

UNITED NATIONS

TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/PET.11/L.38
15 April 1959

ENGLISH

ORIGINAL: ITALIAN

PETITION FROM THE GREAT SOMALIA LEAGUE CONCERNING
SOMALILAND UNDER ITALIAN ADMINISTRATION

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

GREAT SOMALIA LEAGUE
Central Headquarters
MOGADISCIO

TO: H. E. THE ADMINISTRATOR OF SOMALIA
THE U.N. ADVISORY COUNCIL
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
THE MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR

MOGADISCIO

The Congress of the G.S.L. Party, meeting in extraordinary session on 30.1.1959, in order to proceed with a thorough study of the present general political situation, particular attention being paid to the political elections which were to take place in March this year.

Noting the communication previously sent by the Central Committee of our party to this High Organ, ^{1/} in which it was stated that it would not be possible to take part in the electoral campaign unless the just requests made were satisfied, i.e. that it takes place according to the democratic principles.

In view of the importance of the matter, the members of the Congress, in their capacity as the highest body of the Party, considering the excessive difficulties encountered on the occasion of the presentation of the lists of candidates, has, by a formal decision, stated that it supported the previous communication sent by the Central Committee of the Party which would not have been recognized and until the Parties, within the framework of the legality

^{1/} T/COM.11/L.323

consented by the law, would be given the possibility of exercising their political activities without being subjected to oppression and tortuous devices.

In view of the above, the Congress unanimously decides to present to the competent Authorities the following statement, making it clear that, if this Party does not obtain satisfaction on the following points, it will not participate in the political elections to come:

- (1) The maintenance of public order should be left to the Police, without interference on the part of the political and administrative Authorities;
- (2) Political activities should be left free;
- (3) Citizens should be free to move from one place to another, i.e., within the borders of the Somali territory;
- (4) United Nations Observers should be present both during the first and second phase of the elections; should this be impossible during the first phase, we request the presence of the members of the Advisory Council;
- (5) The ballot boxes should be placed in the custody of members designated as observers by the United Nations;
- (6) A reasonable time-limit should be granted for the presentation of the lists, account being taken of the vastness of the territory; moreover any threat likely to cause alarm to the citizens should be avoided;
- (7) The Trusteeship Agreement should be adhered to;
- (8) The Human Rights should be respected;
- (9) During the elections, the Government should avoid making available to the Party of the Somali Youth League the following Government means: the airplanes, the light and heavy transport vehicles, including those used by the police forces, as well as the cars and radios put at the disposal of the locust control services and which have recently been used by nearly all the branches of that Party;
- (10) During the electoral campaign, the Government should be cautious not to oblige, for unjustified reasons, citizens to leave a locality for another;
- (11) The Government should stop dismissing for political reasons employees of the State Administration to oblige them to give up their beliefs and to adhere to the S.Y.L., as it frequently happens within the Government services.

/...

We take this opportunity to call upon Your Excellency, in Your capacity as person responsible towards God Almighty, the United Nations, the Italian Republic as Administering Authority, as well as towards the free people throughout the world, to examine the present situation, going as deeply as possible and bringing everything to the light.

We expect Your Excellency's reply within three days.

Mogadiscio, 2 February 1959

Signed by the following members of the G.S.L. Congress.

(Attached is a list of 82 Party members present at the Congress and stated to represent five Regions of Somalia: Benadir, Upper Juba, Lower Juba, Mudugh and Midjertein.)
