

United Nations

Nations Unies

UNRESTRICTED

**TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL**

**CONSEIL
DE TUTELLE**

T/PET.2/61

25 October 1948

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

TANGANYIKA

PETITION FROM THE TANGANYIKA AFRICAN ASSOCIATION

DATED 18 SEPTEMBER 1948

In accordance with rule 84 of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council, the Secretary-General of the United Nations transmits herewith to the members of the Trusteeship Council a communication dated 18 September 1948 from the Tanganyika African Association concerning the Trust Territory of Tanganyika. This petition was transmitted to the Secretary-General by the Visiting Mission to East Africa.

RECEIVED

25 OCT 1948

UNITED NATIONS

/UNITED NATIONS

COPY

UNITED NATIONS - NATIONS UNIES
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Trygve Lie,
Secretary-General

FROM: J. de la Roche

Att. Dr. Ammar

SUBJECT: Transmission of Petition

Paris

7 October 1948

In accordance with rule 84 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, the following petition concerning the Trust Territory of Tanganyika, dated 18 September 1948, from the Tanganyika African Association Headquarters, received by the Visiting Mission to East Africa, at Dar-es-Salaam on 20 September 1948, is herewith transmitted to the Secretary-General.

As requested by rule 84, a copy of this petition has been communicated to the competent local authority on 7 October 1948.

Observations, if any, will be sent subsequently.

Received at United Nations: 11 October 1948.

/MEMORANDUM

TRUE COPY

MEMORANDUM OF THE TANGANYIKA AFRICAN ASSOCIATION HEADQUARTERS
TO THE UNITED NATIONS' MISSION WHILST IN TANGANYIKA
AT DAR ES SALAAM

Educational Conditions

It is our feeling that it is quite evident that the standard of education in the territory is low due to a shortage of schools and staff. To meet this urgent need of the Territory, it needs that, with the Ten Years Development Plan in operation, allowance should be made for more highly qualified staff, i.e. graduates to be recruited not only from United Kingdom, but also from neighbouring states such as Uganda and South Africa or a little far away such as Australia or West Africa.

The number of scholarships tenable in the United Kingdom need be increased; the opening up of other scholarships tenable in other countries need be investigated too. This step would go a long way towards hastening the existence of highly qualified staff from local inhabitants.

Another desirability is the opening up of a technical college for the Territory. The profit of such a step would be lessening expenditure of the state in employing technicians from Overseas.

Health education in certain parts of the country is another thing worth-while noting that it is lagging behind. The demonstrators are scarce.

Economic Conditions

With regard to this point, much could be said, but since it devolves to a large extent on education, a few points only shall be mentioned - and these are:

(a) General Labour Conditions. Housing and feeding of recruited labour is entirely unsatisfactory and demoralising. The present system of taking men mostly leads to a breaking down of family life and encourages immorality which leads eventually to all types of diseases resulting from loose morals. The pay is another problem of African labour in Tanganyika. It is a mere pittance. At least it need be improved. With regard to food, as much as possible a more nourishing diet should be administered to labourers, as better food would lead to better health and a greater output of work.

(b) African Labour Inspectors. It is thought that owing to lack of sufficient number of Labour Officers to carry out or supervise very closely the general labour conditions in firms and plantations that is why things are under requirements. It would therefore appear proper and equitable if 10 times the number of Africans now appointed

/as Labour

as Labour Inspectors could be placed in employment. The number of Labour Officers at the present moment is hardly adequate and apart from this it has been observed that European Labour Officers while visiting the firms or plantations they only pay attention to those major problems leaving those smaller ones which are the really immediate to the labourers. A good number of African Inspectors would tackle this whilst the European Officers are engaged on laws etc.

(c) Feeling on Land. A strong feeling is arising in the minds of all Africans that soon no land will be available for them. This is due to two reasons:

- (i) natural reproduction is increasing rapidly, and
- (ii) more European settlers are entering the Territory and acquiring considerable tracts of land.

Much as we appreciate the advantages brought by new blood, it is our fear that land is being somewhat unfairly partitioned. In view of this a suggestion occurs to us that a reserve perhaps should be set aside purely for the indigenous population, where no non-natives would be permitted to lease or buy. This would provide satisfactorily for the coming generations.

(d) Ex-Enemy Estates. As regards ex-enemy estates, we strongly deprecate that they should not be sold or given to incoming non-native settlers. This would relieve considerably the present congestion in some areas where such estates surround.

(e) Bestowal of Land. It is public knowledge that African land is being given over to non-natives in some districts without the prior approval of the Africans themselves. Land is the one and only rich property for Africans and their being divested thereof without any consultation, breeds ill-feeling and eventually endless complaints. To avoid this undesirability it is for the Government to consult the natives concerned and not the head of the place, wherever it has any schemes for land on which Africans are residing.

(f) Co-operative Development. Co-operative development is one of the major things which we lack in this country. People are unacquainted of co-operation. The Co-operative Development Department which was kindly formed recently by our Government is a response to this demand but the advisers are very scarce whilst the work is enormous.

/Political

Political Conditions

The ballot which is not exercised in this country is preferred and has been solicited for a considerable time now. We badly need that this be introduced if not for members of the Legislative Councils, yet for Ward Councils, Hospital Welfare Committees, Education Committees, Township Authorities, Boards etc. The present method of appointment, we consider it unsatisfactory as peoples have not elected their representatives themselves.

Another aspect worth observation is the appointment and existence of non-native Liwalis and their courts termed as "Native Court". This was possible in the past but at present we feel that time is ripe for the Africans to vote for their own African Liwalis as well as becoming owners of Native Courts.

As regards the amalgamation of Tanganyika, Kenya and Uganda, there is not the slightest doubt that this matter of unification is causing a great anxiety among the indigenous inhabitants of Tanganyika in view of the fact that Tanganyika, being under the Trusteeship System it need remain as a separate unit, and that is what we pleaded since before. It is a well-known fact that the inhabitants of Tanganyika are given to understand that there is a potential amalgamation of these three territories, but it is feared that all these things such as combination of departments, formation of High Commission for the 3 territories which will have jurisdiction over them etc. etc. will cause misfortunes in the long run.

Cultural Conditions

The Nomadis of Massai, Mangati and Dorobo is considered disastrous. Though it is their culture which we understand that Trusteeship Agreement does not wish them swerved, we suppose that it is no good for the present day system of living as well as for the future of Tanganyika. We strongly feel therefore that such peoples should be encouraged to settle down in a particular permanent place - just as other tribes of the territory - and be trained mixed farming life.

Social Conditions

Social conditions in suburbs and in the country are grand but social conditions in the so-called African Homes in townships are mediocre. The houses are too close-by. The roads are always incomplete. Avenue percentage is very little. No playing grounds for children. No shade-trees isolated in most of these towns. Most of them look like ant-hills in a desert when one sees like a bird. In hospital, social conditions are not good too.

Steps Taken Towards Approach to Self-Government

We have not as yet seen concrete steps taken towards educating Africans for self-government. It is our desire therefore to see that the Administrative Authority takes some concrete steps towards this project.

Much as Government feels that the African is not sufficiently advanced to take high responsibilities, we feel that this is due to the fact that no attempt has been made to prove or disprove this decision. In our opinion, we are satisfied and realise that there are some African Natives of Tanganyika who can carry out work not only businesslike but also faithfully and efficiently.

(NOTE: On 1 September 1948, four members of the Tanganyika African Association, 25 New Street, Dar-es-Salaam (P.O. Box 551), Messrs. S. M. C. Mtalima (President), L. B. Misana, L. J. Mwakarukwa and P. C. Hiza, met the United Nations Visiting Mission to East Africa; on 20 September 1948 the above memorandum from the Association was received by the Mission.)
