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Forty-Third Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE FOURTEEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINTH MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,  
on Thursday, 16 July 1976, at 3 p.m.

13

President: Mr. SCALABRE (France)

Statement by the President

Report of the Secretary-General on credentials

Examination of the annual report of the Administering Authority for the year ended 30 June 1975: Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (continued)

Report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to observe the plebiscite in the Mariana Islands District, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, June 1975 (continued)

Adoption of the report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council  
[Security Council resolution 70 (1949)]

Closure of the forty-third session

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The co-operation of delegations in strictly observing this time-limit would be greatly appreciated.

## STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): As members of the Council will recall, at its 1450th meeting, on 29 June 1976, the Trusteeship Council decided to delete from its provisional agenda item 15, entitled "Adoption of the report of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly".

In my capacity as President of the Trusteeship Council, I had informed the Secretary-General of that decision in a letter dated 29 June 1976, which, I believe, has been distributed to Council members. If it has not been, I shall see that copies are distributed immediately. But at the request of a delegation, I shall now read out that letter:

"Mr. Secretary-General,

"I have the honour to inform you that the Trusteeship Council today, during its forty-third session, decided to delete item 15 from its agenda (see the provisional agenda in document T/1773). I wish to make clear that, given that decision, a report on this session will not be submitted by the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly."

I subsequently received a letter, dated 7 July 1976, from the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs, which I shall now read out to the Council:

"Mr. President,

"On behalf of the Secretary-General, I wish to thank you for, and acknowledge receipt of, the letter which you addressed to him on 29 June to inform him of the decision taken by the Trusteeship Council to delete item 15 from its agenda. Pursuant to that decision, the item entitled 'Adoption of the report of the Trusteeship Council to the General Assembly' will be deleted from the provisional agenda of the General Assembly, to be issued this month.

(Signed) William B. Buffum".

I believe that Mr. Buffum's reply also has been distributed to all members of the Council.

Does any delegation wish to comment on the letter of the Secretary-General dated 29 June or on the reply dated 7 July from the Under-Secretary-General?

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have two points to make. First of all, Mr. President, the text of your letter was not distributed, or at least we did not receive it. Secondly, so far as I understood it, your letter to the Secretary-General said that the Trusteeship Council had decided not to submit a report to the General Assembly but did not state that the Soviet Union was opposed to this. I think that that letter should reflect what occurred here in our deliberations on this question. If your letter does not point this out, where will it be mentioned, aside from the verbatim record?

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): As regards the first question, I regret that the text of this letter has not been distributed. I had asked that that be done and I see no reason why it should not be distributed. Indeed, I have just read out the letter.

As regards the second question, I did not feel it necessary to give the details of the vote, but the position of the representative of the Soviet Union appears in the verbatim records of the Council. Furthermore, if the representative of the Soviet Union desires, I shall gladly address an additional note to the Secretary-General in which it will be made clear that the decision of the Council was taken by three votes to one, and that the negative vote was that of the Soviet Union. I am in the hands of the representative of the Soviet Union in this regard.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, I thank you very much for your clarification. With your permission, I should like to reflect on this. I am sure that together we shall be able to reach an acceptable decision.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I am of course at the disposal of the representative of the Soviet Union, but I would inform him that I shall be leaving on vacation next Monday.

If there are no other comments, I should like to suggest that the Council decide to take note of the contents of the letter from the Under-Secretary-General for Political and General Assembly Affairs,

(The President)

it being understood that the reservation made by the representative of the Soviet Union will be taken into account.

It was so decided.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ON CREDENTIALS (T/1777, and Add.1)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I should now like to draw the Council's attention to the report of the Secretary-General on credentials contained in document T/1777 and Add.1. Addendum 1 relates to the French delegation; as the result of an error, one of the members of that delegation, Mr. Ricardo Duque, was not included in document T/1777.

If I hear no objections, I propose that the Council take note of the report of the Secretary-General on credentials.

It was so decided.

EXAMINATION OF THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTERING AUTHORITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1975: TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS (T/L.1200 and ADD.1-2, T/L.1201) (continued)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Today we shall take up the report of the Drafting Committee on the Pacific Islands. That report has been distributed in document T/L.1201. I call on the representative of the United Kingdom to introduce the report.

Mr. RICHARDSON (United Kingdom): I dare say that it is the fate of many members of this Organization to introduce reports in the formulation of which they have not taken part. At the outset, I should like to say, on behalf of my delegation, how much I regret that those members of it who played the major part in the proceedings of this Council are not able to be present here today. I should, in particular, like to convey Mr. Murray's regrets to this Council. He has had to leave New York on urgent personal business.

The Drafting Committee established by the Trusteeship Council on 1 July comprised the representatives of France and the United Kingdom. The Drafting

(Mr. Richardson, United Kingdom)

Committee held in all five meetings. During these meetings the Committee had the valuable assistance, as always, of representatives of the Administering Authority, but the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report remain, of course, those of the representatives of France and the United Kingdom. The Committee has drafted a number of conclusions and recommendations that it hopes will be acceptable generally to members of the Council. These are set out in the annex to the report in document T/L.1201. The Drafting Committee also recommends that the Trusteeship Council adopt the revised working paper on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, contained in document T/L.1200 and Add.1 and 2, which summarizes recent developments in the Territory, as the basic text of the chapter on conditions in that Territory to be included in the next report of this Council to the Security Council.

In conclusion, the Drafting Committee would recommend that the Trusteeship Council adopt the conclusions and recommendations set out in the annex, and that these conclusions and recommendations be included at the end of its report. In this connexion, members will recall that the conclusions and recommendations of previous reports were included at the end of each relevant section or subsection of a chapter, as appropriate. However, members of the Drafting Committee have recommended that in the current report the Council agree to include all the conclusions and recommendations at the end of the report for ease of reference.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I should like to suggest that the Council take up first the draft conclusions and recommendations contained in the annex to the report (T/L.1201), and that we consider them section by section.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We shall take up first section A, "General", which appears on page 1 of the annex to document T/1201. This section consists of paragraphs 1 and 2.

As there are no comments on section A, I shall now put it to the vote.

Section A was adopted by 2 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Does any member wish to comment on section B, "Political Advancement", which comprises paragraphs 3 to 16, inclusive?

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I have one remark with regard to paragraph 3. I would have preferred that the words "the Mariana Islands and" be inserted before the words "the Marshall Islands" in the first sentence.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Does any member wish to comment on this section, and in particular on the point raised by the representative of the Soviet Union?

Mr. RICHARDSON (United Kingdom): On behalf of the Drafting Committee I should like to say that the views of the Committee on the question of the Mariana Islands are set out in section F of the report, and it would be the view of my delegation, certainly, that the present wording of paragraph 3 -- that is, the reference to the unity of the Marshall Islands and the Caroline Islands alone -- should be preserved as it stands.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I would ask the representative of the Soviet Union whether, in view of what the representative of the United Kingdom has just said, he still wishes to request a change in the wording of paragraph 3.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Naturally, I should like my proposal to be adopted, but I shall not insist upon it. I should, however, like the verbatim record to reflect what I have said concerning this sentence.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): There will not be a vote on this specific point, but obviously the Soviet representative's observations will be reflected in the verbatim record of this meeting.

Since no other representative wishes to comment on section B, I shall now put it to the vote.

Section B was adopted by 2 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The Committee will now take up section C, "Economic Advancement". This section comprises paragraphs 17 to 41, inclusive.

As no representative wishes to comment on section C, I shall now put it to the vote.

Section C was adopted by 2 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The Committee will now consider section D, "Social Advancement". This section comprises paragraphs 42 to 48, inclusive.

As no member wishes to comment on section D, I shall now put it to the vote.

Section D was adopted by 2 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We come now to Section E, "Educational advancement", which comprises paragraphs 49 to 52, inclusive.

As no member wishes to comment on section E, I now put it to the vote.

Section E was adopted by 2 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We shall now consider section F, "Constitutional developments and progress towards self-government or independence", which comprises paragraphs 53 to 60, inclusive.

The Secretariat has pointed out that it was the Drafting Committee which recommended the new title of section F, replacing the one on page 43 of document T/L.1200, namely, "Establishment of intermediate target dates and final time-table for the attainment of self-determination or independence".

Since no member of the Council wishes to comment on section F, I now put it to the vote.

Section F was adopted by 2 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, I would agree with any procedure you may wish to follow, but I should like to know when we shall be able to make explanations of vote: after the vote on the report as a whole or at this time? I would be agreeable to either procedure.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I believe that I indicated at the very outset of the consideration of this item that we would first vote section by section on this document. Of course, we shall then have to vote on the document as a whole.

I think that the representative of the Soviet Union has before him the report of the Drafting Committee in document T/L.1201 and that he has noted that the Committee's recommendation that the Trusteeship Council adopt the conclusions and recommendations appears before the annex. Inasmuch as the annex contains the entire substance, it seemed more consistent to vote first on the annex, section by section, and then proceed to a vote on the whole. Does



(The President)

that clarification satisfy the representative of the Soviet Union? All the members of the Council will of course have an opportunity to explain their votes later.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): Mr. President, I should like to explain our vote on the document now before us, unless you prefer some other procedure.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The representative of the United States may proceed.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): It is customary for the Administering Authority to abstain from voting on the conclusions and recommendations of the report of the Trusteeship Council, inasmuch as they are addressed to the Administering Authority. I wish to assure the Council, however, that as in past years the United States will study these conclusions and recommendations very carefully and give them full consideration.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): It appears that no other representative wishes to explain his vote at this stage. We shall therefore proceed.

In paragraph 4 of its report, the Drafting Committee recommends to the Trusteeship Council that it adopt the revised working paper on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (T/L.1200 and Add.1 and 2) as the basic text for the chapter on conditions in the Territory to be included in the next report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): There are two slight changes that we would like to make in document T/L.1200/Add.2. The first relates to line 3 of paragraph 12, where we would substitute the words "expended since 1967" for the words "to spend". The paragraph would then read:

"For taxpayers would have to accept an obligation exceeding \$2 billion which he believed to be a grossly excessive and unnecessary request read taxpayers would have expended since 1967 an amount exceeding \$2 billion."

The second change would be made in the last line of paragraph 19. The phrase "the people of that district voted to reject it by a 55 per cent margin" is incorrect and should be replaced by the phrase: "55 per cent of the voters of that district voted to reject it". The sentence would then read:

"The draft compact, by its terms, would come into effect in a district if 55 per cent of the people of that district voted to reject it."

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Members have heard the changes proposed by the representative of the United States. They do not involve any change in substance.

If I hear no objections, I shall take it that the two changes proposed by the representative of the United States are accepted.

It was so decided.

The PREISIDENT (interpretation from French): I shall now put to the vote paragraph 4 of the Drafting Committee's report.

Paragraph 4 was adopted by 3 votes to 1.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We have voted separately on each of the sections of the annex to the report, containing the conclusions and recommendations. Before we vote on the Drafting Committee's report as a whole, I wish to draw members' attention to paragraph 5, in which the Drafting Committee recommends that the Trusteeship Council adopt the conclusions and recommendations set out in the annex to the report and include them at the end of its report to the Security Council.

As no one wishes to make any comments on paragraph 5, I not put it to the vote.

Paragraph 5 was adopted by 2 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I now put to the vote the report of the Drafting Committee as a whole -- that is the five paragraphs of the report and all the sections of the annex thereto.

The report of the Drafting Committee as a whole (T/1.1201) was adopted by 3 votes to 1.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): Although my delegation voted in favour of the report in its entirety, I wish to reiterate for the record that my delegation has taken no position on the recommendations or conclusions of the report of the Trusteeship Council.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The comment of the representative of the United States will of course be contained in the verbatim record.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation voted against the adoption of this report by the Trusteeship Council because it contains conclusions and recommendations which are not acceptable to us. The Soviet delegation has felt and continues to feel that the activities of the Administering Power of the Territory of the Pacific Islands are contrary to the interests of the peoples of those islands and of the decisions of the General Assembly and Trusteeship Council aimed at preserving the integrity of that Territory. Therefore, we oppose any kind of agreement for a political alliance between the United States and the Mariana Islands and measures for the implementation of such an agreement, because these actions are aimed at instituting control over this Territory by the United States. The draft report of the Drafting Committee contains substantive conclusions which approve the plebiscite in the Mariana Islands and support United States activity aimed at keeping that part of the Territory separate from the Territory as a whole.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The statement of the representative of the Soviet Union will be contained in the verbatim record.

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO OBSERVE THE PLEBISCITE IN THE MARIANA ISLANDS DISTRICT, TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, JUNE 1975  
(T/1771, T/L.1202/Rev.1) (continued)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I should like to draw the Council's attention to the fact that this item was considered by the Council together with the report of the Administering Authority. The Council now has before it a revised draft resolution on this subject which has been circulated in document T/L.1202/Rev.1. The representative of France introduced the draft resolution to the Council on Thursday, 8 July.

Mr. GARRIGUE-GUYONNAUD (France) (interpretation from French): The French delegation would like to submit an amendment to the draft resolution which it had put forward to the Council in document T/L.1202/Rev.1.

This amendment would add an operative paragraph 2 which would read as follows:

"Expresses its appreciation of the work accomplished by the Visiting Mission on its behalf".

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Members have heard the amendment prepared by the representative of France. If there are no objections, I shall take it that the amendment is acceptable to the Council.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I shall now put to the vote the draft resolution in document T/L.1202/Rev.1, as orally revised by the delegation of France.

The draft resolution in document T/L.1202/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted by 9 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation voted against the draft resolution on the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to observe the plebiscite in the Mariana Islands District of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The sending of such a mission was connected with the dismemberment of the Trust Territory and, as is well known to all members of the Trusteeship Council, it was precisely for this reason that last year the Soviet delegation opposed the sending of such a mission to that Territory. The Soviet Union's position in this regard was explained during the forty-second session of the Trusteeship Council, when the Soviet representative said:

(Mr. Kovalenko, USSR)

"... we consider that the actions of the Administering Authority [with regard to the Trust Territory] ... are contradictory to decisions of the General Assembly of the United Nations and the Trusteeship Council with regard to the need for preserving the unity and territorial integrity of the Trust Territory".  
(1445th meeting, pp. 21 and 22)

We oppose any activity aimed at separating the Mariana Islands from the other parts of the Territory. The Soviet representative said that we could not agree "to the carrying out of any measures connected with the dismemberment of the Trust Territory". (Ibid., p. 22)

The plebiscite was carried out despite the will of the majority of the people of Micronesia, and as the facts prove, it has had negative effects on the unity and territorial integrity of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. For that reason the Soviet delegation voted against the draft resolution.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): The United States delegation abstained from voting on the draft resolution on the report of the Visiting Mission to observe the plebiscite in the Mariana Islands, in view of our role as the Administering Authority. We wish to assure the Council, however, that we have given the report very careful consideration.

REPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO THE TRUST TERRITORY OF  
THE PACIFIC ISLANDS, 1976 (T/1774, T/L.1203) (continued)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): May I draw the Council's attention to the fact that this item has already been considered by the Council together with the report of the Administering Authority. The Council now has before it a draft resolution on this subject (T/L.1203). As members will recall, the representative of France introduced that draft resolution at our meeting on 8 July.

As there are no comments, the Council will now vote on the draft resolution in document T/L.1203.

The draft resolution was adopted by 2 votes to none, with 2 abstentions.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I shall now call on any members who wish to explain their vote.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): In view of the United States role as Administering Authority the United States delegation abstained from voting on the draft resolution on the report of the 1976 Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. I wish, however, to assure the Council that we will give very careful consideration to the report and in particular to its recommendations and conclusions.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation abstained from voting on this draft resolution because the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, together with the appropriate observations and recommendations which we referred to in the debate in the Trusteeship Council, contains some conclusions which contradict the position taken earlier by the Trusteeship Council with regard to the unity of the Trust Territory.

## ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL (T/L.1204)

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Document T/L.1204 contains part I of the report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council. It is entitled "Organization and activities of the Trusteeship Council." Members of the Council will note that part II of the report contains chapters on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. In accordance with the decision just taken by the Council, part II will consist of the working paper on conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (T/L.1200 and Add.1 and 2) and the conclusions and recommendations contained in the annex to document T/L.1201. It will be completed by the addition of sections containing the observations of members of the Council. I understand that members of the Council have already received a draft text containing observations which, after they have made the necessary corrections, will be incorporated in the report. In this connexion I understand that it is the wish of at least some members of the Council that those observations should be entitled, "Opinions expressed by delegations".

If there are no comments, I suggest that that title be adopted.

It was so decided.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Does any representative wish to comment on the draft report to the Security Council?

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): After each section in document T/L.1204 there appears the observation that the text is "to be completed". When will we see the additions, and what will be their substance?



The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The additions will be summaries of the particular views of delegations. Those summaries will be prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of the verbatim records of the meetings. Obviously, those summaries will be submitted to delegations before being incorporated. Unfortunately, the Secretariat has not yet had the time to prepare those summaries, but I would again observe that they will be incorporated in the document only after the agreement of delegations, which will be contacted by the Secretariat and the President. The Secretary tells me the summaries will be available in two weeks' time. I am sorry it will take that long, but, as members are aware, our verbatim records are somewhat lengthy, and the Secretariat must be careful not to depart from the statements made by delegations. Drafts of the summaries will be submitted to delegations, which will be able to make corrections -- although they will not be able to make additions to what they stated in meetings.

As no representative wishes to comment, we shall now vote on the draft report in document T/L.1204.

The draft report was adopted by 3 votes to 1.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): Mr. President, have we just voted on document T/L.1204 or on the report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council?

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): We have just taken a decision on document T/L.1204, which is the report of the Trusteeship Council on its forty-third session. This report will be transmitted to the Security Council.

I call on the Soviet representative for an explanation of vote.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): The Soviet delegation voted against the draft report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council. The reasons for our negative vote were evident from our votes on several sections of that report, and I shall therefore not repeat them now.

It is because of our position of principle on the question of the need to preserve the territorial integrity and unity of the Trust Territory that we are opposed to measures aimed at the dismemberment of that Trust Territory.

I should like to add, however, that the report which was just voted upon also contains provisions, unacceptable to the Soviet Union, which attest to the Trusteeship Council's refusal to co-operate with the General Assembly, the Committee of 24, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and so on. This is something with which the Soviet delegation cannot agree, since it contradicts the practice of the Trusteeship Council and its previous recommendations and decisions, including those adopted at the last session, as well as the decisions of the General Assembly on these matters. This is a serious step that has just been taken by certain members of the Trusteeship Council.

The refusal to co-operate with United Nations organs dealing with decolonization can only be viewed as a negative result of our work during this session of the Trusteeship Council.

Furthermore, the report does not stress the dire economic situation in the Trust Territory and the conclusions do not duly reflect the views of the representatives of the Congress of Micronesia on need to expand their powers.

(Mr. Kovalenko, USSR)

We set forth many other reasons during the general debate which took place in the Trusteeship Council.

It is for those reasons and others that the Soviet delegation voted against the adoption of this draft report.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): The views of the representative of the Soviet Union will appear in the verbatim record of the Council, and they will be reflected in the summary which the Secretariat will prepare.

As no other representative wishes to comment on this last item on the agenda, the Council has thus concluded its work for this session.

#### CLOSURE OF THE FORTY-THIRD SESSION

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): Before we adjourn, I should like to thank the members of the Council for their co-operation, which was all the more praiseworthy in that there were often divergent views on various items. The attitude taken by all delegations and the care they showed in the consideration of the matters before us greatly facilitated the task which I assumed without any experience of the activities of this Council. As I promised at the outset of the session, I endeavoured to be at least an impartial President, if not a well-informed President, and I hope that I have succeeded in this.

I have been greatly interested in the problems considered during this session, and I have great sympathy for the representatives of the peoples of these remote islands. I extend my best wishes to them and I hope that I shall be able to visit them. Inasmuch as our Micronesian friends are no longer in New York, I would ask the representative of the Administering Authority to transmit my wishes to them.

Doubtless we have achieved progress along the path sketched out for us in the Charter, and the goal, even though it has not yet been achieved, is in sight -- that is, the day when the peoples of Micronesia will themselves decide their own destiny.

(The President)

I should also like to thank the members of the Secretariat for their valuable assistance to me: Mr. Rifai and Mr. Tang, who were unable to be present at this closing meeting; Mr. Abebe, who provided me with valuable advice; and Mr. Lecomte du Nouy, for his enlightened devotion.

I would also thank the interpreters, the translators and all the members of the staff, who worked tirelessly to ensure the issuance of documents in all working languages and the smooth running of our meetings.

Mr. SHERER (United States of America): Mr. President, my delegation wishes to take advantage of this opportunity to express its appreciation to you for the outstanding and expeditious manner in which you have brought the 43rd session of the Trusteeship Council to a successful conclusion.

I wish also to express our gratitude to the sung and unsung heroes of the Secretariat, whose hard work and dedication have contributed so importantly to our deliberations.-- in particular, Mr. Girma Abebe, Mr. Philippe Lecomte du Nouy, Ms. Nueza Costa and Ms. Beverley Mallinson.

Mr. GARRIGUE-GUYONNAUD (France) (interpretation from French): The French delegation should not like this last meeting of our session to close without our thanking the United States delegation and, through it, the representatives of Micronesia for their co-operation in the work of the Trusteeship Council.

We also wish to thank all of the members of the Secretariat who helped us during this session. I am especially grateful to Mr. Abebe for his customary marvellous diligence.

Lastly, I would thank all those who co-operated so effectively in the work of the Drafting Committee.

Mr. RICHARDSON (United Kingdom): Mr. President, I should like, if I may, to associate myself with the two previous speakers and to extend my delegation's warmest thanks and gratitude to you for all the work you have done and the co-operation you have displayed during this session of the Trusteeship Council. I should like in particular to convey the warmest thanks of the leader of my delegation, Mr. Murray, who is not able to be with us today.

May I also, as in years past, thank the Secretariat for its invaluable co-operation in the preparation of our time-table and of our reports. This is the

(Mr. Richardson, United Kingdom)

third year that I have had the pleasure of knowing the members of the Secretariat who deal with this Council, and my delegation has always had the utmost assistance and co-operation from them all.

I should also like, of course, to thank our Conference Officers, our translators and all those associated with the work of this Council. Not least, I should like, through the medium of the United States delegation, to convey our warmest welcome once again to the members of the Micronesian delegation no longer with us -- whom we have come to know and admire greatly during their appearances before this Council.

Mr. KOVALENKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) (interpretation from Russian): I should like to associate the Soviet delegation with the sincere thanks and gratitude conveyed to you, Sir, by preceding speakers for the difficult task which you have carried out as President of this session of the Trusteeship Council. I am particularly pleased to do so because, despite the fact that, as you yourself have pointed out, the views of our delegation did not always coincide with those of other delegations, you displayed great skill, patience and tact, and always respected the opinions of other delegations. These are qualities which we and other delegations appreciate and value highly. I would also like to ask the United Kingdom delegation to convey our thanks to the Vice-President of the Trusteeship Council, Ambassador Murray, for his work.

Finally, may I join preceding speakers in thanking the members of the Secretariat staff -- translators, interpreters, verbatim reporters and others -- who serviced the meetings of this important organ of the United Nations system. Although few in number, they handled an enormous volume of work and contributed to the smooth functioning of our deliberations.

The PRESIDENT (interpretation from French): I wish, on my own behalf, to thank the four preceding speakers for the very kind words they have addressed to me. I am not sure that I deserved so many compliments, but I very much appreciated them indeed.

(The President)

I should like also, on behalf of all members of the Secretariat who took part in this session, to thank those representatives for the kind words in their regard.

As no one else wishes to speak, I declare the 43rd session of the Trusteeship Council closed.

The meeting rose at 4.55 p.m.