

UNITED NATIONS  
TRUSTEESHIP  
COUNCIL



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PETITION FROM MR. AHMED MOHAMED AFRAH AND OTHERS CONCERNING  
SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

(Circulated in accordance with rule 85 and supplementary rule L  
of the rules of procedure for the Trusteeship Council)

Mogadiscio, 7 January 1956

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

NEW YORK

and for information to:

H.E. THE CHAIRMAN OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

MOGADISCIO

H.E. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF SOMALILAND

MOGADISCIO

In submitting this petition we, the undersigned, wish to bring the following facts to your attention:

Last November four political shir were held of the rer Eli Omar, Iacub, Abdalla Uarsangheli and Omar Uarsangheli of the Abgal tribe living in the Itala district. The main purpose of the political shir was to choose electoral representatives and deputy representatives. The shir were held in conformity with the regulations in force and were supervised by the Supervisory Committee and the District Commissioner of Itala in the usual manner.

About 32,200 electors took part in the shir and elected four of our people as their electoral representatives, namely: Ahmed Mohamed Afrah, Uarsama Abdi Ali, Sheikh Abdullahi Toho Mohamed and Sheikh Ahmed Diso Nur. The four others: Mohamud Hassan Gaal, Sheikh Mohamed Alasso Sare, Abukar Mohamed Ahmed and Buled Ahmed Subie were elected deputy electoral representatives. The Supervisory Committee and the District Commissioner both confirmed that the shir were valid. Towards the end of November, each of us received through the District Office a

certificate signed by the Regional Judge of Benadir, Dr. Luigi Santaniello, reconfirming that the shir were valid and recognizing our status as the electoral representatives and deputy representatives of the above-mentioned four rer.

The District Commissioner of Itala later informed us that the central authority had declared all four shir to be null and void. We immediately protested to the competent authority against the decision which we considered unjust and arbitrary. Our efforts to ascertain the reason for the declaration that the shir were null and void have so far been fruitless. Our attempts to obtain permission from the district, regional and central authorities to convene new shir, even though that would entail further demands on our resources have also been fruitless. Our rer incurred enormous expenditure in organizing and convening the four shir that were declared null and void.

We respectfully ask you to consider these facts in examining our petition. We also ask you to consider the fact that 32,200 tribal electors have been deprived of their right to participate, even indirectly, in the forthcoming political elections.

We have the honour to be etc.

(1) AHMED MOHAMED AFRAH	Electoral Representative	(signed)
(2) UARSAMA ABDI ALI	" "	"
(3) SHEIKH ABDULLAHI TOHO MOHAMED	" "	"
(4) SHEIKH AHMED DISO NUR	" "	"
(5) MOHAMUD HASSAN GAAL	Deputy Electoral Representative	"
(6) SHEIKH MOHAMED ALASSO' SARE	" " "	"
(7) ABUKAR MOHAMED AHMED	" " "	"
(8) GULED AHMED SUBIE	" " "	"

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