

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

PETITION FROM THE BALONDO PEOPLES CONVENTION CONCERNING THE CAMEROONS UNDER BRITISH ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85, paragraph 2 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council)

BALONDO PEOPLES CONVENTION RESOLUTION

P.O. Box 28, Kumba.

THIS CONFERENCE OF THE BALONDO PEOPLES HOLDING AT DIKOME BALUE ON THIS 15TH DAY OF AUGUST, 1959, RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:-

- (1) WHEREAS IT IS VERY WELL KNOWN THAT THERE ARE ONLY TWO POLITICAL SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT PREVAILING IN THIS TERRITORY (S.CAMEROONS), NAMELY THE SCHOOL OF THOUGHT THAT BELIEVES IN CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH THE FEDERATION OF NIGERIA FOR EVER, AND THAT WHICH BELIEVES IN SECESSION FROM NIGERIA AND UNIFICATION WHETHER IMMEDIATE OR DISTANT FUTURE WITH THE FRENCH CAMEROONS;
- (2) WHEREAS AT NO TIME HAD ANY POLITICAL PARTY ADVOCATED ANYTHING LIKE MODIFIED TRUSTEESHIP EXCEPT OF RECENT AFTER THE K.N.D.P. HAD WON THE ELECTIONS ON UNIFICATION STUNT THAT THEY ARE BEING GOADED BY THE BRITISH LOCAL CIVIL SERVANTS TO TALK OF MODIFIED TRUSTEESHIP, THEIR REASONS BEING PERHAPS TO SABOTAGE THE TERRITORY'S INDEPENDENCE IN 1960 AND TO PERPETUATE BRITISH COLONIAL RULE;
- (3) WHEREAS THE TERM INDEGENOUS NATIVES IS UNREALISTIC AND UNNECESSARY FOR THE PURPCSE OF THE PLEBISCITE, IT BEING ONLY USED BY THE K.N.D.P. WHO THINK THEY CAN USE THE BAMENDA LARGE POPULATION TO OUTVOTE THE REST OF THE TERRITORY;

- (4) WHEREAS IT IS VERY DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHO WAS OR WAS NOT BORN IN THE S.CAMEROONS THERE BEING NO REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS IN THE TERRITORY:
- (5) WHEREAS IT IS NIGH IMPOSSIBILITY BY MERE PHYSICAL APPEARANCE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN A NIGERIAN, A FRENCH CAMEROONIAN AND A SOUTHERN CAMEROONIAN;
- (6) WHEREAS ALL THE INHABITANTS IRRESPECTIVE OF PLACE OF BIRTH HAVE A STAKE IN THE TERRITORY AND THEREFORE IT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO DENY THEM THE RIGHT TO TAKE PART IN THE DETERMINATION OF THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY:

BE IT RESOLVED AND IT IS RESOLVED THAT:-

- (1) THE TWO CONFLICTING POLITICAL SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT NAMELY CONTINUED ASSOCIATION WITH NIGERIA AND SECESSION AND UNIFICATION WITH THE FRENCH CAMERCONS SHOULD BE PORTRAYED IN THE QUESTIONS IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY AMBIGUITY IN THE MINDS OF THE VOTERS AS TO THE REAL FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY;
- (2) THE QUESTION OF MODIFIED TRUSTEESHIP SHOULD NOT BE USED AS AN ALTERNATIVE QUESTION SINCE THE TERRITORY MUST GET ITS INDEPENDENCE EITHER WITH THE FRENCH CAMEROONS OR WITH NIGERIA IN 1960;
- (3) THE QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS FOR THE CAMERCONS HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY SHOULD BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE PLEBISCITE AND IN ORDER TO AVOID UNNECESSARY WORK AND EXPENSE THE PRESENT VOTER'S LIST SHOULD BE BROUGHT UP TO DATE UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE UNO.

(Signed) Z.N. EFAMBA

FOR THE GENERAL PRESIDENT.

Z.N. EFAMBA

(Signed) H.N. ELANGWE

FOR THE GEN. SECRETARY.

H.N. ELANGWE

CC

COLONIAL SECRETARY LONDON.

PREMIER S. CAMEROONS.

LEADER OF OPPOSITION S.CAMEROONS.

HON. N.N.MBILE LEADER OF K.P.P.

LEADER OF ONE KAMERUN.

THE PRESS.