1705; T/L.1153)
- Offers of Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General [General Assembly resolutions 557 (VI) and 753 (VIII) (T/1711) [11]
- Co-operation with the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination [General Assembly resolution 2106 B (XX) (T/1703) [13]
- Programme for the observance in 1971 of the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination [General Assembly resolution 2544 (XXIV)] [14]

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## AGENDA ITEM 4

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITIES ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF TRUST TERRITORIES, FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1969:

(b) TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS (T/1705; T/L.1153) (continued)

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Edward Johnston, the Special Representative for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and Mr. Ambilos Iehsi and Mr. Benjamin Manglona, Advisers to the Special Representative, took places at the Council table.

The PRESIDENT: We shall now continue the general debate on this item.

Mr. WANG (China): The Trusteeship Council has embarked on the consideration of the second major item of its agenda, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. My delegation listened carefully to the opening statements made by the representatives of the Administering Authority. From those statements, we have noted the highlights of the progress that had been made in the Trust Territory during the past year. We have also heard the statements by the two Special Advisers, as well as the statements by the petitioners. My delegation paid great attention to those statements, as they represent the Micronesian view on the present condition of the Territory and on the problems which exist in the Territory.

The Council has before it, in addition to the Administering Authority's annual report, the report of the Visiting Mission which toured the Trust Territory for nearly six weeks in February and March this year. The report of the Visiting Mission covers a wide range of topics relevant to its terms of reference. It contains factual findings as well as opinions and recommendations unanimously reached by its members. It seems to be redundant for my delegation to review the various conditions of the Trust Territory in the past year since this has already been done very thoroughly by the Visiting Mission in the report before the Council. We should like to offer a few remarks on some of the major issues.

First and foremost, there is the question of the future political status. As the Council is aware, the Future Political Status Commission of the Congress of Micronesia has completed its work after two years of

investigation and study. In its final report submitted to the Congress of Micronesia in July 1969, the Commission recommended that the Trust Territory be constituted as a self-governing State and that this Micronesian State negotiate entry into free association with the United States. If that should not be possible, then Micronesia should take the second alternative, that is, independence.

The negotiations envisaged in the Commission's recommendation have now finished their second round. The results of those negotiations will not be made known to the Council until the Micronesian Status Delegation makes its report to the Congress of Micronesia this July. We presume that those negotiations will be resumed at a suitable time after the Congress of Micronesia has considered the report of the Status Delegation. It is our hope that the parties will be guided by a spirit of give-and-take, so that the questions involved in the future relationship between the two equal and friendly partners may be solved in a mutually satisfactory manner.

During its visit to the Trust Territory the Visiting Mission brought up this important question of future status at almost every meeting with the members of Congress, the members of legislatures, the general public and the college students. With very few exceptions, a large majority which expressed its view on this question supported the recommendation of the Status Commission.

The Mission, however, noted a general reluctance on the part of Micronesians to contemplate an early change of the Status of the Territory. There was an indication that the people would rather be given more time in order to make up their mind. That attitude is perhaps due to the realization that Micronesia will have to continue to depend heavily on the financial aid from the Administering Authority. My delegation does not think that financial dependence on the Administering Authority should discourage the Micronesian people from taking an early free act of self-determination. We do not believe that the prolongation of the present status is a right answer to this situation. On the contrary, the people of Micronesia might find themselves even more dependent on the United States if they choose to continue the present status indefinitely. That is why

(Mr. Wang, China)

my delegation fully agrees with the view of the Visiting Mission that it would be desirable for the people of Micronesia to determine their future status sooner rather than later.

It is natural that the people of Micronesia wish their economy better developed before the Territory changes into a new status. However, the effort of the Administering Authority in the field of economic development remains much to be desired. The Visiting Mission, although it noticed certain encouraging features, such as the rapid development of tourism and air transport, had to conclude that it did not see signs of significant progress in the economy of the Territory as a whole. In particular, the Mission reported that the basic infrastructure is still in a poor state; agriculture is stagnant and seems to be threatened by the movement of population to the towns, and the land is not being put into rational and productive use. In its report to the Council, the Mission made very comprehensive analyses of the various aspects of the Territory's economy and made some recommendations in the light of those analyses. It is hoped that those recommendations will receive due consideration by both the Administration and the Congress of Micronesia.

(Mr. Wang, China)

The Mission recognized that there are serious obstacles to the development of a modern economy in the Trust Territory. It emphasized that the question of the attitude and motivation of the people is of paramount importance. This is an area which only the people themselves can help improve.

My delegation is gratified that accelerated economic development is one of the major objectives of the Administration's general programme of development for the next five years. With the increasing involvement of the Congress of Micronesia in the budgeting and planning process and the enforcement of the policy of decentralization, we can expect that that future development programme will be more suitable to Micronesian needs. The stepped-up activities of the Economic Development Loan Fund and the large increase in the funds available to it will no doubt help solve the problem of capital shortage in the private sector of the economy.

The expansion of the enrolment in the Micronesian Occupation Center will contribute, to no small degree, to the strengthening of the skilled technical work force. The large budgetary increases will no doubt provide a stimulus to the development of agriculture and marine resources. These are the highlights of the progress which we are very happy to note.

Another question my delegation wishes to discuss is that of land. This is a question that has very much to do not only with the economic development of the Territory, but also with the question of future status. During its visit to the Territory, the Visiting Mission heard numerous demands that land held by the Administering Authority must be returned to the people of Micronesia. In one district the demand was so strong that people would not consider the question of future status unless and before all land was returned to its original owners.

My delegation holds that these are legitimate demands. We are gratified that it is the intention of the Administering Authority to return all land to the Micronesians at the proper time, considering the development of the political status of Micronesia. We are pleased to note that certain lands formerly used for defence purposes have been released for civil use, particularly the recent return of the Bikini Atoll to its original inhabitants. We believe the situation of public land which the Micronesians now find so unsatisfactory will be solved after they have attained self-government.

(Mr. Wang, China)

The traditional land tenure system in Micronesia is a complex one. The previous United Nations Visiting Missions found that the lack of clear definition of title and boundaries to land is an impediment to economic development. The Trusteeship Council has on many occasions recommended the necessity of a land survey and registration programme. My delegation is glad that such a programme is now under way. The present programme was actually established by the Land Commission Act passed by the Congress of Micronesia in 1966. It is a measure which has great potential benefit for the people of Micronesia. It should not be a subject for criticism by those who really want Micronesia to progress.

Finally, my delegation wishes to express our appreciation to the Administering Authority for the resources it has devoted to the advancement of the Trust Territory and for its pledge that it is still dedicated to providing the people of Micronesia with the opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination without undue delay. We are optimistic that Micronesia will soon enter into a new future in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of its people.

The PRESIDENT: I understand that the representatives of UNESCO and WHO would like to make statements. I call first on the representative of UNESCO.

Mr. WATANABE (UNESCO): First of all, I should like to express our appreciation to you, Mr. President, for giving me the opportunity to present our Organization's comments on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, especially its educational advancement.

Unfortunately, we could not present our observations on the report of the Government of Australia on the administration of the Trust Territory of New Guinea during the debate. This is due to the fact that the departments concerned have been heavily committed to the Executive Board of UNESCO, which is now in session. However, I can assure you that this in no way means a lack of interest on the part of UNESCO in the development of the Trust Territory.

As to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, we have listened closely to the statements made by the representative of the United States, Ambassador Wright; High Commissioner Johnston, Senator Iehsi and Representative Manglona.

(Mr. Watanabe, UNESCO)

We have also noted the report of the Visiting Mission, as well as the comments and suggestions made by the members of the Council. We are particularly interested in the official designation of the Micronesian Teacher Education Center as "The Community College of Micronesia", referred to in Mr. Johnston's statement. The Council may be assured that the remarks relating in particular to the progress of education, as well as those on mass communication and the cultural integrity of the Territory, will be studied closely by the UNESCO departments concerned.

Today, however, I should like to present UNESCO's comments on educational development, as reflected in Part VIII of the annual report of the Administering Authority for 1968-1969.

UNESCO noted with satisfaction the policy of the Trust Territory Government to provide educational opportunities for all Micronesians, which is consonant with our Organization's goal of implementing the right to education. The emphasis placed on elementary and secondary education appears to be justified. Equally justified is the emphasis placed on qualitative improvement as a means of increasing the efficiency of the educational system and of efforts, particularly of the Education Department, to upgrade the level of teacher training.

That the majority of teachers are Micronesians is a cause for satisfaction. Programmes of training in English teaching seem to be sound. The non-segregation principle and teaching about the United Nations are equally satisfying aspects.

Provisions for ensuring compulsory education seem to be adequate, and the enrolment ratio of girls compared to that of boys is encouraging, although there may be need for investigating the causes of female dropout rates at high school level.

(Mr. Watanabe, UNESCO)

The study unit plan approach in elementary education and the emphasis placed on better understanding of environment in high schools point to a reasonable and progressive outlook. With respect to higher education, other than courses in teacher training programmes, it would be interesting to have a breakdown of enrolment by major field of studies.

Also of interest would be more information on provisions for and the nature of adult and community education, including the policy enforced with respect to literacy.

Before closing my brief statement, I should like to draw the attention of the Council to resolution 2.313 adopted by the General Conference of UNESCO at its fifteenth session on "Man and His Environment" which calls upon all Member States to prevent and counteract damage or contamination of the biosphere. In this regard, our Organization will be observing with particular interest the efforts made by the administrative authority to combat the crown of thorns starfish which have been menacing the coral reefs of the Territory.

Dr. MALAN (World Health Organization): I thought that the Council might appreciate a bird's eye view of WHO's programme of assistance to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I should also like to make a few comments on behalf of my organization on the health situation of Micronesia.

As already mentioned in WHO's written observations to the thirty-fifth session of the Council, education and training of health personnel at all levels and in all categories continues to be a problem in the Trust Territory. Valuable efforts are being made by the Administering Authority to provide more training facilities and to improve the student enrolment. We noted in this connexion that increasing numbers of auxiliary workers, particularly health aides and nurse's aides, are being trained and that the network of health services to which these workers can be assigned is slowly expanding. We believe that vigorous training programmes for qualified professional staff should be urgently set up in the Territory.



(Dr. Malan, WHO)

WHO's assistance to Micronesia consists mainly of the provision of fellowships to local personnel for training and for participation in seminars and courses. In 1969, WHO fellowships were awarded to fellows from the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in the fields of environmental health, general surgery and public health nursing. Participants from the Trust Territory attended the joint WHO/South Pacific Commission Course on Tuberculosis and Leprosy which was held in Noumea in March and April 1969 and the Second Regional Seminar on Venereal Disease Control held in Manila in December 1968. Fellowships in the following fields are earmarked in our 1970 Programme and Budget: environmental health, public health administration, nursing, dental health, and education and training.

The WHO and United Nations Missions to the Trust Territory in 1965 and 1967 respectively had strongly advocated the need for a comprehensive long-term health plan for proper allocation of scarce resources and investment in the future. We noted with interest that a Trust Territory Health Planning Council has been established

"to investigate health problems and advise the Commissioner for Health Services on planning for future health programmes".

The Territory has now a government machinery for drawing up an inventory of available resources, making projections and planning itemized and quantitative commitments over a long-term period, thus ensuring that health services are given their appropriate priority in the evolving pattern of general development.

It is noted that the environmental health programme has continued to focus attention on the development and strengthening of sanitation services, training of sanitation personnel, the development of an infrastructure of sanitary installations and public education in environmental hygiene. The water supply situation still appears to be a difficult one. As in so many other developing territories, the scarcity of trained personnel and the inadequacy of available resources for environmental health activities are hampering the need for increased efforts in this field.

May I assure the Council of our constant interest in the development of the health services of the Trust Territory and of our efforts to increase, as much as possible, our modest contribution to the Administering Authority in order to achieve our common goal.

The PRESIDENT: That concludes our general debate on this item. As I announced yesterday the Special Representative of the Administering Authority will make his final statement at our meeting tomorrow morning, Thursday.

Mr. Johnston, Mr. Iehsi and Mr. Manglona withdrew.

AGENDA ITEM 11

OFFERS OF MEMBER STATES OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL (GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 557 (VI) and 753 (VIII) (T/1711))

Mr. ISSRAELIAN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): As is to be seen from the Secretary-General's report (T/1711), which was submitted to us for consideration, the Soviet Union is one of the eleven Member States of the United Nations which at present and in the past has offered fellowships to the inhabitants of the Trust Territories. The representative of the Soviet Union has already replied to the Secretary-General's questionnaire stating that in the Soviet educational institutions there are at present no inhabitants of the Trust Territory of New Guinea nor any from the Pacific Islands. As you are aware, the Soviet Union has always given its aid and continues to give its aid to the young people of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories to permit them to continue their education and has always replied affirmatively to any request made to it in this connexion.

In 1969, about 300 persons from the Territories mentioned were being trained in the Soviet Union. In the future, the Soviet Union will endeavour to meet all requests from young people from the Trust Territories as long as they wish to be educated in Soviet Union institutions, on condition, of course, that these requests are made to our country.

The PRESIDENT: Does any other member wish to speak on this item?

As there are no further speakers, may I suggest that we dispose of the question by deciding to take note of the Secretary-General's report (T/1711).

It was so decided.

#### AGENDA ITEM 13

CO-OPERATION WITH THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION  
[GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2106 B (XX) (T/1703)]

The PRESIDENT: The background to this item is explained in the Secretary-General's note of 18 February 1970 (T/1703). Briefly, by the terms of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, and of paragraphs 2 and 3 of General Assembly resolution 2106 B (XX), the Council is requested to transmit to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination copies of petitions it receives and circulates which relate to racial discrimination, as well as copies of the reports it receives from the Administering Authorities.

In addition, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, which held its first meeting in January of this year, addressed further requests to the Trusteeship Council. Those requests are contained in a document entitled "Statement on the responsibilities of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination". This document is in restricted distribution under the symbol CERD/C/R.11 and copies have been made available to members.

(The President)

In paragraph 7 of that document the Committee requests the Council:

(a) To supply it, together with the copies of relevant petitions it transmits to the Committee, with (i) such information as may be available about the petitioners, (ii) information on the action taken on the petitions, and (iii) records of the meetings at which the petitions were considered or the petitioners were heard;

(b) To transmit to the Committee, as soon as they become available, copies of the reports submitted by the Administering Powers in accordance with Article 88 of the United Nations Charter, and other relevant reports, such as working papers prepared by the Secretariat;

(c) To indicate those portions of every report which, in its opinion, are directly relevant to the principles and objectives of the Convention.

That is the background. Does any member wish to speak on this item?

As there are no speakers, and in order to conclude our consideration of this item, may I suggest that we take decisions, first, on the original request to the Council contained in the Convention and in General Assembly resolution 2106 B (XX), and, secondly, on the additional requests addressed to the Council by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

If this procedure is agreeable to members, may I suggest, with regard to the reports submitted to the Council by the Administering Authorities, that the Council instruct the Secretariat to transmit them to the Committee as soon as they are received.

The second request requires that the Council decide which of the petitions before it relate to racial discrimination. In this connexion, may I suggest that the Council authorize me to propose to it, at a future meeting, which of the petitions seem to relate to racial discrimination. Then, when the Council takes a decision, it would instruct the Secretariat to transmit those petitions to the Committee.

If there is no objection to these two suggestions, I shall take it that the Council decides to accept them.

It was so decided.

(The President)

The PRESIDENT: We shall now take up the additional requests addressed to us by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. With regard to the request contained in paragraph 7 (a), may I suggest that the Council instruct the Secretariat to transmit information on the action taken on the relevant petitions and indicate the meetings at which they were discussed. However, I do not see how the Council could transmit information on the petitioners since it has never been the practice of the Council, nor is it possible for the Council, to inquire into the bona fides of petitioners.

With regard to the request contained in paragraph 7 (b), which asks for transmission of additional reports to those of the Administering Authorities, such as Secretariat working papers, this could be met by transmitting copies of the Trusteeship Council's report, which includes the working papers prepared by the Secretariat of the Council.

With regard to paragraph 7 (c), which requests the Council to indicate those portions of the reports which are directly relevant to the principles and objectives of the Convention, this seems to impose a difficult and, moreover, inappropriate task on the Council. In my view, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination itself, which is a body of experts, would seem to be the most competent body to make the decision as to relevance.

Does any member of the Council wish to comment on those suggestions?

If there is no comment, and if I hear no objection, I shall take it that the Council decides to accept them.

It was so decided.

## AGENDA ITEM 14

PROGRAMME FOR THE OBSERVANCE IN 1971 OF THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR ACTION TO COMBAT RACISM AND RACIAL DISCRIMINATION (GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 2544 (XXIV))

The PRESIDENT: The next item on our agenda today is entitled "Programme for the observance in 1971 of the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination". As members are aware, that item has been placed on the agenda of the Council at this session following the adoption by the General Assembly, at its twenty-fourth session, of resolution 2544 (XXIV). In paragraph 5 of that resolution the General Assembly

"Invites the organs of the United Nations and the specialized agencies concerned to co-operate and participate in the preparatory work and in the observance of the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination".

Furthermore, by paragraph 3 of the same resolution, the General Assembly approves the programme for the observance of the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination as prepared by the Secretary-General. That programme, prepared by the Secretary-General, which is available in document A/7649, suggests that the United Nations organs whose work relates to the question of racial discrimination, including the Trusteeship Council, should be encouraged to proceed with their own specific programmes for the International Year for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Another suggestion is that the President and the Chairmen might issue an appropriate statement on 1 January 1971, in other words on the first day of the particular year.

If no member wishes to speak on this item, may I suggest, in order to conclude our consideration thereof, that the Council authorize the President to issue a statement on behalf of the Trusteeship Council on 1 January 1971.

As I hear no objection, it is so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.25 a.m.