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UNITED NATIONS VISITING MISSION TO TRUST TERRITORIES
IN WEST AFRICA, 1952
REPORT ON THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Letter dated 5 March 1953 from the
Chairman of the Visiting Mission to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith in accordance with Trusteeship Council resolution 465 (XI) of 22 July 1952 and with rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to Trust Territories in West Africa, 1952 on the Cameroons under French administration.

I should be grateful if, in accordance with the same rule, you would allow an interval of two weeks to elapse between the transmission of this report to the members of the Trusteeship Council and its general distribution.

I have pleasure in informing you that this report has been unanimously adopted by the members of the Visiting Mission.

(Signed) Roy A. PEACHEY

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FOREWORD

At its 409th meeting, tenth session on 27 March 1952, the Trusteeship Council decided to send a mission to visit the four Trust Territories in West Africa in 1952. At the same meeting, it decided that the Mission should be composed of persons nominated by Australia, Belgium, China and El Salvador. At its eleventh session, on 24 June 1952, the Council approved the nomination of Mr. Roy A. Peachey (Australia) as Chairman of the Mission, and appointed Mr. Robert Scheyven (Belgium), Mr. H.K. Yang (China) and Mr. Roberto E. Quiros (El Salvador) as member of the Mission.

By resolution 465 (XI) of 22 July 1952, the Council directed the Visiting Mission to investigate and to report as fully as possible on the steps taken in the four Trust Territories towards the realization of the objectives set forth in Article 76 b of the Charter, taking into account the terms of General Assembly resolution 321 (IV) of 15 November 1949; to give attention, as might be appropriate in the light of discussions in the Trusteeship Council and in the General Assembly and of resolutions adopted by them, to issues raised in connexion with the annual reports on the administration of the four Trust Territories concerned, in petitions received by the Trusteeship Council relating to those Trust Territories, in the reports of the first periodic Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories in West Africa and in the observations of the Administering Authorities on those reports; to accept and receive petitions without prejudice to its acting in accordance with the rules of procedure and to investigate on the spot, after consultation with the local representative of the Administering Authorities concerned, such of the petitions received as, in its opinion, warranted special investigation; to examine, in consultation with the Administering Authorities, the measures taken and to be taken in respect of the provision of information about the United Nations to the peoples of the Trust Territories under Council resolution 36 (III) of 8 July 1948 and to undertake the duties enumerated in Council resolution 311 (VIII) of 7 February 1951 on the same questions; to transmit to the Council as soon as practicable after the completion of its visits a report on each of the Territories visited containing its findings, with such observations, conclusions and recommendations as it might wish to make.

In addition to its functions defined above the Visiting Mission was requested by the Council's resolution 424 (X) of 3 March 1952, reaffirmed in the preamble to resolution 465 (XI) of 22 July 1952, to investigate and submit a special report on the Ewe and Togoland unification problem. This special report was transmitted by the Visiting Mission to the Council on 25 October 1952 and reproduced as document T/1034 of 7 November 1952.

The Mission, accompanied by seven members of the Secretariat,^{1/} departed from New York by air on 18 August 1952 and arrived in Togoland under French administration on 21 August 1952. It visited Lomé from 21 August to 25 August; Accra, Gold Coast, the seat of the Government of Togoland under United Kingdom administration, from 25 August to 28 August; Togoland under United Kingdom administration from 28 August to 9 September; and Togoland under French administration from 9 September to 25 September.

It prepared its special report on the Ewe and Togoland unification problem at Ngaoundere (Cameroons under French administration) from 26 September to 14 October. It visited the Cameroons under French administration from 14 October to 10 November; the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration from 10 November to 23 November; Lagos, Nigeria, the seat of the Government of the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration from 24 to 25 November; London from 26 to 29 November and Paris from 29 November to 4 December. It returned to New York by air on 5 December 1952.

During its visit the Mission covered approximately 18,200 miles by air, 6,500 miles by road and rail and 100 miles by water. On three occasions it was obliged to change its itinerary because of difficulties caused by tropical rains making roads impassable, and on one occasion because an airfield was unsafe for landing. All possible facilities were placed at the Mission's disposal.

The Mission was able to see whomever and whatever it wished. It received the full assistance and co-operation of the Administering Authorities concerned. It is grateful to the respective governments, officers of the administration

^{1/} Mr. J.J. Cebe-Habersky, Principal Secretary; Mr. L. Sternbach, Miss J. Brown-Harrop, Mr. F.T. Liu, Assistant Secretaries; Mr. E. Sameh, Administrative Officer; Mr. G. Margoulies, Interpreter; Miss P. Lacerte, Stenographer.

and to the peoples of the Territories visited for the generous hospitality and cordial welcome extended to it.

After its return from West Africa the Mission prepared its report at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It has considered it convenient to divide its report into five self-contained parts as follows:

- Report on Togoland under United Kingdom administration (T/1040);
- Report on Togoland under French administration (T/1041);
- Report on the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration (T/1042);
- Report on the Cameroons under French administration (T/1043);
- Report on procedures of visiting missions (T/1044).

At the Mission's meetings on 4 and 5 March all these reports were approved unanimously and are hereby submitted to the Trusteeship Council in accordance with the Mission's terms of reference.

New York
5 March 1953

PART ONE

Introduction

1. During its visit to the Cameroons under French administration the Mission received the most cordial hospitality and co-operation both from the Administration and from all sections of the population. It expresses its sincere appreciation to all who assisted it in its work.
2. The Mission wishes particularly to express its gratitude to Mr. André Soucadaux, High Commissioner of the French Republic in the Cameroons and to officers and members of the administration whom it had the pleasure of meeting. The Mission cannot mention by name the many persons who aided it, but would like to make special mention, however, of the assistance given by Mr. Georges Rigal, who was the chief officer providing liaison with the Mission.
3. The Mission received in the Trust Territory 728 communications and memoranda, most of them relating to local problems and general questions. The Mission decided, in accordance with rule 84, paragraph 2 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council that 651 communications were intended for its own information. In preparing its report it took into consideration these communications and memoranda, received from individuals, groups or representatives of the population, and it appreciates the confidence placed in it by the people of the Trust Territory. The Mission transmitted the remaining 77 communications to the Secretary-General pursuant to rule 84, paragraph 2 of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, to be dealt with in accordance with rules 85, 86 and 90.

Itinerary

4. The Visiting Mission left United Nations Headquarters on 18 August 1952. After visiting the two Togolands, it arrived in the Cameroons under French administration^{1/} on 25 September. The visit of this Territory was not to begin however, until 14 October, the first eighteen days having been reserved for the drafting of the special report on the Ewe and Togoland unification problem.

^{1/} Hereinafter referred to also as "the Cameroons".

5. On 14 October 1952, the Mission which had been staying in N'Gaoundéré until then, left by air for Yaoundé, where it attended a plenary meeting of the Territorial Assembly of the Cameroons and conferred with the officers of the Assembly. On 15 October it returned by air to N'Gaoundéré, leaving by car for Garoua the following morning (from there onwards the Mission travelled by car, unless otherwise stated). Between N'Gaoundéré and Garoua the Mission halted at the Falaise works, to inspect the construction of a new length of road, and at the village of Wack to visit the school and the dispensary.
6. The Mission spent the following day at Garoua, where it visited the main school, the hospital, the Court of Justice, the port, the hydrocarbon depot and the aerodrome. It was also able to converse with the Délegué du Haut-Commissaire au Nord-Cameroun, the Lamido of Garoua and the members of the Municipal Commission. On 18 October, the Mission went to Guidder. After visiting the school and the dispensary there and talking with the Lamido, it returned to Garoua for the night.
7. The following morning it left for Mokolo. On the way there it visited a Kirdi (pagan) village near Rumsiki. On 20 October, after visiting the school and the dispensary at Mokolo and the reservoir at Waeskat on the way out of the town, the Mission left for Maroua, where it arrived in time to see the great Moslem market. The following morning it remained at Maroua to speak with the Lamido, to hold oral hearings and to visit the school, the dispensary, the electric power station and the agricultural station. In the afternoon the Mission split into two groups: Mr. Peachey and Mr. Yang went to the neighbouring village of Salek to see the airfield and the cold-storage slaughter-house, while Mr. Scheyven went to the African administrative centre of Mendif, which is under construction.
8. On 22 October the Mission went to Mora, where it visited the school and the dispensary and had a conversation with the Sultan. It then returned to Maroua, by way of Mokolo. On the way, Mr. Peachey and Mr. Yang visited the hospital at Mokolo, and Mr. Quiros and Mr. Scheyven the agricultural station at Guétalé. On 23 October, the Mission returned by air to N'Gaoundéré. It spent 24 October visiting that town. After seeing the old slaughter-house, the new

slaughter-house in course of construction, the regional school and the Société indigène de prévoyance (SIP) agricultural station, the Mission split into two groups. Mr. Scheyven and Mr. Yang remained in the town and visited the new school, the new living quarters for African officials, the hospital and the forest reserve, while Mr. Peachey and Mr. Quiros went to see the Wakwa zootechnical station, near the town. In the evening, the Mission paid a visit to the Iamido of N'Gaoundéré and attended a reception given by the Chef de région on the occasion of United Nations Day.

9. The following morning the Mission left for Bertoua. On its way it halted at Meiganga to visit the saw-mill, the school, the SIP dairy produce plant, the Protestant Mission orphanage and the vocational training school run by the Roman Catholic Mission. On 26 October, after visiting the hospital and the Cours complémentaire at Bertoua, the Mission went to Batouri where it conducted oral hearings and visited the school and the hospital. It then returned to Bertoua for lunch and visited the oil-works before setting out for Abong-Mbang. On the way to Abong-Mbang it stopped at Dimako to visit the saw-mill and at Doumé to hold oral hearings.

10. On 27 October, after visiting the regional school, the hospital and a coffee plantation at Abong-Mbang and conducting oral hearings, the Mission left for Yaoundé. On the way it halted at Ayos to visit the hospital and the orderlies' school. On 28 October the Mission split into two groups.

Mr. Scheyven and Mr. Yang left for Ebolowa by the Sangmélina road. On the way they stopped at Nden to visit the leper hospital and the Catholic Mission school, and at Sangmélina to visit the municipal restaurant and the school and to hold oral hearings. Mr. Peachey and Mr. Quiros went to Ebolowa by the direct route and stopped at Mbalmayo to visit the school and to hold oral hearings. They also held oral hearings after their arrival at Ebolowa.

11. The following day the Mission left for Kribi. Upon arrival there the Mission split into two groups. Mr. Quiros and Mr. Scheyven held oral hearings, while Mr. Peachey and Mr. Yang visited the regional school, the port, a social centre, the Roman Catholic Mission school and the hospital. After a day's rest at Kribi, the Mission left on 31 October by ship for Douala, where it visited the port immediately upon its arrival. The following day was spent

at Douala, where the Mission conducted oral hearings and visited the vocational training school, the girls' college, the General Hospital and the Laquintinie Hospital, a communal restaurant, the fire-brigade station and the new living-quarters for the police. On 2 November the Mission went by train to Edea, where it visited the dam and the hydro-electric plant and held oral hearings. It returned to Douala the same evening.

12. The following day, the Mission took the train to Nkongsamba, where it had a conversation with the Municipal Commission. On 4 November, after visiting the SIP vocational training school, the hospital and the boys' college, the Mission left for Dschang, where it held several oral hearings upon its arrival. After a day at Dschang, during which it held oral hearings, the Mission left on 6 November for Foumban. On the way, it halted at Foubot to conduct more oral hearings and at Koupa-Matapit to visit a village office. At Foumban it visited the Museum of Arts and Crafts and attended a Bamoun traditional performance at the house of the Sultan.

13. The following day it left for Yaounde, the last stage of its tour. On the way it halted at Bandjoun to visit the chefferie and the market, and at Bafia to hold oral hearings. On 8 November the Mission visited the hospital, the central dispensary and the Lycee General Leclerc, at Yaoundi, held oral hearings and had an interview with the Director of Public Health and the Chief of the Mobile Health and Prophylaxis Service. In the evening it attended a reception given by the Yaounde Municipal Commission. The following evening the Mission attended a reception given by the High Commissioner, and on 10 November, after a last interview with the High Commissioner, it left by air for Maiduguri, in Nigeria. So ended the visit to the Cameroons under French administration.

14. Before returning to United Nations Headquarters on 5 December 1952, the Mission had yet to visit the Cameroons under British administration and to call at London and Paris. In Paris on 2 December 1952 it conferred with the Secretary of State, the Director of Political Affairs and other high officials of the Ministry for Overseas France on questions of general policy concerning the Cameroons.

PART TWO

CHAPTER I. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

A. General

15. In its effort to promote the political advancement of the inhabitants of the Territory, the Administering Authority has shown constant concern to avoid a disruption of tribal organization. When the Administering Authority came to the Cameroons, it retained the social and political structure which it found there and confined itself to regulating that structure and placing it within the framework of a French administrative organization. Later, especially after 1946, when reforms were instituted to promote the political progress of the Territory and to hasten its development, the same care was taken to maintain tradition. Thus, the policy of the Administering Authority is to introduce the new institutions required by any democratic system of government wherever there is no danger of their interfering too violently with traditional practice.

16. The progressive development planned by the Administering Authority has given rise to many comments among the people concerned. Although some of the indigenous inhabitants unreservedly praise the French Administration, others consider the rate of development to be inadequate. Some critics complain that the rate is too slow, whereas others find it too rapid for their liking.

17. The difficulty of the Administration lies in the fact that while it is establishing in the Territory new institutions common to all inhabitants, with a view to fostering the national consciousness necessary for a modern State, it has to maintain, to a certain extent, elements of the old institutions which differ from one region to another, in order to avoid breaches in an extremely diversified society. Thus, the advanced South finds that the development is unduly slow, because certain reforms which might be applied to it are not introduced owing to the retarding influence of the North, whereas the latter is already finding that the reforms which have taken place are too drastic.

18. The problem with which the Administering Authority is faced is to achieve an optimum rate for the development of the Territory as a whole, taking into account the difference between the degree of development in the South and that in the North. The Visiting Mission has noted with interest the Administration's efforts to settle this problem, the solution of which depends in the first place on the adaptability of the old institutions and the functioning of the new ones. It has therefore paid special attention to these institutions, which are dealt with in the following sections.

B. Structure and development of African chiefdoms

19. The existence of traditional chiefs is one of the basic features of African society. The French Administration has retained this institution, which it brought under regulation. The status of the chiefs was defined by the decree of 4 February 1933, which distinguished between Chefs supérieurs, Chefs de groupement and Chefs de village. The chiefs are chosen according to custom by the notables and heads of families, from among members of families with the hereditary right to chiefdom, and are recognized by the High Commissioner. They are actually the representatives of the indigenous community and as such cooperate with the Administration of the Territory by acting as judges of customary tribunals, census takers, tax collectors, and in general as intermediaries between the French administrative officers and the inhabitants.

20. The increasing pace of economic, social, legal and political development in the Cameroons has not failed to have an effect on the chiefdoms. The chiefs frequently give the impression that they find it difficult to adapt themselves to this development.

21. Yet it should be noted that the structure of the chiefdoms like their development, varies greatly according to region, race and religion. The following is a description of the structure and development of the different types of chiefdoms in the Cameroons, based on information furnished by the French Administration and the impressions gathered by the Mission during its visit.

(a) The Moslem chiefdoms: These chiefdoms, which are found principally in the North, are strongly traditional and are governed by strict inheritance laws. The chiefs possess unchallenged authority over what is frequently a large primitive population, but this authority is set within well-defined customary limits; the chiefs are assisted by a customary council and must generally comply with the rules of the Koran. This rigid structure, crystallized over the centuries, has so far been little affected by European contact, and the prestige of the chiefs is still very great. Nevertheless, some of the chiefs, realizing that the country's development is bound to have far-reaching effects on the chiefdoms, endeavour, often with success, to adapt themselves to it. Thus a number of chiefs stood for elections to the Territorial Assembly. Some have also understood the importance of economic development and have not hesitated to help the French Administration to develop the economy of their région.

(b) The pagan chiefdoms of the North: The pagans^{1/} of the North have a less developed social structure, since they incline to individualism, and have for a long time been under the domination of the Fulani. Their real chiefs are the heads of families or clans. The Chefs de village and Chefs de canton have real powers only in religious matters. The European influence, which is still quite recent in the North has not yet made itself deeply felt among the pagans. However, there are already in the North signs as the population develops that pagan chiefdoms will undergo a more pronounced change in the years to come. It is also to be noticed that the pagan populations are attempting to free themselves from the domination of the Moslem populations with the help of the Administration.

(c) The Bantu chiefdoms of the South: In the South there were originally only chiefs of family and chiefs of clan among peoples who have settled in their present home only recently and largely owing to European influence. The German authorities established a hierarchy of chiefs which persisted after their departure, based on the traditional

^{1/} Also called "Kirdi".

principles of the selection of the chief by the notables from among certain families. It is in this area that the current development of the country has produced the most striking effects on chiefdoms. Like the 1949 Visiting Mission, the present Mission is under the impression that the authority of the senior chiefs in the South is continually waning. Certain Cameroonians in the South requested that chiefs should be elected on the basis of democratic principles; others have criticized the chiefs as artificial creations of the Administration without any real links with tradition, being mere officials in the pay of the French Administration. The chiefs themselves have complained that they have no real authority owing on the one hand to the lack of respect of the population and on the other to control by the Administration.

(d) The Bamileke chiefdoms: Unlike the Bantus in the South, the Bamilekes are very much attached to their land and so long as they remain there they make no attempt to challenge social authority which is primarily vested in the chiefs. Because of this, the chiefdoms of the Bamilekes remain extremely homogeneous and strong. Even here, however, there is no absolute hereditary monarchy inasmuch as the notables have a voice in both the exercise of authority and the appointment of the chief. All the communications relating to this question received by the Mission in the Bamileke region asked that the traditional chiefs should be retained and through a relaxation of administrative supervision their authority strengthened.

22. The rapid development of the country has made it necessary to adapt certain aspects of the customary political structure to the people's new way of life. Accordingly, the local Administration is trying to reorganize the chiefdoms by defining the role and the powers of the chiefs and their relations with the population on the one hand and with the Administration on the other. A bill on the status of the traditional chiefs has been submitted to the National Assembly.

23. A bill, the text of which was already complete when the 1949 Visiting Mission was in the Territory, was explained in detail in that Mission's report.^{1/} It is therefore enough to refer briefly to the principal clauses of that draft: (a) the chief is the representative of the community he controls and the agent of the local government; (b) he enjoys the prerogatives accorded to him by custom as long as these prerogatives are not incompatible with the maintenance of public order; (c) any infringement of his legitimate authority shall be punished; (d) nomination of chiefs must be made in accordance with custom and approved by the Administration; if approval is withheld, the reasons must be given; (e) the chief works under the supervision of the administrative authorities and is subject to disciplinary action ranging from warnings to dismissal.

24. While in the Cameroons, the Mission heard no comments on the bill from the people concerned. It considers that it would be premature to comment upon it until it has been adopted by the Parliament. It would like to point out, however, that in applying the provisions of the bill it would be well to bear in mind the diverse nature of the various chiefdoms in existence in the Cameroons.

25. In a memorandum sent to the Mission, the local Administration defined its position on the general problem of the progressive adaptation of African society to the necessities of modern life. It considers that a solution of this serious problem should be sought both by encouraging democratic operation of the chiefdoms and through the education of chiefs along modern lines, while taking care to avoid abruptly destroying the framework of traditional society.

26. The Administration pointed out that the common characteristic of all the chiefdoms is a certain form of democracy based not on the individual but on the family or the clan. Democracy could be achieved by introducing a more modern procedure for choosing the chiefs and by extending the electoral college, which is at present restricted to notables.

^{1/} See Official records of the Trusteeship Council, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 2, p.47.

27. Regarding the education of the chiefs in modern ideas, the Administration made the following statement: "Custom and the traditional institutions to which the mass of the people are still devoted represent by that very fact a tremendous force which should not be overlooked in the development of the country. The problem is to develop them without destroying them. This is why the Administration attaches such great importance to the education and encouragement of the chiefs within the framework of our programmes of economic and social activity."

28. The Mission noted that the Administration's efforts to train the traditional chiefs in modern ideas had already shown some results. It was able to see for itself that eleven traditional chiefs were taking part in the work of the Territorial Assembly, that the Moslem chiefs were co-operating with the Administration in the economic development of their regions and that several chiefs of the South have not hesitated to support the action taken by the Administration to limit the amount of the bride-price. It must be noted, however, that results are not always so encouraging. The Lamido of Guidder, for example, complained to the Mission about the electoral system, because servants and women had the right to vote. Moreover, although some of the Chiefs from the North were candidates for election to the Territorial Assembly, it is a fact that once they are elected they do not always fulfil their duties as representatives of the people as conscientiously as they should.

29. The Mission realizes that the training of the chiefs, and especially of the all-powerful chiefs of the North, is a slow process that should be given close attention. The Mission wishes to state, in this connexion, that the visit to France offered by the Administering Authority to forty notables on the occasion of the bimillenary festivities in Paris aroused keen enthusiasm and a great spirit of emulation among the chiefs who went on the visit. Some of the chiefs from the North told the Mission how interested they had been in the journey and in everything they had seen in France, "not only in Paris but also in the country". The Mission feels that this was a most felicitous venture which might well be repeated in so far as the financial situation allows of it.

Village office

30. Before concluding this section, the Mission wishes to say a few words about village offices, which are still in the experimental stage. In certain villages in the south (régions of Dja-et-Lobo, N'Tem and Bamoun) village offices have been established. The office is generally divided into two parts, one of which is reserved for the village chief while the other is used for discussions by the village arbitration tribunal. The sub-division provides each village office with what little it requires for its operation. Each office has a secretary who can read and write French and the local dialect.

31. The secretary of office receives requests from the villagers and if necessary helps them in drafting their requests. The chief of the village keeps the chief of the sub-division informed of the activities of the village (open air discussions, culture, registration of births, marriages and deaths) through periodic reports. He also settles minor village matters through the arbitration tribunal. Thus the village office has had the effect of defining the responsibilities of the village chief both towards those under his administration and towards the chief of the sub-division. It allows the villagers to settle on the spot questions of minor importance. Finally, through the reports of village chiefs, the census records of the sub-division are kept up to date.

32. The Mission visited the village office of Koupa-Matapit in the région of Bamoun. It was pleased to observe that that office was working satisfactorily and that the people concerned showed a keen interest in this innovation. The Mission was unable to see the village offices of the Dja-et-Lobo and N'Tem regions but was informed by the Administration that the Dja-et-Lobo offices had produced excellent results while those in the N'Tem had not functioned so satisfactorily.

33. The Mission is of the opinion that, by strengthening the links between the villagers and their chiefs and by giving some kind of concrete form to the social and political unit that the village constitutes, the village offices are capable of making an effective contribution to the evolution of the people concerned. It hopes that the failure of the village offices in N'Tem will prove to be only temporary and that the inhabitants of this area will come in time to realize the advantages of these organizations. In any case, it would be premature to offer any detailed comments on such a recent institution, the development of which should be encouraged and followed with the close attention which it deserves.

C. Rural and urban communes-mixtes

Rural Communes-mixtes

34. The establishment by Decree No. 537 of 21 August 1952 of twelve rural communes-mixtes is undoubtedly the most important recent event in the Cameroons. According to the Decree, the boundaries of these communes are identical with those of the twelve subdivisions of the regions of Nyong-et-Sanaga, N'Tem and Dja-et-Lobo, in the South Cameroons. Each commune is administered by a Mayor-Administrator, appointed by the High Commissioner and assisted by an elected Municipal Council. A later Decree fixed 30 November 1952 as the date for elections to the Municipal Councils and at the time when the Mission visited the regions of Nyong-et-Sanaga, N'Tem and Dja-et-Lobo the people were preparing to go to the polls.

35. The communes have juridical personality. They own movable and immovable property, including land, in their own right. The communal budget is supported primarily by refunds on certain taxes and duties from the Territory's budget. It covers the commune's expenditures for social purposes.

36. The municipal councils have deliberative powers, particularly in budgetary matters. They consider a certain number of questions, first and foremost the communal budget, which is subject to the approval of the High Commissioner.

They are consulted on all questions affecting the local community. The municipal councils consist of from sixteen to forty members elected by a majority vote in a single ballot. Elections are held through a single college of electors but a number of seats established by a decree of the High Commissioner may be reserved for candidates of common law status (French citizens).

37. This reform is the result of an extensive research which was explained to the Mission in a note by the Local Administration, an extract of which follows:

"... The Local Administration, in agreement with the Territorial Assembly, had for some time past been considering the possibility of providing each Cameroonian farmer in the villages and in the bush, with a means of expressing his views and enabling him to participate to a greater extent, and on a democratic basis - in the western sense of the word - in the management of local affairs.

"It had been found that while the institutions set up since the Second World War ensured adequate representation of the population at the territorial level, the senators, deputies and territorial councillors were still far removed from the mass of the population, which did not always know them individually, particularly in the case of the senators and the deputies. On the other hand, the concept of public interest and the necessarily complex form of a financial administration with a budget of several thousand million francs was likely to be almost or entirely beyond the understanding of an elector who is all too often ill-informed on matters outside his customary interests and to whom the most elementary principles of general economics, for example, and the very idea of interdependence which is spreading throughout the modern world are still dead letters.

"There was the danger of creating an ever-widening gap between the people and its representatives; in view of the fact that the representatives often belonged to the emerging moneyed middle-class, a class limited in number but far advanced of the masses, having had access to culture and to current ideas, it was to be feared that the country might, without even realizing it, develop towards a system of financial oligarchy which would sacrifice the interests and hopes of the masses to the interests of a limited few.

"The old tribal structure, which still survived and which was often stronger at the family and village level than it seemed to be, was growing weaker with every day, and was in any case helpless before the problems of the day, incapable of understanding them and unable to resist the attacks, often unfair yet all the more violent, of a youth eager to apply its newly acquired knowledge. The young no longer appreciated the true democracy of the choice of chiefs, who for generations had been elected according to strict rules by assemblies of elders and notables; they saw only the 'coronation', the investiture by the Administration, from which they concluded that the 'appointed' chief was but a puppet in the hands of the Administration. This was a very mistaken conclusion, which despised the procedure born of the wisdom of ancient Africa, but which found some justification in the fact that in the more advanced regions the rank of 'senior chief' was of a somewhat artificial character and, although it had been in existence for years, had not taken deep root in African territory.

"The notables and the elders, for their part, as always in a revolutionary period - and Africa, like more than one country in the world, is going through a revolutionary period - saw themselves suddenly disregarded, notwithstanding the work they had quietly done for years; the Conseils des Notables, which had been responsible for giving the Administration's officials the benefit of their advice, were losing all prestige for the sole reason that they were 'advisory', and these legal counsels, these wise men who had been traditionally responsible for laying down the law of the tribe and giving their opinion on its interests, were now regarded as useless supernumeraries.

"It was therefore, we repeat, a question of avoiding a total upheaval which might only lead to anarchy in the villages and plutocracy in the Territory, and of ensuring a rapid but flexible development, by giving the country a national conscience and its peasants a voice.

"The central power was aware of the problem and was studying a draft law. The United Nations General Assembly encouraged the Administering Authority to continue along that line.

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"At one point there was some confusion on a question of terminology. The first drafts referred to Conseils regionaux and the term produced a reaction both in Paris and at Lake Success.

"There was the danger of a double confusion. On the one hand, regional councils were already in existence; the assemblies of notables, of which we have already spoken and whose members were appointed by the High Commissioner without any real election, the Councils themselves having only an advisory function. On the other hand, in the Cameroons the word region is applied to the territorial districts which are called cercle in French West Africa and departement in French Equatorial Africa. In these two territories the cercle and the departement are often relatively autonomous entities with an Administrator directly responsible to the Governor, without any intermediary authority. In the Cameroons, on the other hand, all but three of the nineteen regions included a number of subdivisions. The basic territorial unit in the Cameroons, therefore is the subdivision rather than the region.

"It still remained to be seen whether it was advisable to provide for the desired representation at the level of this basic territorial unit. Both the region and the subdivision had been artificially created by the European Administration.

"It became apparent, and in the first place to the Administration of the Cameroons, which had long been familiar with those problems, that while the region - and even more so a group of regions - could often be regarded as the economic unit, the subdivision was the basic unit of the human community. The boundaries of the subdivision often coincided with those of older ethnic or political units such as the lamdat and sultanat in the North, and the tribe and clan in the South. Even in sectors where the situation was less clear, the institution had been accepted by custom; for in most cases the region remained a vague entity with no real meaning for the villagers, to whom the subdivision, on the contrary, was the true centre, the capital of the country as they saw it. The offices and court of the subdivision were the final arena for the discussion of their everyday problems and it was in the stores of their trading centre that they exchanged the produce of their soil for imported products. The village 'father and mother' - to repeat an outmoded expression which was long current in Africa - was not the Chef de region, who was too far away, but the Chef de subdivision.

"Additional proof of that fact was the ease with which the region could if necessary be 'reshaped' according to the needs of the hour, whether by grouping the three regions of the North under the Commandement of Maroua, by uniting Lom-et-Kadei with Boumba-Ngoko, Nkam with Mungo, Bamoun with the Bamileke region, or by breaking those groups up again. At the same time it was always difficult to make any changes in the boundaries of a subdivision, for even the most artificial of the subdivisions had become part of the living reality of Africa.

It would therefore have been a mistake to work towards a Conseil régional when the objective was, we repeat, to give form and expression to a basic identity of interests.

"The Cameroons resolutely followed the other course which was to result in the creation in August 1952 of the mixed rural communes, the territorial boundaries of which coincided with those of the subdivisions."

38. It was thus that the principle of the mixed rural communes evolved. The Territorial Assembly, when consulted on the question, unanimously approved the principle in May 1952. Subsequently, when a draft law prepared some time earlier by the Ministry of Overseas France providing for the creation of elected but advisory Conseils de région was referred to it for advice, the Assembly decided to reject it and thereby reaffirmed its desire that councils with a deliberative and not only advisory function should be set up at the subdivision level, not at that of the région.
39. The Decree of 21 August 1952 does not apply to the Territory as a whole, but only to the three régions of Nyong et Sanaga, N'Tem, and Dja-et-Lobo. The Administration pointed out that the Decree was intended to apply only to those three regions in the South; that it was to be regarded as an experiment; and that on the basis of the results achieved after a certain period, it would be decided whether the Decree should be amended and whether its application should be extended to other regions. The Administration further pointed out that the second stage of the reform would be carried out in the Bamileke area and that a plan to that effect was already under consideration.
40. The communications received by the Visiting Mission in which the question of the establishment of Conseils régionaux and rural communes-mixtes was raised all came from the South and West of the Cameroons. Some of the communications expressed the satisfaction of the inhabitants of the three regions in which the rural communes had been set up, while others expressed the hope of the inhabitants of the other regions in South-West and West (Sanaga Maritime, Wouri, Mungo, Bamileke and Bamoun) that the reform should be extended to their area.

41. The Mission was greatly interested in the establishment of the rural communes-mixtes, which in its opinion represents an important step forward in the political and economic development of the Cameroons. It considers that it was logical to choose the three cocoa-growing areas of the South in which to establish the first communes, since that is where the most advanced of the rural people are to be found. It would be well, however, to extend the reform to the other areas of the Cameroons as soon as possible. The Mission notes, in this connexion, that the Administration is now contemplating the establishment of rural communes-mixtes in the Bamileke region and it hopes that this plan will be put into operation before long. Finally, the Mission is glad to note that in the elections to the municipal councils of the rural communes-mixtes the system of the double electoral college was abandoned.

Urban communes-mixtes

42. There are at present nine urban communes-mixtes in the Cameroons: Douala, Yaoundé, Ebolowa, Edea, Nkongsamba, M'Balmayo, Kribi, Sangmelima and Garoua. A tenth is to be established shortly at N'Gaoundere. These communes are administered by Mayor-Administrators, appointed by the High Commissioner and assisted by municipal committees, the members of which are also appointed by the High Commissioner.

43. The Union des Populations du Cameroun complained to the Mission about the method of appointing the members of the municipal committees, whom they contended did not represent the interests of the people. The Administration explained that so far it had not been considered possible to have the municipal committees elected owing to the relative instability of the urban population, which was constantly growing as a result of the influx from rural areas and the extreme heterogeneity of the urban population - Europeans of various nationalities living side by side with Africans who themselves were of the most varied origins.

44. The establishment of the rural communes-mixtes is bound to have repercussions on the present system of urban communes-mixtes. The local Administration told the Mission that the small urban communes, like Ebolowa, Sangmelima and M'Balmayo, which corresponded to unimportant little urban centres and could only balance their budgets with the help of grants from the budget of the Territory, would

doubtless have to be merged into the rural communes surrounding them. In this case there would be one single municipal council which would administer the whole subdivision, town and country, as was the case in the subdivisions which had no urban communes. As for the large urban communes like Yaoundé and Douala, the Administration thought that it would be necessary to retain them, since the problems of large towns were different from those of the country, but that in view of the existence of the rural communes they would have to develop towards a system which was completely electoral.

45. The Mission considers that the incorporation of the small urban communes into the rural communes is a logical and satisfactory solution from both the political and the economic point of view. It also considers that the large urban communes should develop towards a system which is completely electoral, despite the ethnic heterogeneity of the population of the large towns.

D. Territorial Assembly of the Cameroons

46. At the time of the arrival of the Visiting Mission, there was one elected body in the Cameroons - the Territorial Assembly. Elected on 30 March 1952, it replaced the Representative Assembly, whose mandate expired at the end of 1951.

47. The Mission was in N'Gaoundere, where it was drafting its special report on the Ewe and Togoland unification problem, when the Territorial Assembly held its second regular session of 1952 at Yaounde. As there was a danger that it might not arrive at Yaounde until the session was over if it adhered to the itinerary as established in its initial programme, the Mission decided, at the suggestion of the Administration, to make a special journey to the capital of the Cameroons before leaving for the North of the Territory.

48. The Mission therefore went to Yaoundé on 14 October 1952, where it attended a meeting of the Assembly and talked to the officers of the Assembly. It was thus able to gain first-hand impressions, which, supplemented by the information collected from various quarters and particularly by the verbatim reports that the French Administration kindly placed at its disposal, enabled it to come to certain conclusions which it wishes to submit to the Trusteeship Council.

49. The Mission was favourably impressed by the high standard of the Territorial Assembly's debates. It noted that the members of the Assembly generally were not content with a superficial discussion of the problems submitted to them but often undertook a thorough study of those problems. Evidence of this attitude is to be found in the debates which took place at the meeting attended by the Mission. The items on the agenda included the discussion of a decree changing the title of the Direction de l'Instruction publique and the examination of a bill concerning the establishment of regional budgets and Conseils de région.

50. During the consideration of the decree changing the title of the Direction de l'Instruction publique to Direction de l'Enseignement - it was a matter of pure form, which did not entail any substantial modification of the educational system - the debate rapidly developed into a discussion of the principles of education. The majority of the speakers expressed themselves in favour of an accelerated expansion of education and of giving more effective support to private schools, with a view to the more rapid provision of schooling for Cameroonian children.

51. The examination of the bill concerning the establishment of regional budgets and Conseils de région provided an equal wealth of information on the nature of the debates in the Territorial Assembly. The Assembly, which decided to reject the bill, not only gave a lucid explanation of its reasons for this rejection but was eager to give its views on the part that the legislator (i.e. the French Parliament) should play. It is interesting to recall the statement of the chairman of the Commission des Affaires administratives on that subject when, proposing that the Assembly should reject the bill, he asked it also to specify that "our Assembly considers that the role of the legislator should simply be to determine certain broad principles giving the force of law to the institutions which we propose to establish and that after this it should be the Territorial Assemblies which decide on the details of the structure of these institutions".

52. The Mission was particularly pleased to note the cordiality of the relations among the councillors^{1/} in general and between the councillors of the two electoral colleges in particular. The Mission observed that the serious nature of the debates did not preclude good humour and that the spirit of comradeship among the indigenous and French councillors was obvious from the fact that many of them used the intimate form of address when speaking to each other.

53. It noticed that in the debates the councillors did not seem to adopt a position according to the electoral college to which they belonged, but far more often according to the regions they represented. For example, one of the items on the agenda of the meeting which the Mission attended concerned the order of priority to be given to some applications for grants from the Fonds d'Investissement et de Développement économique et social (FIDES). This gave the Mission the opportunity of witnessing the fervour with which both the indigenous and French councillors defended the interests of their own regions. Such an attitude is natural and quite correct in parliamentary practice. It is the primary duty of the councillors to defend, in the organ common to all the regions, the special interests of the region which they represent and which has elected them. Moreover - and the Mission had occasion to notice this more than once during its tour - the electors of some regions exercise the strictest control over their representatives. Many of them insist that their representatives remain in constant contact with them, and at the last elections more than one retiring councillor failed to be re-elected because he had not given sufficient consideration to the wishes of his electors.

54. The Mission also noted that in the debates of the Assembly, the councillors expressed their opinions with complete freedom and did not hesitate to criticize the Administration whenever they felt such criticism to be necessary. Relations between the Assembly and the Administration, whose officials attended the debates, seemed to be of the best.

55. The Mission gained the general impression that the Territorial Assembly shows great political maturity. The way in which the Assembly has carried out the heavy task allotted to it - the 1953 local budget amounts to 8,073,791,480

1/ Members of the Territorial Assembly are called councillors.

^{1/} Members of the Territorial Assembly are called councillors.

francs CFA (\$46,134,000) - augurs well, in the opinion of the Mission, for its future.

Composition of the Territorial Assembly

56. The decree of 25 October 1946 setting up the Representative Assembly of the Cameroons provided for the enactment of laws to determine the Assembly's final form. The law of 6 February 1952 changed the name of the Representative Assembly and modified its composition. The number of councillors was increased from forty to fifty councillors elected by the first electoral college being increased from sixteen to eighteen and councillors elected by the second college from twenty-four to thirty-two.

57. The distribution of seats to the two colleges was therefore modified in favour of the second college, but the dual college system was retained. There are at present twenty French councillors. The Mission noted that eighteen of these councillors were elected by the first college and two of them, including the Assembly's President, Dr. Aujoulat, by the second College.

58. The retention of the dual college gave rise to serious criticism on the part of the advanced elements of the Cameroons, especially by political parties such as the Section camerounaise du Parti socialiste, l'Evolution sociale camerounaise and the Union des Populations du Cameroun (UPC).

Generally speaking, two criticisms were voiced in this connexion, the first being that the dual college system constituted racial discrimination in the political field. The spokesman of the UPC and the spokesman of the Parti socialiste quoted figures to support their views, pointing out that while the 13,000 French citizens of the Cameroons were represented by eighteen councillors, the three million Cameroonians were represented by only thirty-two. The second criticism was that since the single college system had been established in Togoland under French administration it should also be applied in the Cameroons, which has the same status. The spokesman for the Parti socialiste stated, in this connexion, that the argument that Togoland had been granted the reform measure because it was more advanced was not valid, because there was nothing to prove that Togoland was more advanced than the Cameroons.

59. The Administering Authority has already informed the Trusteeship Council^{1/} that before it was dissolved, the Representative Assembly had expressed the unanimous desire that the dual college system should be maintained. It has explained, furthermore, that at the present stage of development of the Cameroons the dual college system is still necessary in order to protect the interests of the Europeans residing in the Territory, whose assistance is essential to its economic development.

60. The Mission notes that although the Representative Assembly did in fact adopt a resolution at its last meeting to retain the dual college system, the sponsor of the resolution, Senator Okala of the Parti socialiste, now seems to have modified his position. The Mission considers that it would be desirable for the system of the single electoral college system to be introduced in the Cameroons as soon as possible. It notes with satisfaction that the local Administration is keeping the question under review and that a single college system was introduced for the municipal elections of 30 November 1952, with a number of seats reserved for candidates of common law status (French citizens). If this compromise solution gives satisfactory results, it might constitute an intermediate stage which would allow of a gradual transition from the dual college system to the single college system.

The powers of the Territorial Assembly

61. The law of 6 February, 1952, which changed the composition of the local Assembly, did not deal with the question of its powers. The powers of the Territorial Assembly are therefore the same as those conferred on the Representative Assembly by the decree of 25 October 1946. These are as follows:

- (a) The power of full and complete decision: The Assembly discusses and approves the budget and the taxes; it takes decisions on a certain number of administrative, financial and economic matters, especially on questions relating to the acquisition, administration and alienation of property belonging to the Territory. The French government

^{1/} See Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Eleventh Session, 446th meeting, p. 10.

may not annul the Assembly's decisions except for legal reasons and after consultation with the Council of State (Conseil d'Etat); it may, however, annul decisions regarding financial questions, for reasons of expediency. Any annulments it effects are always preceded by a report showing the technical mistakes made and suggesting the solutions to be adopted.

(b) Consultative power: The Assembly must be consulted on a certain number of questions listed in the decree of 25 October 1946 (the grant of rural and forestry concessions of more than 200 and 500 hectares, the administrative organization of the Territory, regulation of public works etc.).

(c) Other powers: Lastly, the Assembly may, through its President, submit direct to the Minister for Overseas France, any comments it may wish to make in the Territory's interest, with the exception of political questions, as also its opinion on the condition and needs of the various public services. It may instruct its members to obtain locally any information that may be required, within the scope of their functions. It may also address requests to the High Commissioner for information on questions concerning the Territory.

62. The Assembly holds annually two regular sessions each of one month's duration. It may also be convened in special session either by the High Commissioner or at the request of two-thirds of its members. A committee of three to five members, nominated by the Assembly, sits permanently between sessions. It sees that the budget is properly administered by the services of the Territory, discusses questions referred to it by the Assembly and submits its opinions to the High Commissioner.

63. The Territorial Assembly thus has wide powers in the administrative and financial fields which enable it to take an effective part in the administration of territorial interests. It does not, however, possess the power to legislate, nor has it the right to discuss political questions.

64. During its stay in the Territory, the Mission received numerous written and verbal communications asking for an extension of the powers of the

Territorial Assembly. Some of these, among them those from Ngondo (Assemblée traditionnelle des Douala), Kumze (Assemblée traditionnelle Bamileke) and the UPC, requested that the Territorial Assembly should be given legislative powers or, more precisely, that it should be replaced by a legislative Assembly.

The spokesman of the UPC maintained in particular that the poor representation of the people of the Cameroons in the legislative bodies of the metropolitan country did not permit of a proper protection of the Territory's interests.

65. Other communications, especially those from Esocam and the Bloc démocratique camerounais, asked for an extension of the powers of the Territorial Assembly, without specifying the degree of extension. This, for example, is what the Bloc démocratique said: "The Assemblies of the Territory at present enjoy powers which are undeniably inadequate. The experiment in process since 1946 should show that the members of our Assemblies have proved themselves and that it is the Administering Authority's duty to extend the powers (of those Assemblies)".

66. The Mission also noted that the Territorial Assembly itself wished its powers to be extended. At the meeting on 14 October 1952, which the Mission attended, the President of the Assembly stated in his speech of welcome that the councillors were "awaiting an Act which will enable the territorial assemblies to discuss a much larger number of questions; such discussions will decrease the competence of the French Parliament and extend the competence of the Territorial Assemblies accordingly".

67. The Administration pointed out that the French Government had seldom used its right of veto against decisions reached by the Territorial Assembly, only one of which had so far been annulled; in practice, not only the local Administration and the French Government, but also the National Assembly, had consulted the Territorial Assembly on draft laws, and the local Administration had given an increasingly wide interpretation to the basic decree, with the result that the Territorial Assembly intervened to such a degree in questions affecting the general policy of the Territory that the Council of State had been surprised at such a liberal attitude.

68. The Administering Authority had always shown itself quite agreeable to the principle of an extension of the Territorial Assembly's powers. At the Trusteeship Council's ninth session, the Administering Authority stated^{1/} that it intended to extend the Territorial Assembly's powers considerably. The law of 6 February 1952, amending the composition of the Territorial Assembly, stipulated that a Bill extending the powers of territorial assemblies was to be introduced not later than July 1952.^{2/} However, no such Bill was introduced by that time.

69. Consequently, on its way through Paris, the Mission raised this question during the conversations which it had with the Secretary of State and the Director of Political Affairs of the Ministry for Overseas France. It was explained that the competent services of the Ministry were making a thorough study of the question and that it had not yet been possible to complete the preparation of the Bill.

70. The Mission notes that there is at present a manifest desire in the Territory to have the powers of the Territorial Assembly extended, although opinions differ concerning the scope of this extension. Furthermore, the way in which the Territorial Assembly has carried out its duties up to the present is, it considers, an argument in favour of such a reform. The Mission considers, however, that there is no point in examining the question until the bill proposing an increase of the powers of the Assembly, which is at present under study, has been promulgated. It therefore hopes that the Administering Authority will take the necessary steps to see that this bill is approved by the French Parliament as soon as possible.

71. With regard to the duration of the Territorial Assembly's regular sessions which are at present limited to thirty days, the Mission considers that this period is not always long enough to allow the Assembly to do its work adequately. It therefore suggests that the Administering Authority consider the possibility of modifying the present provisions concerning this question.

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixth Session, Supplement No. 4, p. 130.

^{2/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 4, p. 168.

E. Representation of the Cameroons in the French Union

72. The Cameroons is administered as an "Associated Territory" of the French Union. The legislative organs governing the Territory are those of the Republic and the French Union. The peoples of the Cameroons are represented in these organs. They elect four deputies to the French National Assembly by direct vote. They also have three representatives on the Council of the Republic and five representatives on the Assembly of the French Union, all being elected by the Territorial Assembly of the Cameroons. They also have two representatives on the Economic Council, one appointed by the Assembly of the French Union (he represents both Togoland and the Cameroons) and the other by the Confédération générale du Travail to represent the interests of the workers in French Africa. It is through these representatives that the people of the Cameroons take part in the preparation of the laws which govern them.

73. The question of the representation of the Cameroons in the French Union was raised on several occasions in written communications received by the Visiting Mission and in conversations which it held with representatives of the political parties of the Territory and other elements of the population.

74. The Union des Populations du Cameroun opposed the integration of the Cameroons within the French Union which, it stated, by assimilating the Trust Territory to French Overseas Territories, would hamper its development and remove any hope of independence. The spokesman of the UPC maintained, in particular, that the representation of the Cameroons in metropolitan parliamentary assemblies was not sufficient to ensure the protection of the Territory's interests. He said that of the 624 (627 in fact) deputies in the National Assembly only four had been elected by the Cameroons, and three of those four by the indigenous inhabitants. Of 320 members of the Council of the Republic, three only had been elected by the Cameroons, and two of those three by the indigenous inhabitants. Similarly, in the case of the Assembly of the French Union, the people of the Cameroons were represented by three members only. The question was raised as to how the Cameroons, in such circumstances, could reap any benefit from its participation in the French parliamentary system. The spokesman of the UPC also stated that since 1946 there had been only two

laws enacted in favour of the Overseas Territories. The first of those laws, which related to the suppression of forced labour, had been enacted before the French Union had been established, and the second, on the introduction of a labour code, had been adopted by the National Assembly only under threat of a strike of African workers.

75. On the other hand, other groups such as the Esocam and the Bloc démocratique considered that the representation of the Cameroons in French parliamentary organs was adequate at the present stage of advancement of the Territory. Some stated that such representation had certain advantages, since by enabling the peoples of the Cameroons to take part in the preparation of the laws by which they were governed, it also provided them with an opportunity of acquiring experience in the functioning of a representative government. The Esocam, however, complained that the method by which representatives were elected to the metropolitan bodies was not always "clearly laid down"; in this connexion it stated the following: "Among those who have a metropolitan mandate, only the deputies are regularly elected by the people of the Cameroons. The members of the Council of the Republic and of the Assembly of the French Union are elected by the Territorial Assembly of the Cameroons. As regards the technical councillors concerned with the national economy, not only are we ignorant of the way in which they are recruited but, above all, we know nothing whatever about their special technical ability."

76. Relations between the Cameroons and the French Union are a complex question. The Mission recalls that the Trusteeship Council and its Standing Committee on Administrative Unions have been engaged upon this question for a considerable time and that in its special report to the United Nations General Assembly^{1/} the Trusteeship Council, while expressing the opinion that the relationship of the Cameroons to the French Union appeared to be consistent with the provisions of the Charter and of the Trusteeship Agreement, did not feel itself competent to appraise the theories of constitutional law which might underlie the arrangements between the Cameroons and the French Union. The Mission is not

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 12, p. 57.

in a position to add anything to the comments already made by the Trusteeship Council. It therefore does no more than draw the attention of the Council and its Standing Committee on Administrative Unions to the comments on the subject offered by some members of the population concerned.

F. The right to vote

77. The 1949 Visiting Mission, referring in its report^{1/} to the 1947 elections to the Representative Assembly, noted that a large proportion of the population did not understand the electoral system. Nevertheless, the Mission predicted that, after a few elections, the Cameroons would achieve a relatively satisfactory stage of electoral maturity. This prediction seems to have been borne out in part by the last election to the Territorial Assembly. Although it cannot yet be said that the people of the Cameroons have reached electoral maturity, there has at least been great progress in that direction between 1947 and 1952.

78. This is the conclusion which the Mission felt justified in drawing from the elections to the Territorial Assembly of the Cameroons which were held on 30 March 1952, barely six months before the Mission's arrival in the Territory. The system applied for these elections was the one-stage election for a list of candidates (Scrutin de liste) or for one candidate, (Scrutin uninominal) depending on whether the electoral districts (which coincide with the administrative regions) were represented in the Assembly by several councillors or a single councillor. The system of the dual college was maintained: the first college was to elect eighteen councillors, and the second thirty-two.

79. These are the salient points which the Mission was able to note from the elections of the second college, on the basis of information supplied by the Administration and communications from the population of the Territory:

- (a) The role of the political parties was very limited, even in the South. Generally speaking, the candidates presented themselves on an individual basis rather than as representatives of political parties.

^{1/} See Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 2, pp. 48 and 49.

Only one political party, the UPC, seems to have made an effort (which proved unsuccessful) to achieve a dominant position through the elections. Actually, whether in the North or in the South, ethnic and tribal considerations were dominant. In this connexion the contrast in the number of competing candidates in the North and the South is particularly interesting: fifteen to twenty candidates for each seat in the South, ten to fifteen in the centre, five to ten in the East and West, and less than five in the North. The large number of candidates in the South may be explained by the social structure of the southern regions, which are divided into many rival clans. In the north, the chiefdoms have larger populations and greater cohesion and consequently presented a relatively smaller number of candidates.

(b) As might be expected, there was much more political activity in the South than in the North. The greater interest in political contests displayed by advanced elements qualified to represent the population of their region constitutes an additional reason for the great number of candidates in the South. Moreover, some electors in the South showed that they were perfectly capable of exercising their political rights. Thus retiring councillors whom they thought had not protected the interests of the region with sufficient ability and zeal during the term of their office, were not re-elected.

(c) The number of registered electors has increased considerably as compared with the 1947 elections (565,495 in March 1952 as compared with 39,615 in 1947), 55.98 per cent of the electors abstained from voting in the 1952 elections, the number of abstentions varying greatly from region to region.

(d) Finally, the number of legal challenges of the election results has been rather high. A number of communications received by the Mission, most of which were from the UPC, complained that the elections were marred by irregularities. The Administration, however, explained the large number of legal challenges by the fact that "many candidates wished to exhaust the procedures open to them under the law, not so much in the hope that the elections, which they knew had been properly conducted,

would be voided by the courts but rather to prove to the electors in their group that they were familiar with the law and able to make use of the procedures available to them."

80. On the whole these indications show that very definite progress has been made in the electoral field since 1947, but except in the case of certain electors in the South, it cannot yet be said that the people of the Cameroons have reached electoral maturity.

81. On the question of the right to vote in general, the Mission received many communications relating to universal suffrage and the electoral college. In the South, many petitioners, including the UPC and the Esocam, called for universal suffrage in the Cameroons, while the BDC considered that such a step would not represent substantial progress unless it were preceded by mass education of the population. On the other hand, in the North, a Lamido complained that the right to vote had been granted to persons unworthy of exercising it, particularly women and servants.

82. The question of a single electoral college has been considered in detail in connexion with the Territorial Assembly and there is no need to revert to it here. In the matter of universal suffrage, the Mission considers that it should be introduced in the Cameroons as soon as possible, but that for the time being such a step might appear premature. The Mission noted that in the elections of 30 March 1952 a great number of the electors refrained from voting, that the introduction of a civil register is still beset with obstacles in certain regions and that on the other hand disparity between the total number of adults and the number of qualified voters in the Cameroons is no longer very great. If universal suffrage is not to be meaningless, before it is introduced in the Cameroons a system of registration of births, marriages and deaths must be completely organized and qualified voters must be encouraged to exercise their right to vote. The mission noted that the Administration has already taken steps towards this end and hopes that it will continue to do so, so that universal suffrage can be introduced in the Cameroons as early as possible.

G. Political parties

83. Many of the written communications received by the Visiting Mission during its visit to the Cameroons under French administration were from the political parties of the Territory. The Mission also had many interviews with representatives of those parties who explained their parties' views on problems relating to the development of the Territory.

84. The political parties in the Cameroons fall into three categories: parties connected with a party in the metropolitan country, local parties and the so-called customary groups.

(1) Parties connected with a party in the metropolitan country

(a) The "Section Francaise de l'Internationale Ouvrière" (SFIO) or Socialist Party

85. Organized in the Cameroons at the beginning of 1947 under the influence of members from France, the party succeeded in securing the adherence of a number of newly elected African members of parliament. It then initiated a social programme and embarked on the establishment of co-operatives and "people's" schools; such activities were, however, short-lived. Since the end of 1947 the local section of the SFIO party has been dormant, although a number of the Territory's elected representatives are still nominally socialist and there are two socialist councillors in the Territorial Assembly.

(b) The Rassemblement du Peuple francais

86. The RPF, which first made its appearance in 1947, has had some success among Europeans in the Cameroons. It won a clear victory among the European population in the 1951 elections to the Legislative Assembly, and in the 1952 elections to the Territorial Assembly, in which it has six representatives in the first college and at least one sympathizer. It is, however, comparatively inactive among the African population, although an African section has also been established.

(2) Local parties

(a) The Union des Populations du Cameroun

87. Established in the Cameroons in 1948, the declared purpose of the UPC is to rally and unite the inhabitants of the Cameroons with a view to expediting the development of the peoples and raising their standard of living. With an

ambitious political programme designed to cover the entire Territory with a complete network of committees and sections, the UPC aims at becoming a "mass political movement". At present, its influence is mainly concentrated in the Bassa country (Eséka and Edéa) and to a lesser extent in the Mungo (Nkongsamba), Nyong-et-Sanaga (M'Balmayo) areas, where the plantations have brought together large numbers of more or less de-tribalized workers. The general secretary of the UPC has stated that the party has thirty thousand members, but this figure is contested by the local administration.

88. The Administration stated that, despite its reassuring title, the UPC was clearly nothing but an offshoot of the Communist International and had been affiliated to the Rassemblement démocratique africain (RDA) of French West Africa, when the latter was itself a branch of the Communist Party. The UPC has, however, disclaimed any collusion with the Communist Party. Its general secretary informed the Visiting Mission that its adherence to the RDA was justified by the common aspirations of the Cameroons and the other Territories of Overseas France. It is to be noted that according to information supplied by the Administering Authority, the Communist Party and the Congress of Partisans of Peace regularly invite the UPC to their meetings and conferences; thus the UPC participated in the Second World Congress of Partisans of Peace held at Warsaw in November 1950, the Youth Festival at Berlin in August 1951, the International Conference for the Defence of Children held at Vienna in April 1952, the Congress of International Union of Students at Bucharest in September 1952, the Assembly of Partisans of Peace held at Montecatini (Italy) in October 1952 and the Congress of Peoples for Peace held at Vienna in December 1952.

89. Three events which have occurred since 1949 and are closely connected with the activities of the UPC call for comment: the split in the RDA in 1952 and the elections of 1951 and 1952. In 1952 a split developed within the RDA between the moderate wing led by its president, Mr. Houphouët-Boigny, and the extremist wing led by Mr. G. d'Arboussier. The UPC sided with the latter. The general secretary of the UPC informed the Mission, however, that his party had not broken with the RDA as stated in the annual report of the Administering Authority for 1951,^{1/} but had merely disavowed the policy of collaboration with the French

^{1/} See Rapport annuel du gouvernement français à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration du Cameroun placé sous la tutelle de la France, année 1951, p. 46.

administration advocated by the RDA's President, Mr. Houphouet-Boigny.

90. In the elections of June 1951 the UPC put forward its general secretary as a candidate for the French National Assembly. He obtained 3,077 votes out of the 16,950 votes cast in the electoral district concerned. In the elections to the Territorial Assembly of 30 March 1952, the UPC put forward four official candidates in four of the nineteen regions, none of whom were elected. According to figures supplied by the Administration, they obtained 2,732 (Mr. Um Nyobe), 767,223 and 117 votes respectively. The general secretary of the UPC attributed his party's electoral defeats to hostility on the part of the Administration, asserting that the elections were irregular and that the Administration had placed every possible obstacle in the way of UPC candidates.

91. The UPC displayed a great deal of activity in the Southern ~~Cameroon~~ ^{Cameroon} when the Visiting Mission was in the area. The Mission interviewed representatives of the party at M'Balmayo, Douala, Edéa and Foubot. It also received a total of 71 written communications from the central committee and local sections of the party.

92. Here the Mission wishes to draw attention to the fact that after the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly had decided on 24 October 1952 to grant an oral hearing to Mr. Um Nyobe, the General Secretary of the UPC, a total of 105 telegrams and letters were sent to the Mission by various bodies in the Territory, political parties, traditional chiefs and private individuals, protesting against the Fourth Committee's decision and alleging that Mr. Um Nyobe was in no way qualified to speak on behalf of the Cameroonian people. One of these communications came from the Territorial Assembly itself.

(b) The Evolution sociale camerounaise

93. Established in 1948, the aims of "Esocam" are to promote the development of the population, to raise its standard of living and to combat communism. After a difficult start, sections were established in some southern centres such as Yaoundé, Douala, Edéa, Dschang, Eséka and Nkongsamba. But the party soon became dormant and it was only recently, at the end of 1952, that it began to show signs of fresh activity. The Administration considers that its present membership is probably comparable with that of the UPC. The Mission had interviews with representatives of "Esocam" at Douala and Yaoundé, during which it received two written communications from them.

(c) The Renaissance camerounaise:

94. The "Renaicam" has a smaller membership than the previously mentioned parties, but has a central committee that is quite active. Its programme is similar to that of "Esocam".

(d) The Bloc démocratique camerounais

95. The most recent of the political parties of the Cameroons, the BDC, was established following the legislative elections of June 1951. With its programme of social development and the "defence of Cameroon interests", it had some success in the elections to the Territorial Assembly. Its candidates were in fact elected at Yaoundé, obtaining four seats and later the office of President of the Assembly, while a fifth supporter was elected in M'Bam. The movement, which still has only a limited number of adherents, is seeking to extend its activities to other areas. The central committee of the BDC had an interview with the Visiting Mission, during which it submitted a written communication.

(e) Others

96. In addition there is a number of small and more or less ephemeral parties in the Territory such as the Solidarité de Babimbi (Solibabi), the Association amicale de la Sanaga maritime (AASM) and the Jeunesse de la Sanaga maritime (Jeusamar).

(3) The so-called customary groups (associations aiming at promoting development within the traditional framework)

(a) The Ngondo or Traditional Assembly of the Douala People:

97. The Ngondo aims at maintaining the pre-eminence which the Douala people claim to possess over the other peoples of the Cameroons. The Administration has pointed out that this claim has often led the party to take up a demagogic stand not altogether in keeping with its fundamentally conservative spirit. The Ngondo has in fact always offered strong opposition to proposals for extending modern forms of municipal administration to Douala, the traditional chiefs composing it fearing the loss of some of their prerogatives. The leaders of the Ngondo had an interview at Douala with the Visiting Mission and submitted a written communication to it.

(b) The Kumze or Traditional Assembly of the Bamileke People:

98. According to the Administration this group represents an attempt to extend to the whole Bamileke country assemblies which already exist at the chiefdom level. Its candidates in the elections to the Territorial Assembly were successful in the

Bamileke area, but chiefly in two of its four subdivisions. Although the Kumze broke with the UPC in 1949, its programme is very similar to that of the latter party. The Visiting Mission had an interview with the leaders of the Kumze at Dschang and received a written communication from them.

(c) The Union tribale Ntem-Kribi:

99. According to the Administration, the UTNK of the Bulu country is not a purely traditional assembly. Its president, who was one of the founder members of the UPC, has withdrawn from that party. He was a candidate in the elections to the Territorial Assembly and was elected, receiving 25,000 votes.

(d) The Union Bamileke:

100. This political group opposed the activities of the Kumze during the period of the latter's alliance with the UPC. Since the Kumze broke with the UPC, the Union Bamileke has lost its vitality and, according to the Administration, now exists only in name. Its leaders came to see the Mission at Dschang and submitted a communication to it.

101. As the Mission has already indicated, the parties still have little influence on the political life of the Cameroons. Such influence as they have is limited to the South-West of the Territory, as far as Fouban in the North and Yaoundé in the East. It is the Mission's impression that the "parochial" spirit of the Cameroonians, who are still very much attached to their tribes, represents one of the most serious obstacles to the development of the political parties of the Territory. It is still difficult for the people to grasp problems of territorial significance, and local, or even personal, considerations often prevent the co-operation of people belonging to different groups.

102. The Mission is of the opinion that the development of political parties is primarily dependent upon the development of a national consciousness. It is pleased to note that a sense of territorial unity has begun to develop among the Cameroonian populations and considers that with the development that is at present taking place in the Cameroons the political parties will be called upon to play a more important part in the life of the Territory.

H. Frontier problems

103. Some of the communications received by the Visiting Mission to the Cameroons under French administration concerned frontier problems. There were twenty-seven communications from the UPC and associations affiliated to it asking for the unification of the two Cameroons. The arguments generally put forward in support of this request were that the division of the German Cameroons into two zones was decided upon without the consent of the people and that it was an obstacle to the political, economic, social and cultural development of the country.

104. The Visiting Mission has every reason to believe that the question of the unification of the two Cameroons is not at present an acute problem in the Cameroons under French administration. It noted that the masses of the population were not interested in the question. In Section G above (Political parties), the Mission has already referred to the protests that were raised against the hearing of Mr. Um Nyobe, general secretary of the UPC, by the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly; the hearing was to centre mainly on the UPC's request for the unification of the two Cameroons.

105. The Mission received a number of complaints concerning frontier restrictions between the two Cameroons. The French Administration said that the frontier between the two Cameroons admittedly gave rise to some problems in the South of the Territory but that the problems did not extend beyond the immediate interests of the frontier populations. In the North of the Territory, from Lake Chad to the Fouban region, the frontier runs for over 800 kms. through a thinly populated zone of steppeland and bushy scrub, where there is no frontier supervision apart from the customs control at the river port of Garoua. In the South, however, from the Fouban region to the sea, the frontier runs through a fertile and densely populated area, where there is considerable trade between the inhabitants of the two Territories. The region of Tombel, in particular, in the Cameroons under British administration, is trying to export its bananas by the railway between Bonaberi-Nkongssamba and the port of Douala, and the Bamilekes are in constant contact with the Bangwas in the Bamenda region, to whom they are closely related.

106. The Mission was informed that the two Administering Authorities concerned had endeavoured to do everything necessary to keep frontier restrictions to a minimum and to reduce the barrier which the frontier might create. Each

Government had appointed a high official for this purpose, and the two officials had made a joint study of the frontier problems and the solutions which might be adopted. The Visiting Mission heard that the French Administration had appointed Mr. C. M. Watier, Chief Administrator, who is well known to the Trusteeship Council, to carry out this delicate task.

107. A number of steps have already been taken to relieve frontier difficulties. With regard to the movement of persons, no documents are requested by the British Authorities from indigenous inhabitants crossing the border from the French side. A laissez-passer or identity card is required by the French Authorities from indigenous inhabitants passing into the French side. This causes some inconvenience as the laissez-passer issued by the British Administration is normally issued for a period up to 6 months. The Mission was glad to hear that the British Administration was exploring the possibility of issuing travel documents which would be valid for a longer period. As far as the movement of goods is concerned, the number of customs posts has been reduced from 11 to 7 in French territory and from 24 to 11 in British territory; local agricultural and handicraft products, small livestock on lead, up to three head of large animals (cows and horses) and manufactured articles regarded as customary gifts, of a value of not more than 15,000 francs per person, may be imported and exported freely, without customs duty. With regard to currency, frontier dwellers may import up to E15 per person into the French zone and may export up to E15 and 20,000 francs CFA per person. Finally, the administrators and officials of the frontier areas of the two Territories have been urged to maintain close relations and to endeavour to settle the problems which may concern the people under their administration in a spirit of co-operation and broad understanding.

108. The Mission considers that these measures are such as to reduce substantially the restrictions caused by the frontier between the two Cameroons. It hopes that these efforts will be pursued by the two Administering Authorities, so that the difficulties about which the frontier populations complain may as far as possible be eliminated.

109. Requests concerning frontier problems have also been made in the Cameroons under British administration. These are dealt with in the report on that Territory.^{1/}

^{1/} See document T/1042, Chapter One, Section D.

CHAPTER II. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

A. General

110. During its journey through the Cameroons the Mission covered approximately 3,000 kms. by road and visited a large number of projects of economic importance.

It noted that the Territory is endowed with numerous and diverse natural resources and is at present undergoing active economic development.

111. The Mission noted in particular the rapid development of Douala. The traffic of the port has practically trebled in four years. A large number of Europeans and Cameroonians from other areas have flocked into the town, the population of which has now reached nearly 100,000, including some 5,000 Europeans. During the three days it spent in Douala, the Mission was able to see for itself the tremendous activity in the town and the broad scope of the work being undertaken there. In particular it noticed the large number of buildings under construction in all parts of the town, the expansion of the port and the construction of a rail and road bridge, 1,035 metres in length, across the river Wouri, linking Douala and Bonaberi.

112. The economic activity of the Territory is not, however, limited to Douala. The Mission saw many further signs of economic development in other parts of the Territory. Among the more important may be mentioned the expansion of Garoua, Yaoundé and Nkongsamba, the construction of a dam at Edea, the enlargement of the port of Kribi, the development of the aerodromes at Maroua and N'Gaoundere, the construction of cold-storage slaughterhouses in these centres and the fine plantations between Bonaberi and Nkongsamba.

113. During its visit the Mission noted the primary role that the ten-year plan plays in the economic development of the Territory. It is this plan that has been governing the rhythm of development for the last six years and giving it the required impetus. The Fonds d'Investissement et de Développement économique et social (FIDES), which finances the plan and is itself subsidized by the metropolitan country^{1/}, has since 1947 devoted a total of 15,943,950,000

^{1/} In the form of gifts for about 55 per cent of the credits, the remainder being in the form of grants to be repaid by the Territory.

francs CFA (\$91,000,000) to the economic development of the Territory. The Mission considers that the Administering Authority deserves commendations for the efforts it has made in this field.

B. Production

Agriculture

114. The economy of the Cameroons is still essentially agricultural. The greater part of the indigenous population makes its living from agriculture and devotes itself, as it has always done, to growing food crops. Many indigenous inhabitants also cultivate export crops, as do some European settlers.

115. The main food crops are cassava, yams, plantains and palm oil in the South, and cassava, groundnuts and especially millet in the North. The export crops are mainly cocoa, coffee, bananas, palm kernels and palm oil, rubber and tobacco in the South, and groundnuts in the North. In 1951 food crops covered an area of some 1,151,650 hectares, with an overall production of 1,936,590 tons. Export crops covered an area of about 401,995 hectares. The tonnage and value of the agricultural products exported in 1951 are given in the following table:

Green bananas	55,700 tons	1,280,000 francs CFA
Cocoa	47,200 "	5,537,000 " "
Palm kernels	26,650 "	3,846,000 " "
Coffee	10,300 "	1,765,000 " "
Groundnuts	6,400 "	191,000 " "
Palm oil	2,650 "	150,000 " "
Rubber	2,075 "	342,000 " "
Tobacco	1,950 "	205,000 " "

116. According to information gathered by the Mission, the exports of these products during the first six months of 1952 remained at the same level as during the corresponding period in 1951, with the exception of palm kernels and palm oil, exports of which fell by nearly 50 per cent.

117. The Mission noted that, except in the case of European plantations, which were well equipped, cultivation methods were still primitive and crude. Most of the cultivation is done by hoeing. Methods vary considerably from region to region. Some of the indigenous inhabitants appear to be good farmers; for example, transplantation of white millet is practised over large areas in the Diamare plain. This arduous work, which must be carried out within the space of a few weeks, testifies to the industry and skill of the local farmers. Others, such as the Bamileke, however, seem to have little idea of the possibilities and needs of the soil, which they impoverish by their irrational cultivation methods.

118. The Mission noted that the Administration was endeavouring to improve agricultural production by the training of farmers, the selection of plants, the introduction of ploughs, the use of oxen as draught animals etc. FIDES funds have made it possible to establish an agricultural centre and an agricultural college at Nkolbisson, near Yaounde, agricultural apprenticeship centres at Ebolowa and Maroua and experimental mechanized agriculture stations for groundnuts, millet and cotton at Guetale and for rice at Pouss. A Modernization Section^{1/} has been established at Dibombari for the purpose of developing the production of palm kernels.

119. The Mission visited the apprenticeship centre at Maroua and the agricultural station at Guetale. It took particular notice of the research undertaken at Guetale for the selection of the varieties of plants likely to give the best yield. It also noted with interest the Administration's efforts to introduce fruit trees in the North.

120. The Administration told the Mission that in the second programme of the ten-year plan, which is due to go into operation after 1 July 1953, the main effort will be concentrated on agricultural production, with special emphasis on the improvement of yield and quality, and that the establishment of Modernization Sections will be regarded as the main means for the achievement of that end as far as such basic products as cocoa, coffee and oil seeds are concerned.

^{1/} The Modernization Sections is an agency of a novel type, in which are combined FIDES funds in the form of equipment, allocations from the local budget to pay the higher personnel, and the participation of African farmers, who contribute their labour.

121. The Mission considers that agricultural production forms the basis of the development of the Territory. It is glad to note that the local Administration is giving this question all the attention it deserves. Some Cameroonian farmers have asked for agricultural machinery. The Mission notes that attempts at mechanized cultivation have been undertaken in the agricultural stations at Guetale and Pouss. It feels, however, that in view of the cost of machinery, the difficulties of maintenance and the nature of the African soil, it would be better for the time being to use ploughs drawn by oxen for most of the cultivation in the Territory.

Stock-breeding

122. Stock-breeding is another important economic activity in the Cameroons, where there are almost half a million indigenous stock-breeders. The Territory possesses about 1,150,000 cattle, 1,300,000 sheep and goats, 200,000 pigs and 50,000 horses; the greater part of this livestock, with the exception of the pigs, is in the North. As in agriculture, indigenous pastoral methods are primitive and crude. In the N'Gaoundere region, which is pre-eminently pastoral, the Mission received a number of communications asking for steps to be taken for the development of stock-breeding.

123. The Mission was informed that FIDES had allocated a sum of 153 million francs CFA (\$870,000) to the construction of laboratories and centres for artificial insemination and vaccination, the improvement of cattle trails, the prospecting for, and drilling of, wells and the equipment of a model farm at Kounden. It should be added that the "chaîne du froid" series of cold-storage depots that is to facilitate the commercial use of meat from the North has been supplemented out of local funds by three cold-storage slaughter-houses, the first of which has been built at Maroua, while the other two, at N'Gaoundere and Garoua, are to be completed by the beginning of 1953.

124. The Mission visited the cold-storage slaughter-houses at N'Gaoundere and Maroua and the station at Wakwa and was able to see for itself the efforts that are being made to develop stock-breeding in the North of the Territory. It was particularly interested by the series of cold-storage depots, which is of capital importance for the economic future of the North Cameroons. Much of the meat produced in the North is consumed in the South. At present most of

the livestock is sent along the cattle trail to Douala and Yaounde, with the result that there is a considerable loss both in the weight and quality of the meat. With air transport and the preservation of the meat by refrigeration, the value of the livestock cannot fail to increase, while the price of meat on the market will drop.

125. The Mission wishes to congratulate the Administration upon this judicious venture. It feels, in this connexion, that considering the importance of the cold-storage slaughter-houses the indigenous stock-breeders should have an appropriate part in their management. It was told in Maroua that the cold-storage slaughter-house in that town was to be managed by a régie^{1/}; it hopes that the stock-breeders will be adequately represented on the executive board.

126. While it was in the North the Mission also noticed that the indigenous inhabitants did not know how to prepare the skins, which were generally dried in the sun, a system that harms the quality of the hide. The Mission thinks that the leather trade could be greatly developed if the skins were properly prepared and it therefore suggests that the Administration should take steps to encourage the indigenous inhabitants to use better methods for the preparation of the skins. Sheds could be put up, for example, where the skins could dry in the shade.

127. Finally, the Mission noted with satisfaction that one of the main points in the Administration's programme for the development of stock-breeding was the prospecting for and drilling of wells. It saw that there was much activity in that direction and that the results already achieved were making an effective contribution to the welfare of the people and were helping to reduce nomadism. It hopes that this activity will be continued and intensified.

Other resources

128. Apart from agriculture and stock-breeding, the resources of the Territory have been little exploited so far, except in the case of timber, where exports in 1951 amounted to 16,004 tons of sawn timber and 67,355 tons of logs.

^{1/} The régie is a commercial and industrial body, dependent upon the Territory but possessing legal personality and financial autonomy.

129. Although the Cameroonian sub-soil seems to contain mineral wealth, mining is so far in its infancy and is confined to the output of small quantities of gold, tin and alluvial titanium. The Administration is at present engaged upon work for the production of a geological map of the Cameroons, from funds contributed by the general section of FIDES.^{1/} The Mission was interested to learn that aerial photography was being used for this work.

130. Industrialization is still a recent phenomenon but great efforts have been made in this field since 1947, by both the public authorities and private enterprise. The sums allocated by FIDES for this purpose are comparatively insignificant but private and semi-public investment amounts to nearly 16,000 million francs CFA (\$91,400,000).

131. The most important achievement in the industrialization of the Territory is the construction of a dam and hydro-electric plant at Edea by the Société mixte de l'Energie électrique du Cameroun. The Mission was impressed by the extent of work being done there. It was told that as from 1953 the plant would supply 10,000 kilowatts of electric power, which would be increased to as much as 60,000 kilowatts later, with the help of six turbines.

132. Other industrial activities carried out by private or semi-public bodies are mainly in connexion with timber, building, transport, textile goods and foodstuffs. Nearly all these activities are in the South of the Territory.

133. The Mission was gratified to note that great efforts have been made by the public authorities and by private enterprise towards the industrialization of the Territory. It is convinced that, although the industrial activity of the Territory is at present still limited, the Edea hydro-electric plant will not fail to promote a rapid industrialization of the South as soon as it is able to operate and to supply cheap current.

134. The Mission has learnt that huge sums have been invested by Europeans in the economic enterprises of the Cameroons. It thinks that these investments testify to the economic vigour of the Territory and augur well for its future.

^{1/} The general section of FIDES is entirely financed by the metropolitan country.

Nevertheless, it considers that every possible precaution should be taken to safeguard the interests of the indigenous inhabitants and to reserve to them the part which is theirs in the economic development of the Territory. It feels that it is its duty to draw the attention of the Trusteeship Council to this important aspect of the question.

135. The indigenous inhabitants do not take an active part in the industrialization of the Territory, but local handicrafts flourish at Maroua and Foumban. At Maroua craftsmen make leather articles that are exported to neighbouring territories. The bronze objets d'art made at Foumban have acquired a certain fame throughout West Africa.

136. The Mission was glad to note that the French Administration is encouraging the development of this craftsmanship. At Maroua there is a salesroom in the regional offices themselves, where leather goods made by local craftsmen and officially inspected for quality are sold. At Foumban the Administration has set up a handicraft centre consisting of a museum of arts and crafts and the dwellings and shops of local craftsmen. The Mission considers these to be particularly felicitous ventures.

137. Finally, the Mission noted that although the North has started to produce cotton, weaving is comparatively rare among the local people. It thinks that the development of a local weaving industry might prove an effective contribution to the development of the North and it suggests that the matter should be studied.

Complaints by the cocoa planters

138. While in the cocoa-producing areas of the southern Cameroons, the Mission received many complaints from planters on the subject of cocoa-growing. It gave particular attention to this question, because cocoa is at present the Territory's principal source of wealth and its cultivation is exclusively in the hands of the indigenous planters.

139. These planters complained chiefly of the price paid for their cocoa, which they felt is inadequate and unduly variable. Some planters also charged European traders with reaping excessive profits at their expense. It should be borne in mind in this connexion that at present what the planter receives is the price paid in a free competitive market. In the initial stages of the marketing the entire cocoa crop of the Territory is collected

by African middlemen who are called "buyer-clerks" (Clercs acheteurs). They deliver the produce to the commercial firms which export it.

140. The Administration stated that the profits realized by these firms during recent years have in no way been excessive. It admitted, however, that the great number of African "buyer-clerks" affected the price of cocoa considerably and facilitated speculation. Unfortunately, the Administration has no means of regulating the cocoa trade, for the indigenous majority in the Territorial Assembly, which has on three occasions rejected a plan for regulating the activities of persons engaged in cocoa buying, has shown that it does not wish to grant the Administration any power in such matters. According to information supplied by the Administration, the price paid to the cocoa producer on 30 September 1952 was 67,500 frs. CFA (\$385.70) per ton at Douala. The price was lower for other regions, owing to the cost of transport.

141. The Mission feels that cocoa planters should be guaranteed a sufficiently remunerative price and it suggests that the Administration might study the measures that could be adopted for this purpose. It considers that the cocoa planters should try to improve the quality of their product, with a view to raising the price. It is glad to note that that is in fact one of the objectives of the second programme of the development plan which is to go into operation on 1 July 1953. As for the effect of middlemen on the price of cocoa, the Mission is not in a position to make any detailed comment, but it is of the opinion that steps should be taken to supervise the prices paid by the buyers and to inspect the scales that are used.

142. With regard to the establishment of one single seasonal price for cocoa, the Administration admitted that the requests made on this subject were perfectly justified but at the same time it pointed out that it would be difficult to satisfy them. The idea that the Administration should fix a price at the beginning of the season presupposes the existence of considerable funds to "support" the price in the event of a drop in market prices in the course of trading. A stabilization fund with substantial reserves is essential. At present, however, world prices vary from 20 to 30 francs a kilo in the course of a few weeks, and a difference of 20 francs a kilo on 50,000 tons means 1,000 million francs. The Administration does not feel that the budget of the

Territory can be asked to supply this sum, for the councillors from the regions that do not produce cocoa would not agree that the cocoa-growing area, which is already in a very favourable position, should be given this additional advantage. As for setting aside a margin, however small, at the beginning of the season, the Administration doubts whether the planters would agree to that idea. It is, however, studying a system for stabilizing market prices, with a possibility of applying it to the 1953-1954 crop; the Territorial Assembly is to give its views on the system.

143. The Mission considers that the question of fixing one single seasonal price for cocoa is one of complexity which needs to be examined with care. It was interested to learn that a system of stabilization of market prices was already being studied and it hopes that it will be possible to prepare a plan for submission to the Territorial Assembly in the near future.

144. Some planters complained that cocoa was burdened with excessive taxation; they were obviously alluding to the export tax, which is certainly a heavy burden on the product. The Administration pointed out that since cocoa was the chief export product of the Territory and benefited from favourable world market prices, it was only natural that the budget of the Territory should look to cocoa to provide a large proportion of its general revenue.

145. The Administration further stated that if no tax on cocoa had been instituted it would have been necessary to look elsewhere for equivalent sources of revenue. In other words, it would have been necessary either to increase direct taxes, to levy indirect taxes on less profitable export products or to tax imported goods, the cost of which forms the basis for the general price level in the Territory. The Administration, like the Territorial Assembly, preferred to choose the least of the various evils. The Administration also points out that while tax levies on cocoa had benefited the Cameroons as a whole, they had been particularly advantageous to the cocoa-growing area, which had received many economic and social advantages during the past four years.

146. The cocoa planters' complaints about the taxation of their product are all part of the difficult question of the levying and rate of taxes. The Mission considers that the budget, which derives part of its revenue from cocoa, should devote an adequate proportion of its expenditure to the development of cocoa production.

147. Some of the planters complained that they were unable to obtain loans for the development of their plantations. The Mission has no information on the total sum of loans granted to cocoa planters. With regard to loans in general granted to indigenous inhabitants, the Administration drew attention in a note to the Mission to the part played by the Crédit du Cameroun, which, from its inception until 31 August 1952, has granted the following sums in loans:

Agricultural loans	35,195,000	(\$ 200,000)
Co-operative loans	250,700,000	(\$ 1,400,000)
Handicraft loans	69,340,000	(\$ 390,000)
Property loans	<u>92,415,000</u>	<u>(\$ 530,000)</u>
	<u>447,653,000</u>	<u>(\$ 2,550,000)</u>

148. Of this total, 74 per cent has been granted to indigenous inhabitants, either directly or indirectly, through the agency of the co-operatives and the Sociétés indigènes de prévoyance (indigenous provident societies). The Administration further pointed out that the main difficulty in the way of a rapid expansion of credit had been the lack of a system of safeguards for the lending agency and that it was endeavouring to remedy the situation by the expansion of agricultural warrants. It felt that by means of this system the amount of loans distributed by the Crédit du Cameroun would show a great increase in the near future.

149. The Mission considers that it is important for the economic development of the Territory that the granting of loans to indigenous producers in general, and to cocoa planters in particular, should be facilitated. It is glad to note that the local Administration is fully alive to the fact and is endeavouring to take all the necessary steps to improve the loan situation in the Cameroons.

150. Finally, some planters complained that they were unable to buy the sporting guns they needed to defend their plantations from destructive animals. The purchase of fire-arms is controlled in the Cameroons and requires a permit from the Administration. A Chef de région told the Mission that permits for the purchase of fire-arms were granted by order of priority, according to the list

of applications, because there was a quota for fire-arms. The Mission has reason to believe that the Administration is also trying to limit the granting of fire-arms permits for reasons of security and law and order.

151. While the Mission realizes that it is necessary to protect plantations from destructive animals, it considers that there are other ways of doing so than by the use of guns, in particular traps and poison. The Mission also suggests that in order to protect their plantations, planters should apply to professional hunters who are usually found in the villages.

C. Transport and communications

152. The economic development of the Territory depends to a great extent on its transports and communications. The Mission is glad to note that the Administering Authority is fully aware of that fact and is making great efforts to improve the Territory's communication system. Since 1947, 14,096,700,000 francs CFA (\$80,550,000) have been spent on the communication system under the ten-year plan. To that should be added sums expended from local public moneys amounting to about 1,500 millions (\$8,600,000).

153. The Cameroons road system, at present consists of 8,800 kms. of all-weather motor roads and over 1,800 kms. of seasonal roads. The Mission considers that it gained a fairly accurate general impression of the system, since it covered over 2,958 kms. by car in the course of its visit to the Territory. The rainy season was not yet over in certain areas when the Mission was in the Territory. Nevertheless, except for some stretches, such as that between Garoua and Guidder, the roads over which it travelled seemed on the whole good and in places excellent. The Mission noticed particularly the road between M'balmayo and Sangmelima, which is asphalted for its entire length (125 kms.) and is comparable with roads in the most highly developed countries.

154. The people of the Territory appear greatly concerned with the question of roads and sent a number of communications on the subject to the Mission. Many of them expressed gratitude for what the French Administration has already done in that respect. Others complained of an insufficiency of roads and bridges.

155. In the opinion of the Mission the existing road system in the Camerpons is good, having regard to the Territory's economy, geography and climate. Nevertheless, it is certainly inadequate for modern needs. The Mission was glad to observe that the Administering Authority realizes this fact and is making a great effort to improve the situation, within the framework of the ten-year plan. Since 1947 the FIDES has allocated 6,556,000,000 francs CFA (\$37,400,000) for road and bridges. The chief work has been done on the main north-south roads between Bonabéri and Fort Lamy, the main east-west road between Douala and Bertoua and two bridges on the Wouri and the Dibamba respectively. The stretch of the north road between Bonabéri and Loum and the stretch of the east road between Douala and Edéa will be entirely asphalted.

156. The Mission visited the Falaise works, where a new section of the main north road is being built between N'Gaoundéré and Garoua, which will be about 20 kms. shorter than the present road between those two places. The Mission also inspected the work being done at Douala on the construction of a road and railway bridge, 1,035 metres long, between the port at Bonabéri and the other side of the Wouri. On both occasions it was impressed by the extent of the work that had been undertaken. The local Administration informed the Mission that most of the work in hand would be completed before June 1953, when the first part of the ten-year plan would end. The Mission understands that under the second part of the plan, which is to start on 1 July 1953, the north road is to be completed, the east road is to be improved and auxiliary roads for the collection and discharge of produce are to be built.

157. The Cameroons railway system consists of two sections, one between Bonabéri and Nkongsamba (160 kms.), and the other between Douala and Yaoundé (308 kms.), with a branch line 37 kms. long from Otélé to M'balmayo. Under the ten-year plan priority was given to the renewal of the permanent way and rolling stock, which were in a very dilapidated condition at the end of the war. A total of 2,913,000,000 francs CFA (\$17,000,000) was allocated for this purpose by the FIDES. The Mission was informed that the modernization of the railway system would be continued after June 1953 under the second programme of the plan.

158. The Mission travelled from Louala to Edéa and from Bonabéri to Nkongsamba by train. As far as it could see the permanent way and rolling stock were

in good condition. The Mission was told that railway traffic had increased from 251,000 tons in 1947, to 550,000 tons in 1951, and would probably amount to 670,000 tons in 1952.

159. The Cameroons has two sea ports, Douala and Kribi, and a river port, Garoua, on the Bénoué. In this connexion great progress has been made under the ten-year plan.

160. The greatest progress is seen at Douala, which is vitally important for the economy of the whole Territory, since it is the main outlet for the products not only of the Cameroons but also for a great part of French Equatorial Africa. The Mission spent some time visiting the port and saw the extent of the work being done to enlarge the port. This work includes the construction of a deep-water quay 1,075 metres long, where ships drawing 8.50 metres will be able to berth, and the laying down of 50,000 square metres of concrete wharves adjoining the quay. Over 2,000,000,000 francs CFA (\$11,400,000) were allocated for this work, which, the Mission was told, would be virtually completed before June 1953. Traffic in the port of Douala increased from 250,000 tons in 1948 to 613,000 tons in 1951. It is expected to reach 850,000 tons in 1957.

161. The Mission also spent a long time inspecting the work being done at the ports of Kribi and Garoua. Kribi is smaller than Douala, but is nevertheless of great importance, since its hinterland produces great quantities of timber and cocoa. The work in progress consists chiefly of the construction of a harbour wall 140 metres long and a bridge over the Kierké. Traffic in the port amounted to 22,200 tons in 1951; it is expected to reach 35,000 tons.

162. Garoua is a river port on the Bénoué. It is of vital importance for the economy of the northern Cameroons, as even when the development of road and air transport between Douala and Garoua is taken into consideration, the latter port remains the chief outlet for the produce of the North. Unfortunately the Benue River is navigable for only about three months, between July and October. The Mission was glad to note that a great effort is being made to increase the river traffic of the port. New quays are to be built and the port is to be electrified. All this work should be completed before June 1953. It is anticipated that port traffic, which at present is not more than 20,000 tons

a year will reach 40,000 tons in 1955 and 60,000 tons in 1958.

163. With regard to air transport, the Cameroons is served by a number of regular air lines, most of which are operated by the Société nationale Air-France. There are at present in the Territory one class B airfield, Douala (present lift 30 tons), seven class C airfields, (present lift 15 tons), including those of Yaoundé, N'Gaoundéré, Garoua and Maroua, and seven Class D airfields (lift 5 tons). The Mission was informed that the FIDES had allocated a total sum of 532 million francs CFA (\$3,000,000) to the Yaoundé, N'Gaoundéré, Garoua and Maroua airfields. Certain sums have also been expended on developing the secondary airfields at Kribi, Foumban, Kaele and Tibati, in the last two cases out of local public funds. The Territory's air traffic increased from 17,000 passengers and 773 tons of freight in 1949 to 61,000 passengers and 8176 tons of freight in 1951. In the first nine months of 1952 there were 80,000 passengers and at least 15,000 tons of freight.

164. The Mission knows the airfields at Douala, N'Gaoundéré, Yaoundé and Maroua at first hand, as it used them during its visit. It also visited the airfield at Garoua, where the new runway, which is nearly completed, is over 2,000 metres long. The Mission is glad to note that great efforts are being made to develop the Territory's air transport facilities.

165. Generally speaking, the Mission considers the communication system of the Cameroons to be good for an African Territory. It was impressed by the extent of the efforts made to improve the system, for which the Administering Authority is to be congratulated. The Mission notes that the second part of the ten-year plan, starting on 1 July 1952, will concentrate not on the communication system but on the Territory's production. It realizes that this decision is wise and indeed imperative in view of the Territory's economic situation, but it hopes that the great efforts made since 1947 to improve the Territory's communication system will be resumed as soon as economic conditions in the Territory make it possible.

D. Land and forests

166. In its report^{1/} to the Trusteeship Council, the 1949 Visiting Mission dealt at great length with the questions of the recognition of the land rights of indigenous inhabitants, concessions to Europeans, and "vacant and ownerless land". The 1952 Mission feels that it would perhaps be useful to explain briefly how these matters have developed in the last three years.

Recognition of the land rights of indigenous inhabitants

167. During the 1949 Visiting Mission's tour, various petitioners complained of the tardiness of the Service des domaines in complying with requests for the recognition of land rights, which was mainly due to two causes:

(a) Until about 1949, applications for land ownership certificates had been few, numbering about forty a year. Suddenly, from 1948 onwards, for various reasons, one of which was land speculation in urban areas, the indigenous inhabitants became interested in these rights and their applications increased. The Service was then overwhelmed with applications.

(b) Under the land tenure system, every effort is being made to ensure legitimate land-owners the maximum safeguards. This is a lengthy process, which involves the holding of a palaver, an inquiry de commodo et incommodo, public notice and property awards, the need for which is not always understood by the indigenous inhabitants.

168. The Mission, which received only three complaints in this connexion during its visit to the Territory, thinks that the problem is no longer so acute. The Service des domaines has been reorganized in order to meet all requests and now has 31 surveyors, as compared with 6 in 1949. The situation with regard to applications submitted to courts of second instance seems satisfactory. The following table, given by the Administration, shows the increase in the number of land ownership certificates issued since 1934:

1/ See Official records of the Trusteeship Council, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 2, pp. 58 and 59.

<u>Years</u>	<u>Certificates issued</u>
1934	17
1935	30
1936	7
1937	11
1938	39
1939	34
1940	64
1941	30
1942	16
1943	27
1944	27
1945	53
1946	91
1947	58
1948	133
1949	97
1950	255
1951	235
1952 (first 10 months)	234

Rural and urban concessions

169. The question of concessions, on the other hand, does not seem to have changed much since 1949. The Mission received a certain number of communications, most of them from local branches of the UPC, complaining about the concessions granted to Europeans. A note submitted to the Mission by the Administration pointed out that although the Decree of 12 January 1938 provided that concessions could be granted by an order of the High Commissioner, the Decree of 25 October 1946 gave the local Assembly wide powers in the matter. Thus the plans for parcelling out land in urban centres were approved by the Assembly and as far as rural land is concerned concessions of more than 200 hectares must be submitted for its advice. The note also pointed out that of a productive area of 65 million hectares, non-indigenous inhabitants occupied only 100,000 hectares of conceded lands.

170. The Mission does not think that this question is acute at the moment. Few concessions have been granted in recent years and the procedure requiring the intervention of the Territorial Assembly in the matter seems to provide a satisfactory way of safeguarding the interests of the Territory and of the indigenous inhabitants. The Mission is not opposed to the principle of concessions. It considers that the rural concessions developed by Europeans

provide an example for indigenous planters and contribute to the economic development of the Territory. It is essential, however, that everything necessary should be done to ensure that the interests of the inhabitants do not suffer and that the Territory retains its rightful share of the profits made in these concessions.

Reform of land tenure

171. Since 1949 a spirit of protest against the present land tenure system has been spreading in indigenous circles. Objection is raised to the stipulation that "vacant and ownerless land" should be included in the Territory's private domain. African communities consider that there are no vacant and ownerless lands in the Cameroons and that every piece of land has been distributed among the tribes. Such is the import of certain petitions received by the 1949 Visiting Mission and since then by the Trusteeship Council. The communications submitted to the 1952 Visiting Mission by various indigenous groups show that they have not changed their attitude on the subject.

172. The French Administration does not accept the indigenous inhabitants' interpretation of "vacant and ownerless lands". The following is the Administration's opinion on the question, together with the solution it proposes:

"This interpretation is very questionable. Certain customary rights and possibilities of future extension are confused with the right of eminent domain. It seems difficult to maintain that in the vast forest areas in the South of the Territory all the riches of the soil and the forests belong to the population, the average density of which is between 0.3 and 0.9 inhabitant per square kilometre.

"To accept the arguments adduced by those interested would be to rob the territorial community. Furthermore, in the minds of many of the indigenous inhabitants, the inclusion of vacant land in the Territory's private domain enriches the Government to the detriment of the alleged owners.

"They forget, or pretend to forget, that the Territory's domain is in fact the domain of all Cameroonians, that no land classification or increase or decrease of that domain can be carried out without the formal consent of the Territorial Assembly and that, briefly, the territorial domain belongs to everyone.

"However that may be, the French Government has studied the complaints which have reached it as regards land legislation and has decided to revise the legislation on a new basis.

"A draft law to that effect has been drawn up and has been submitted to the High Commissioner for the Cameroons for preliminary study. It should be noted that this draft law includes certain provisions that the local government itself had recommended.

"Thus the granting of legal status to communities on a smaller scale than the Territory itself will make it possible to establish a domain belonging to those communities, the setting up and preservation of which will be better understood by the indigenous inhabitants.

"Any action in such an important field as the land tenure system, where the consequences may be very serious, should not be taken in haste and it is only natural that there should be protracted preliminary studies before a final text is submitted to Parliament."

173. The Mission was interested to hear of the reforms the Administering Authority is contemplating in the land tenure system. It considers that the draft law it has drawn up is likely to settle the difficult question of vacant and ownerless lands which all too long has poisoned relations between the Administration and some of the indigenous inhabitants. It hopes that measures to adopt the draft will be taken as soon as possible.

Deforestation and erosion

174. One problem that caused the Mission some concern was the deforestation and erosion it noticed in certain parts of the Cameroons during its tour. Realizing that this question is of capital importance for the economic future of the Territory, the Mission paid particular attention to it.

175. The problem of deforestation and the resulting erosion varies according to whether it concerns the dense forests of the equatorial zone or the tropical savannah zone.

176. The proportion of fully wooded area in the dense forest zone is still very large but little by little the northern limits of the forest are receding towards the south (under the combined influence of forest clearing for cultivation purposes and of bush fires) in the regions of Nkongsamba, Nklikinimeki and Yaoundé. Furthermore, in the forest area itself there are stretches of denuded forests, the result of backward agricultural practices. In both cases deforestation is accompanied by impoverishment of the soil, especially on the steep slopes, as a result of erosion.

177. In the savannah zone, where the few remaining forest areas are being gradually devastated by the yearly bush fires and by clearing for cultivation purposes, erosion and impoverishment of the soil proceed more rapidly than in the South, owing to the climate.

178. The local Administration informed the Mission that a number of steps had been taken to combat these evils. The first, and by far the most important, is the establishment of a permanent forest domain which will be preserved from destruction by the classification of forest lands which must remain timbered and of those which must be used for reforestation. From the information received by the Mission it seems that at the present time classified forest lands and perimeters cover about 2.5 per cent of the area of the Cameroons.

179. The second step is to combat bush fires, which are certainly the most dangerous evil, for although they are lit for the purpose of restoring pastureland they are likely to spread and to destroy plant life indiscriminately. The Administration feels that in the present very primitive state of agricultural and pastoral methods in the North and West, a complete elimination of these fires, which would endanger pastures, is not possible. It has therefore tried to control them by adopting the system of "early fires" started in the grass which, at the beginning of the dry season, does not burn easily, as these fires do not become so fierce as to destroy trees in their path.

180. The third step is to plant forests near the most populous centres of the North and West, especially for the production of wood for fuel and poles for house construction. Five hundred hectares have been planted so far and 3,000 hectares of new plantations are contemplated during the next four years.

181. Lastly, steps have been taken to conserve the soil: a total of 86.5 million frs. CFA (\$500,000) has been allocated for studies on erosion and for anti-erosion measures, the first of which will be put into operation in Adamaoua, Bamoun and the North Cameroons.

182. The Administration informed the Mission of the difficulties it had encountered in the classification of forests, which in its opinion was the most effective and lasting protective measure. Classification has unfortunately been meeting with opposition from certain elements of the population since 1947. This opposition is based, on the one hand, on the fact that classification interferes with those customs which are at the very root of forest destruction and soil

impoverishment, and, on the other hand, on the idea of ownership, which makes the African inclined to consider as his own, to the detriment of the common interest, any land which he has the right to use.

183. The Administration also stated that the representatives of the people in the Territorial Assembly do not appear to have understood the need for the classification of forests. For more than four years the Assembly has opposed any classification of forests, which it regards as a type of spoliation, and projects affecting more than 40,000 hectares are being held in abeyance.

184. The Mission considers that the steps the Administration has taken against deforestation and erosion are good but are not enough to eradicate the dangers that this serious problem presents. In the Bamileke region, where the mountain sides are often cultivated, the Mission noticed that in many cases the furrows followed the line of the steepest slope. Thus the rain can carry away the arable land which has nothing to hold it back and the soil becomes impoverished, in a country that is already over-populated and is not self-supporting.

185. The Mission thinks that the gravity of this problem justifies strict and compulsory regulation. Farmers should be compelled to practise contour farming and to plant anti-erosion hedges. The Mission noted that some of the indigenous inhabitants of the North, at Mora and Mokolo, practise terraced cultivation on the mountain side. It suggests that some of the Bamileke farmers should be sent to the Mokolo region to see the terraced cultivation there.

186. With regard to the classification of forests, the Mission noted, from the communications it received on the subject, that the indigenous inhabitants were still opposed to it. Nevertheless it considers that the area of reserved forestland should be extended and it hopes that the Administration will do all in its power to convince the indigenous inhabitants of the need for this action. The Mission raised the question of the classification of forests during its interview with the officers of the Territorial Assembly. It gained the impression that some members of the Assembly realize the need for the establishment of a permanent forest domain. The Mission hopes that the Territorial Assembly, which has on many occasions given evidence of its foresight and its devotion to the Cameroonian cause, will revise its attitude on this question and will co-operate fully with the Administration in order to preserve the Territory from the ravages of deforestation and erosion.

187. Finally, the Mission was pleased to note that the Administration is undertaking some reafforestation work in the Territory. It considers that this effort should be intensified to the greatest possible degree, especially where the reafforestation of mountain crests is concerned.

E. Indigenous provident societies

188. The indigenous provident societies (Sociétés indigènes de prévoyance or SIP), which indigenous farmers and stock-breeders are obliged to join, were established by the Decree of 7 June 1937, with the objective of developing agriculture and stockbreeding, and of assisting needy members. Although they are private corporate bodies with financial autonomy, they are in the nature of public utilities and are strictly controlled by the Administration. They are a kind of State co-operative. There is an SIP in each region and a branch in each subdivision. There are also technical branches of the SIP.

189. Under the Decree of 7 June 1937, each SIP is governed by an executive board presided over by the Chef de région and consisting of a vice-president appointed by the High Commissioner, a secretary-treasurer who is a government official chosen by the High Commissioner, and a varying number of members elected by the different branches. The society is represented in each branch by a branch committee, generally presided over by the Chef de subdivision and composed of members elected by the members of the branch.

190. The activities of the SIP's vary considerably from region to region, depending on local farming and stock-breeding conditions, the character of the people and the personality of the Chef de région. Among the achievements of the SIP's may be mentioned the market-gardening and light stock-breeding centres at Dschang, Bipindi and Fouban, the agricultural and stock-breeding centre at Muog-Betsi, the dairy produce plant at Meiganga and the agricultural centre at N'Gaoundéré.

191. While it was in the Cameroons, the Mission received a number of communications complaining about the organization and activities of the SIP's. These communications came from political parties, indigenous associations and individuals from among the indigenous inhabitants. With regard to the organization of the SIP's, some of the communications stated that the indigenous

members were allowed no part in the administration of the societies and were not even kept informed concerning the disposal of the funds which they were obliged to contribute as a kind of tax. One communication asked that the SIP's should either be democratized or simply abolished. As for the activities of the SIP's, some of the communications complained that their revenues were not used for the benefit of the indigenous inhabitants.

192. The local administration informed the Mission that it had considered introducing various reforms in the SIP. The first is that the vice-president and the representatives of the farmers and stockbreeders should be elected to the executive board of the societies. In this connexion the Administration stated that the idea that the entire executive board should be elected presented certain difficulties because of the lack of economic maturity on the part of many representatives of SIP members and that for the moment it was essential to have administrative officials at the head of the SIP's as well as filling the position of treasurer.

193. In addition, the Administration has considered extending the scope of SIP activities, which until recently were limited to agriculture and stockbreeding, and allowing the SIP's to use FIDES funds for both economic and social projects. Construction branches are being considered for certain regions where the problem of housing requires special attention and the establishment of medical branches is also under consideration. An amendment to that effect to the Decree of 7 June 1937 has been submitted to the Minister for Overseas France.

194. Consideration has also been given to extending the co-operative system to the SIP's. The coffee branch of the Mungo SIP is already operating as a model co-operative. The Administration feels that this widening of SIP activities will have a salutary effect, inasmuch as by opening the way for collaboration between the provident societies and the co-operatives it would do away with the antagonisms which sometimes exist between the two groups and, in addition, the members of the co-operatives would be obliged to reform their executive boards under penalty of being refused membership in the SIP's and therefore of becoming ineligible for loans through the SIP.

195. Finally, the last reform relates to the training of accountants. The Administration explained that the introduction into the SIP of commercial accounting methods in January 1952 met with serious difficulties in certain regions

owing to the fact that the SIP accountants were not accustomed to commercial accounting methods, which differ considerably from public accounting techniques. With a view to meeting these difficulties, it has considered instituting a course in commercial accounting at the Nkongsamba College, starting in October 1952, for 40 resident students selected from the various regions, whose education is of the standard required for an elementary certificate and whose aptitude for the subject has been shown by a psychological and technical examination. This course will train accountants and assistant accountants who may also be employed by the co-operatives.

196. The Mission visited some of the SIP projects, among them the dairy produce plant at Meiganga and the agricultural centre at N'Gacundéré. It notes that there is still strong opposition to the SIP's on the part of the indigenous inhabitants and that the Administration is taking action to reform the system. The Mission considers that this question should be kept under close study by the Trusteeship Council.

CHAPTER III. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

A. Medical and health services

197. A great effort has been made by the Administering Authority to develop the medical and health services in the Cameroons. The allocations for the health service in the local budget have increased from 270,434,000 francs CFA (\$1,540,000) in 1949 to 590,050,000 (\$3,370,000) in 1952. Furthermore, the ten-year plan for economic and social development had allotted 512 million (\$2,900,000) for health services up to July 1952, especially for major equipment expenses, such as surgical instruments, radiological equipment, physiotherapy apparatus and new health institutions.

198. Although the present number of hospitals is the same as in 1949, the number of dispensaries has increased from 156 to 187 in three years. Many establishments have been extended and given better equipment. The number of doctors in the health service has increased from forty in 1949 to fifty-eight in 1952; the number of African doctors has increased from fifty-eight to sixty-three.

199. The present network of health service establishments consists of four central hospitals (two at Douala, one at Yaoundé and one at Ayos), thirty-six hospital establishments, seventy-nine large dispensaries, eighteen of which have facilities for in-patients, 126 small rural dispensaries or field posts and thirty-seven isolation establishments. In addition to the health service establishments, there are those of the missions, which include eleven hospitals, five dispensaries with facilities for in-patients, thirty-six small rural clinics and nine leprosy centres.

200. Side by side with the activities of the established health organization there is the Mobile Health and Prophylactic Service (Service d'Hygiene mobile et de Prophylaxie (SHMP)), whose main task is to intensify the campaign against widespread endemics, social diseases and epidemics by the systematic tracing and prevention of these diseases among indigenous communities by mobile teams.

201. During its tour through the Territory, the Mission visited a large number of health institutions. It noted that most of the public health and missionary establishments had good equipment and well-stocked pharmacies. The central

hospitals at Douala, Yaoundé and Ayos, the appearance and organization of which are reminiscent of hospitals in the metropolitan country, seem to be equipped with all modern requirements. The Mission was glad to see that in the official institutions medical assistance was completely free of charge; this is true not only of the actual medical consultation but also of the period in hospital and the medicine supplied. Missionary establishments make a small charge for the medicaments they dispense.

202. Some members of the medical personnel whom the Mission met in the Cameroons show devotion deserving of praise. The chief medical officer at Mokolo, for example, has opened a creche for orphan babies in the hospital, on his own initiative, despite the other heavy responsibilities devolving upon him. At Guidder the Mission heard that the woman doctor who was in charge of the health establishments of the subdivision made regular medical inspection tours on horseback in this area where communications are unreliable. The Mission met a large number of African medical officers and orderlies. It notes however, that there are still few indigenous doctors of medicine and it hopes that the necessary steps will be taken to increase the number.

203. All the official health establishments in the Territory are supplied with medicaments by the Central Dispensary (Pharmacie centrale) at Yaoundé, to which the Mission paid a long visit. It was interested to hear that this important establishment had at present more than a year's supply in stock and that the incoming and outgoing merchandise amounted to a total value of 350 million francs CFA (\$2,000,000) a year. The Mission noticed in particular that the Central Dispensary prepared the quinine tablets for which there is such a high demand in the Cameroons and that its laboratories were engaged upon research on anti-toxins to counteract the bites of the various types of snakes to be found in the Territory.

204. The work France has been doing in the domain of health in the Cameroons impressed the Mission favourably during its visit to the Territory. These efforts go back a long way, for the Mission of Dr. Jamot which succeeded in arresting the disease of sleeping sickness in the Cameroons, was established in 1926. Ayos, where the Jamot Mission started its work, is still a large health centre, with a central hospital and a school for medical orderlies.

The mission noted that the hospital in this area, which had at one time been full of cases of sleeping sickness, had only a few patients suffering from that disease. The people, at least those in the South, apparently have great confidence in the health service, as is proved by a number of communications received by the Mission.

205. Despite, however, the tremendous efforts made and the results achieved, the problem of public health is not yet entirely solved. Moreover, the problem has different aspects in the South and North of the Territory.

206. In the South the number of existing establishments is proving insufficient and the Mission heard many complaints on the subject. The demand was usually for the expansion of existing establishments and the construction of new ones. The main problem there is the expansion of the health service. The Administration is aware of the work which has still to be done and it informed the Mission that the budget for 1953 which had just been adopted by the Territorial Assembly, had allocated 1,180,940,000 francs CFA (\$6,800,000) for health service expenses. This sum is 71.14 per cent greater than that of 1952 and represents 14.63 per cent of the budget. The Mission was also informed that considerable sums would be allocated to health work under the second part of the ten-year plan.

207. The problem is different in the North where the population has not yet appreciated the significance of modern medical services. Sick people are not always willing to attend health establishments, especially the women of the moslemized tribes who are reluctant for religious reasons to attend maternity centres. This reluctance, which the Mission noticed in some parts of the North, is a problem which calls for urgent solution.

208. The Mission noted that the local Administration was actively concerned with it. In the maternity centres in the North, attempts were made to attract women by giving them small presents of soap, salt, milk, baby clothes and blankets. The local authorities are also encouraging the traditional chiefs, who are greatly respected in the North, to set a good example. The Mission observed that the Lamibé were showing great co-operation in this connexion. It may be of interest to note that one of the wives of the Lamido of Maroua has recently had a confinement at the maternity centre in that town.

209. Thus, with the combined efforts of the medical staff, the administration authorities and traditional chiefs, progress is gradually being made. The people are learning the value of health establishments, the number of which is increasing. Nevertheless, the task is such that much still remains to be done. The Mission was informed that in some regions of the North, among the Fulani and the few pagans of the plain, some 75 per cent of the population suffers from syphilis. According to some of the medical authorities of the region, the prevalent form of syphilis has no outwardly apparent symptoms and it is all the more difficult to eradicate this disease in that its victims are reluctant to apply for treatment at the medical centres. The Mission considers however, that in view of the gravity of the problem and of its consequences, further measures should be taken to arrest the disease.

B. Labour

Labour code

210. One of the most important recent events for the Cameroons is undoubtedly the adoption by the National Assembly of the Labour Code for the Overseas Territories. This Code proclaims the principles of freedom to work, equality of pay, total payment of wages in cash and the prohibition of fines or stoppage of pay, freedom to form trade unions and the right to strike. It introduces detailed legislation on certain points not hitherto covered by any text in the Cameroons, such as articles of apprenticeship, jobbing, shop stewards, the advisory labour commission and labour tribunals. In other connexions it modifies the legislation hitherto in force, on the basis of metropolitan legislation. Thus, the educational qualifications required of trade union leaders under the 1944 Decree are abolished and the labour offices organized under that Decree are transformed into regional offices, directed by a Conseil d'administration consisting equally of employers' and workers' representatives. Finally, it should be noted that in view of the fact that the Code lays down general rules common to all the Overseas Territories, the Administration of the Cameroons must draw up suitable legislation to apply these rules to the Territory.

211. The Code was adopted after lengthy discussion by both houses of the French Parliament. It will be recalled that the draft code was first submitted to the

National Assembly which began to discuss it at the end of 1950. On 30 April 1951 the Assembly adopted the draft at the first reading, with a number of amendments. The text, as amended, was then submitted to the Council of the Republic, which in turn adopted a large number of amendments. In accordance with the constitutional regulations, the National Assembly had to take the final decision on the text. The draft labour code was therefore referred back to the Assembly, which was considering it at the time the Mission visited the Cameroons.

212. While in the Territory, the Mission discussed the question with the Confédération générale du Travail (CGT) and the Confédération générale du Travail - Force ouvrière (CGT-FO). Both organizations expressed the hope that the National Assembly would adopt the text it had approved at its first reading rather than the text proposed by the Council of the Republic. When passing through Paris on its return from Africa, the Mission was glad to learn that the Labour Code had been finally adopted by the National Assembly, which had retained its own text.

Social security

213. There is already a social security system in the Cameroons, but it is inadequate and requires co-ordination. A system of indemnities has been in operation for many years for accidents at work and for occupational diseases, the victims of which receive a daily allowance throughout their temporary disability and a lump sum in the case of permanent disablement. Moreover, the labour regulations oblige employers to bear the cost of illness of workers and the families of workers who live on their plantations. There is also a system of family allowances for officials.

214. The two main workers' organizations made certain demands in connexion with social security. The CGT complained of the absence of a social security system for indigenous workers. The CGT-FO was more explicit and requested a rise in the rates of indemnities for incapacitation due to accidents at work, the institution of a health insurance system and the establishment of a pension fund.

215. In a note sent to the Mission the Administration explained that the differences between Cameroonian companies and those of European type call for special solutions to the social security problems in the Territory and that it is in process of providing such solutions. It recognizes the value of a general

system of family allowances and, by a decision of 17 April 1951, has set up a committee instructed to prepare a plan of social action for the families of African workers. It considers, however, that it would not be expedient for the time being to introduce unemployment allowances, since unemployment is unknown in the Cameroons, where the position of the labour market is such that any man who wishes to become a wage-earner can obtain work without any difficulty. Similarly, it does not think there is any need for a system of assistance to old persons in a social system where traditional usages ensure old persons material assistance from other members of their family. With regard to sickness and maternity, it considers the existing regulations to be adequate, in view of the fact that indigenous medical assistance is free.

216. In conclusion, the Administration has announced its intention of converting the inadequate system of social security which now exists in the Territory into a co-ordinated and unified social security organization. It also said that this reform depends to a great extent on the principles and regulations to be defined in the near future by the French Parliament for all Overseas Territories.

217. The Mission notes with pleasure that the Administration is giving attention to the question of social security. It considers that at this time, when the rapid development of the Territory tends to increase the number of paid workers, everything possible should be done to co-ordinate and complete the existing social security system. The Mission hopes it will be possible to introduce reforms in that field shortly.

Wages and standard of living

218. The two workers' organizations which had interviews with the Mission raised also the question of wages and the standard of living. The CGT complained that the level of wages was still very low in the Cameroons and that there was still racial discrimination in the matter of wages. It stated, in particular, that the Decree of 13 March 1952 had fixed the minimum daily wage at 20 francs in the North Cameroons and 90 francs in Douala, although the minimum living wage in that town was approximately 200 francs. The CGT-FO also complained of the inadequacy of the wages of Cameroonian workers and asked that a sliding scale of salaries should be established, in order to raise the standard of living, and that institutions such as communal restaurants and producers' and consumers' co-operatives should be expanded. Complaints about the inadequacy of wages were received also from several indigenous individuals and groups.

219. The present system of fixing wages in the Cameroons is based on the establishment by the local administration of minimum wage rates for unskilled labour. These rates are determined according to regions, after consultation with the local labour offices and taking into account the prices of commodities and essential services. They constitute a minimum below which no wage-earner may be paid. The following tables gives the minimum wage rates according to regions:

<u>Region</u>	<u>Number of ordinary workers</u>	<u>Percentage by region</u>	<u>Average minimum wage rate</u>
Wouri (Douala)	26,000	28.9	90 francs per day
Regions of Mungo, N'kam and Sanaga Maritime.	20,000	22.2	59 " " "
Nyong and Sanaga (Yaounde)	16,000	17.8	50 " " "
Other regions of the South	19,000	21.1	36 " " "
Adamawa and the North	<u>9,000</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>27 " " "</u>
Territory as a whole	90,000	100	58.30 francs per day

220. On the question of alleged racial discrimination with regard to wages, the Mission was informed by the Administration that the only reason why the indigenous workers earned less than the Europeans was because their output was lower.

221. The question of wages must be considered together with that of the standard of living. Unfortunately the Mission did not obtain sufficient information on the standard of living in the various regions of the Cameroons, with the exception of Douala. It will therefore confine its study to that town only.

222. The Administration pointed out that actual wages were much higher than the minimum rates. Thus in Douala the actual wage was approximately 110 francs, whereas the minimum rate was only 90 francs. It also stated that, in general, even in the vicinity of the towns, wages were regarded as an extra by the Cameroonian worker, who had additional resources derived from his plot of land, and that efforts were being made by the employers and the Administration to **raise** the standard of living of workers, especially in the towns. Thus it had become the practice for employers to grant bonuses for diligence, free transport from home to the place of work and free snacks.

223. Since 1949, when the first Mission visited the Territory, the minimum rate of actual daily wages in Douala has risen from 60 francs to 110 francs, an increase of 83 per cent. The changes of price of consumer goods essential for an unskilled worker of that town during the period July 1949 to July 1952 is given in the following table, which was given to the Mission by the local Administration:

<u>Articles</u>	<u>Units</u>	<u>July 1949</u>		<u>July 1952</u>	
		<u>Price</u>	<u>Index</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Index</u>
Macabo	kg	3.5	100	6	171
Plantain	kg	7	100	6	86
Meat, without bone	kg	95	100	140	147
Palm oil	litre	55	100	50	90
Shelled peanuts	kg	44	100	55	125
Kitchen salt	kg	6.15	100	12	195
Lump sugar	kg	67	100	65	97
Sardines in oil	tin	38	100	30	79
Imported rice	kg	40	100	45	112
Bread	kg	45	100	60	133
National cigarettes	packet	14	100	20	143
White drill, .70 metres wide	metre	108	100	150	139
Khaki drill, .70 metres wide	metre	108	100	148	137
Grey baft, 1 metre wide	metre	74	100	75	101
Marsailles soap	kg	115	100	140	121
Paraffin	litre	12	100	20	166
Matches (10 boxes)	packet	12	100	25	208
Firewood	1/2 cubic metre	250	100	400	160
			100		133.8

224. This table is unfortunately incomplete. For example, it gives no figure for rent, which forms an important part of a worker's expenditure. Furthermore, the units shown for each article do not correspond to the quantities consumed by a worker. It is enough, however, to indicate roughly the changes in the cost of living at Douala. Thus, between July 1949 and July 1952, the actual wages of a Cameroonian worker increased by 83 per cent, while the rise in prices was approximately only 33.8 per cent. The purchasing power of the workers seems therefore to have developed to their advantage during that period. The following table shows this development in connexion with essential consumer goods:

<u>Articles</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>July 1949</u>	<u>July 1952</u>
Macabo	kg	0 h. 28 m.	0 h. 26 m.
Plantain	kg	0 h. 56 m.	0 h. 26 m.
Meat without bone	kg	12 h. 40 m.	10 h. 10 m.
Palm oil	litre	7 h. 20 m.	3 h. 38 m.
Shelled peanuts	kg	5 h. 52 m.	4 h.
Kitchen salt	kg	0 h. 50 m.	0 h. 52 m.
Lump sugar	kg	8 h. 56 m.	4 h. 43 m.
Sardines in oil	tin	5 h. 04 m.	2 h. 10 m.
Imported rice	kg	5 h. 20 m.	3 h. 16 m.
Bread	kg	6 h.	4 h. 21 m.
National cigarettes	packet	1 h. 52 m.	1 h. 27 m.
White drill, .70 metres wide	metre	14 h. 24 m.	10 h. 54 m.
Khaki drill, .70 metres wide	metre	14 h. 24 m.	10 h. 45 m.
Grey baft, 1 metre wide	metre	9 h. 52 m.	5 h. 27 m.
Marseilles soap	kg	15 h. 20 m.	10 h. 10 m.
Paraffin	litre	1 h. 36 m.	1 h. 27 m.
Matches	packet	1 h. 36 m.	1 h. 49 m.
Firewood	1/2 cubic metre	33 h. 20 m.	19 h. 05 m.
		145 h. 50 m.	105 h. 06 m.

225. The mission notes that the purchasing power of the indigenous workers is still extremely low. In this connexion it considers that reduction of the cost of living is the problem requiring the most serious attention, for to reduce the cost of living would appear to be a more effective method of increasing purchasing power than to raise salaries. The Mission is glad to note that the Administration endeavours to enable the workers of Douala to purchase foodstuffs at a low price by establishing model shops and opening municipal restaurants. The Mission visited two of these restaurants, at Douala and Sangmélina.

226. The Mission considers that further efforts should be made in that direction and that the rise in prices should be combatted by every possible means. There is always a danger of a rise in prices in a town which is growing as quickly as Douala and vigorous steps to avert it would be justified in particular by the fact that many persons, both Europeans and indigenous inhabitants, are making large fortunes. The local Administration informed the Mission that it was aware of the economic and social problems inherent in the rapid development of Douala and was giving this matter its attention.

Output and vocational training of indigenous workers

227. The problem of the output of indigenous workers was discussed at length by the 1949 Visiting Mission in its report to the Trusteeship Council.^{1/} There seems to have been little change since then. The output of Cameroonian workers is still very low. In a note to the Mission, the Administration's conclusion, as in 1949, was that the main problem of labour in the Cameroons was the low output and that the solution lay mainly in increasing the workers' technical ability.

228. The Mission noted that efforts have been made by the Administration to achieve that end. The following measures relating to vocational training of Cameroonian workers have been taken:

(i) Training of Cameroonian workers in the metropolitan country

For several years, workers with training scholarships have been sent to the metropolitan country for periods of training; they will return with rational methods of work and experience in the use of modern apparatus. Nine workers from the 1951-1952 contingent are due to return to the Territory shortly. Nine scholarships will be granted for 1952-1953.

(ii) Regulations governing apprenticeship

After discussion in the Territorial Assembly, the Order of 1 July 1952 was issued, regulating conditions of apprenticeship in the Cameroons. The regulations prescribed an adaptation of those in force in France, assured the apprentices the contractual guarantee of occupational training and, by a system of tax exemption should encourage firms to

^{1/} See Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Seventh Session, Supplement No. 2, pp. 66-68.

train apprentices. The Order establishes the conditions governing the conclusion of apprenticeship contracts, the respective duties of employers and apprentices and the system of inspection by the Inspectorate of Labour to ensure proper fulfilment of contracts.

(iii) Vocational training centre for adults

The object of the Douala vocational training centre for adults, opened in May 1952, is to provide vocational training for adults who are unskilled but show certain aptitudes. It is divided into two sections, masonry and carpentry, and takes thirty-three trainees between the ages of seventeen and twenty-five, who are admitted after a psycho-technical examination to assess their aptitude and the type of work they should do.

Plans have been made to establish two additional sections in 1953 for joinery and for brick work and tile laying. In addition, when the rate of training workers in the most needed skills has become sufficient to meet the most pressing requirements, it is planned to set up a refresher section in which former trainees can recapitulate their basic training or learn to correct any defects in their methods of work.

The trade unions and employers' and workers' organizations are collaborating closely in the operation of the Centre through the Inspection Commission and the Vocational Training Council.

(iv) Technical training

The technical training establishments train skilled workers and foremen for all types of industry and will shortly be training engineers. They are responsible for the pre-apprenticeship classes in the principal schools, the four apprenticeship centres at Garoua, Nkongsamba, Edéa and Ebolowa, and above all the Douala Vocational Training School.

229. The Mission had the opportunity of visiting a number of these establishments, particularly the Douala Vocational Training School. In this School, which is well equipped, young indigenous inhabitants learn modern technical methods. The courses last four years, at the end of which an examination is held for the industrial education certificate, which is highly

valued even in France. At present the Douala school has 185 pupils; six pupils sat for the certificate in 1952. The Mission was told that the Administration intended to develop the pre-apprenticeship classes and the vocational training centres and gradually to transform the Douala Vocational School into a technical college.

230. The Administration is not working alone in this field. The Mission observed that the religious missions were also training skilled African workers. At Meiganga, in particular, it visited the Catholic mission's vocational school, where the pupils make furniture which is sold all over the Territory. Furthermore, the Mission learned of the existence of private workers' training establishments, which are subsidized by the Administration. It noticed especially the Douala Vocational Training Centre and the carpentry apprenticeship centre at Bafoussam, which were established by indigenous inhabitants.

231. The Mission considers vocational training to be a very important matter from both the economic and the social point of view. It is glad to be able to state that efforts in this direction are being made, not only by the Administration but also by the missions and by private enterprise. It feels that these efforts should be continued and intensified as far as possible.

Trade union organization

232. The Mission feels that it should include a few words on the trade union organization in the Cameroons, since the question of labour was raised by two trade unions. It notes that the Decree of 7 August 1944, which has governed labour unions in the Cameroons hitherto, will have to be amended in accordance with the regulations laid down in the recently adopted Labour Code. The educational qualifications required of trade-union leaders will be abolished and the labour offices will be converted into regional offices under the authority of a Conseil d'administration upon which employers and workers will be equally represented.

233. Most of the workers' trade unions in the Cameroons are affiliated to one of the main metropolitan organizations, the others being independent. At present there are forty-one unions of the Confédération générale du Travail (CGT), thirty-three unions of the Confédération française des Travailleurs chrétiens (CFTC), eight unions of the Confédération général du Travail - Force ouvrière (CGT-FO) and fifty-six independent unions. Of a total of 138 unions, ninety are in the Wouri (Douala) and Nyong-et-Sanaga (Yaoundé) regions.

234. There are also sixteen employers' unions in the Territory, all but one being affiliated to the Union des Syndicate professionnels du Cameroun.

235. According to the Administration's calculations, trade union membership is about 20,000 at present. The Administering Authority's annual report for 1951^{1/} gives the membership of the different unions in 1951 as 8,120 for the CGT, 2,000 for the CGT-FO, 8,110 for the CFTC and 2,125 for the independent unions. These figures are contested by the CGT, which states that it has 15,000 members.

236. The Mission had conversations with representatives of the CGT and CGT-FO from which it also received written communications. Their requests have been set forth in preceding sections. The Mission had no contact with the CFTC.

C. The bride-price system and polygamy

237. The bride-price system is one of the most serious obstacles to social advancement in the Cameroons. This problem was discussed on several occasions in conversations which the Mission had with members of the local Administration, the Territorial Assembly and various indigenous groups. The following is an outline of the problem.

238. Originally marriage took place by means of an exchange of women between neighbouring communities. Later the system of exchange was replaced by a symbolic gift, which soon assumed the form of a payment in money and in kind. The bride-price thus instituted by custom symbolized the marriage bond and was a guarantee of conjugal stability. Gradually, however, bride-price lost its original meaning. Owing both to the greed of parents and to the vanity of the husbands and the pride of the women themselves, in certain districts it soon deteriorated into a means of bargaining and speculation and the rates became exorbitant. In the district of Yaoundé, for instance, it rose from 3,000 francs CFA in 1938 to 30,000 in 1948, 50,000 in 1949 and 100,000 in 1950.

1/ See Rapport annuel du Gouvernement français à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration du Cameroun placé sous la tutelle de la France, année 1951, p. 201.

239. This state of affairs has harmful consequences. If they are unable to pay the price young men are condemned to remain unmarried and enforced celibacy leads to licence, the spread of social diseases and finally to a fall in the birthrate. The rich, on the other hand, can buy several wives and often do so as a means of investing their money, for they can make their wives work and if necessary sell them again. The bride-price system therefore encourages polygamy, causes a fall in the birthrate and reduces women to the level of mere merchandise.

240. The local authorities are fully conscious of the gravity of the situation. Since 1935 they have been endeavouring to stop the constant rise in the bride-price rate; an Order of 11 February of that year fixed the maximum rate at 250 francs and 500 francs, according to the district. Local public opinion, however, was not at all eager to accept the regulations and in practice, in spite of the efforts of the authorities, they have remained more or less a dead letter. The official rate was indicated on the marriage certificates but the persons concerned continued to maintain much higher rates by a process similar to that practised in the unofficial market in foodstuffs the price of which is officially controlled. Consequently, the increase in the bride-price has not been checked; on the other hand, husbands lose the guarantee of repayment in the event of divorce, since the marriage certificate no longer indicates the sum they actually paid. Several indigenous inhabitants complained to the Mission that their wives had left them without repaying the bride-price.

241. This practice made it necessary to issue new measures and led the Administration to lay down certain conditions to govern marriage between Africans, in the Decree of 14 September 1951. Whilst respecting custom, this decree is designed to prevent abuses. By permitting the more advanced members of the community to contract marriage in complete freedom and extending the privilege of freedom to contract marriage to young girls who have attained their majority, the Administration frees them from the guardianship of parents whose greed is the main cause of the increase in the bride-price.

242. In addition, the Administration intends to resume its efforts to restrict the amount of the bride-price. In a note addressed to the Mission it stated that the district chiefs have been instructed to ascertain the opinion of all the traditional organizations, the councils of notables and the chiefs of all the ethnic, religious or vocational groups, and of any outstanding person whose advice seems desirable and authoritative, on the fixing of the rate. When the various opinions have been heard, a local order will fix the rate for each region of the Territory. The Administration hopes that this order will have a better reception than that of 1935, although some of the first replies received show a certain scepticism.

243. The question of the bride-price and polygamy was raised in several communications received by the Mission. A few notables pronounced themselves in favour of the bride-price system and polygamy, but a larger number of the communications criticized them and requested their abolition. The Evacam Association, in particular, advocated the abolition of the bride-price system, because, in its view, no compromise solution would be practicable. By compromise solution it meant the fixing of a maximum rate and the institution of marriage without a bride-price for only the more advanced members of the population. As has been seen, those were precisely the solutions proposed by the Administration.

244. The Mission would not go so far as to advocate the abolition of the bride-price, which is not necessarily a bad custom, but it considers that the most drastic action should be taken to put an end to the abuses to which the bride-price system has given rise. It appreciates the serious attention which the Administering Authority has given to this grave social problem. It considers, however, that legislation alone cannot put an end to the abuses and that the people's moral sense must be trained if that object is to be achieved, since the root of the problem can be reached only through a moral conception of the institution of matrimony. In this connexion, the Mission is gratified to note that not only the Administration and the religious missions, but also certain indigenous individuals and groups are concerned by this problem.

245. The Mission observed that the problem of the bride-price has become more acute since the entry into force of the Law of 30 June 1950 on the salaries and family allowances of the civil and military staff of the French Union services. Under that law, which is known as the Lamine-Gueye Law, polygamous officials are entitled to an allowance for each wife and each child. It is easy to imagine the disastrous results of that law, as far as polygamy and the custom of bride-price are concerned, not to mention its effect on the Territory's budget. As the purchase of brides became a profitable investment, certain African officials sought to buy as many brides as they could afford and by the play of supply and demand, the bride-price immediately soared. On several occasions, the Mission heard it said that a pregnant woman fetches a high price, for the obvious reason that the child she bears will also be entitled to an allowance.

246. Thus, the Lamine-Gueye Law, which put a premium on polygamy, has caused a considerable rise in the bride-price demanded by a father when his daughter marries. The Mission considers that the provisions of this law should be reviewed in the light of the abuses to which it has given rise. It is worth mentioning that several members of the Territorial Assembly have criticized this law.

D. Alcoholism

247. Alcoholism is a particularly complex social problem in Africa. Up to 1948, the consumption of alcohol by Africans was strictly regulated by the Decree of 24 May 1931, which was based on the St. Germain-en-Laye Convention of 10 September 1919. After the war, however, the Africans showed an increasing impatience towards measures which they considered discriminatory.

248. In order to remove all traces of racial discrimination whilst still respecting the St. Germain-en-Laye Convention, the local Government drew up and submitted to the Ministry of Overseas France a draft text which was to become the Order of 18 May 1948. It introduced a new system, applicable to all, without distinction of race, and prescribed a number of measures to promote the campaign against alcoholism: regulations to govern the licence system, prohibition of alcohol harmful to health, restriction of the import of alcoholic liquors by the establishment of quotas.

249. These measures, however, were found to be inadequate. Several communications received by the Mission complained of the harm done by alcoholism, while others asked that measures should be taken to limit imports of alcohol. The Administration told the Mission that it had decided to reconsider the question of alcoholism and to examine other ways of combatting it. In this connexion, a Commission consisting of the chiefs of the competent services and representatives of the people was established in 1951 to study the problem. The Commission's findings were that alcoholism was more a moral than an economic problem and that repressive measures would be inadequate to combat it if they were not accompanied by the consumers' spontaneous support, which could only be obtained by a long-term campaign of persuasion.

250. Taking these recommendations into account, the High Commissioner, in agreement with the Territorial Assembly, instituted the following measures: maintenance of the quota for imports of alcohol, increase of the import duty, greater latitude in the sale of beverages with a low alcoholic content and restriction of the number of licences. These measures were accompanied by an anti-alcohol propaganda campaign, mainly in the schools and the post-scholastic courses. Anti-alcohol societies are being formed in most parts of the Territory.

251. The Administration also informed the Mission that, with a view to increasing the severity of the penalties for offences committed under the influence of alcohol, three bills had been submitted to the French Parliament: the first is designed to increase the penalties provided under the law of 1 October 1917 for offences or misdemeanours committed in a state of intoxication, the second concerns the prohibition of the manufacture of distilled liquors and the third establishes the quotas for the import of alcohol into the Territory. The Administration hopes that with the aid of this series of repressive orders, together with the limitation of alcohol imports, propaganda, and above all the education of mothers, it will be possible to combat alcoholism effectively in the Territory and to prevent the havoc it might cause.

252. The Mission was glad to see that the Administration was treating the question of alcoholism with all the seriousness it deserves. It considers that the most vigorous steps should be taken to decrease the consumption of distilled spirits. It hopes also that the people will co-operate whole-heartedly with the Administration in this connexion.

CHAPTER IV. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

253. During its stay in the Cameroons, the Mission noted that great efforts were being made by the Administration and by religious missions to promote educational advancement in the Territory. It also observed that the Territorial Assembly attached the greatest importance to this question.

In 1952 the Territory allocated 734,230,000 francs CFA (\$4,200,000) to education, as against 112,000,000 francs CFA (\$640,000) in 1949. To that figure should be added the contribution of FIDES, which since 1 January 1952 has spent a total of 100,418,697 francs CFA (\$574,000) on educational work.

254. Public education establishments in the Cameroons at present comprise 240 primary schools, with 830 classes and 40,000 pupils, five secondary schools, with forty-three classes and 1,600 pupils, and twenty technical schools, with 1,785 pupils. Public education is entirely free.

255. The Mission visited a large number of public educational establishments. It would particularly mention the Lycée Général Leclerc at Yaoundé, which has at present 780 pupils, 400 of them boarders. The primary school at Garoua, where both classrooms and dining-room are very clean, also deserves mention. The Mission was informed that school attendance was, generally speaking, very regular. It observed the presence of European pupils in some establishments, particularly in the Mora primary school and the Lycée at Yaoundé. On several occasions, it noted that sports activities were encouraged in schools.

256. Together with the public educational establishments, mention must be made of those of the religious missions, which are extremely important in the Cameroons. They include 1,200 primary schools, with 2,400 classes and 100,000 pupils, eight establishments for secondary education, with twelve classes and 800 pupils, and six technical schools, with twelve classes and 900 pupils. In principle, education in these establishments, is free, but some of the mission schools charge a very small fee.

257. The Mission visited the schools of the French Catholic Mission at Sangmelima and Kribi, the vocational training school of the Catholic Mission and the Norwegian Protestant Mission's Orphanage at Meiganga. The Kribi school has 800 pupils, 300 of them girls; the Sangmelima school has 700. The Mission noted

that the religious missions have achieved excellent results in the field of education and that their contribution to educational work in the Cameroons is of basic importance, since their establishments are attended by 70 per cent of the school-children of the Territory. The Visiting Mission observed that a large number of the Cameroons political leaders whom it met had been educated by the missionaries.

258. The Mission was informed that since 1942 considerable material assistance had been granted to the mission schools by the Territory. This assistance rose from 2 per cent of the local educational budget in 1942 to 30 per cent in 1952, i.e. about 200 million francs CFA (\$1,143,000). It was distributed as follows: salaries of teaching staff: 110 million francs (\$62,000), grants for operational costs: 18 million francs (\$103,000); and grants for building schools: 70 million francs (\$400,000). At a meeting of the Territorial Assembly which it attended, the Mission noted that many members expressed themselves in favour of increased assistance to mission schools.

259. On the other hand, the Administration exercises a double control, of both a financial and technical nature, over grant-aided schools. Its financial control concerns the use made of the grants, while its technical control applies to the conditions of operation of the schools and their pedagogic organization, especially with regard to the implementation of the official syllabuses and the use of the text books.

260. It appears that the Administration's policy in the field of education is to link public and private education in the Cameroons more closely. Thus, in recent years, considerably increased assistance has been granted to private establishments, while control over them has been tightened. In this connexion it is interesting to note that the title of Direction de l'Instruction publique has recently been changed to that of Direction de l'Enseignement.

261. The Mission considers that in spite of the efforts made in the field of education there are still not enough schools in the Territory. At present there are in all 140,000 pupils in primary schools and 5,000 in secondary and technical schools. This figure is a very small percentage of the school-age population.

262. When it was in the Southern Cameroons, the Mission received numerous communications complaining of the paucity of schools in the Territory. Most of them asked for an increase in the number of primary schools while some wished secondary and technical education to be expanded. Two requests also suggested that an institution for higher education should be set up in the Territory.

263. The Administration agreed that there was still much to be done in the educational field. It stated that the aim of its policy as regards primary education was education for all, and that in order to achieve that aim it proposed to start two hundred new classes each year. That plan has already been carried out as regards the 1951-1952 period. It also informed the Mission of its plans for developing secondary and technical education. These plans concern in particular the expansion of the Lycée at Yaoundé, and the boys' high schools at Douala and Nkongsamba, the establishment of a new high school at Bafang, the development of vocational training centres at Nkongsamba, Garoua, Bafoussam, Edéa and Ebolowa, and the gradual transformation of the Training School at Douala into a technical college. The Mission also learned that 1,089,626,825 CFA francs (\$6,200,000) had been set aside for education in the Territory's budget for 1953. This sum, which represents 15.5 per cent of the total budget, is an increase of 48.43 per cent over the sum allocated for this purpose in 1952.

264. As regards higher education in the Territory, the Administering Authority stated in 1950^{1/} - and the Mission has every reason to believe that its attitude is unchanged - that it would be inadvisable to contemplate founding a university in the Cameroons at the present time because the financial effort needed would be out of all proportion to the probable number of students. In the Administering Authority's opinion it would be useless to consider the question of a university until secondary education has been fully developed. In the meantime the most satisfactory method of giving higher education is to send scholarship students to France. According to the information gathered by the Mission there are at present, besides the 180 holders of secondary and technical school scholarships,

^{1/} See Rapport annuel du gouvernement français à l'Assemblée générale des Nations Unies sur l'administration du Cameroun placé sous la tutelle de la France, année 1950, p. 244.

eighty five holders of university scholarships who are studying in France or at Dakar. In addition twenty-six "advanced training" scholarships were granted to indigenous officials and fifteen educational grants to students who went to France at their own expense.

265. The Mission is glad to note that the Administration has decided to increase its efforts in the field of primary, secondary and technical education. As regards higher education, the Mission recalls that the Trusteeship Council has already recommended that the Administering Authority should consider the establishment of institutes of higher education in the Territories as soon as possible. The Mission thinks that until such time as a university is established in the Cameroons, the Administration should, as far as is financially possible, increase the number of scholarships to the metropolitan country, particularly for medical students. Several communications received by the Mission requested the granting of scholarships to indigenous students; the Esocam, in particular, requested that inhabitants of the Cameroons should be allowed access to international scholarships, i.e. those granted by the United Nations.

266. The Mission's attention was drawn to a number of other questions regarding educational advancement which it wishes to bring to the notice of the Trusteeship Council.

267. The Mission observed that from the educational standpoint the Northern part of the Territory, which was neglected for a long time, mainly because of geographical distances, was backward compared with the South. At the present time the Administration is making a great effort to remedy this state of affairs by building new schools in the North and encouraging the people to send their children to them.

268. The Mission noted that these efforts are beginning to bear fruit. In the Bénoué region, for example, the number of pupils rose from 1,200 in 1949 to 4,000 in 1952. At Guidder, which was entirely lacking in educational facilities up to a few years ago, there is now a fine primary school with 260 pupils. Similarly, considerable progress has been made at Garoua, Maroua, Mokolo, Mora and Ngaoundéré. The Mission was glad to note that the religious missions have

recently extended their activities to the Northern Cameroons. Their presence will certainly help to accelerate educational advancement in that part of the Territory.

269. The Mission also observed that the number of girls attending school was about 20 per cent of the total number of pupils of the Territory. Although the Doualas and the Bassas send their girls to school fairly regularly, the Moslems and the Bamilekes are still frankly against educating girls.

270. The Administration is trying to remedy this state of affairs and has established girls' schools, in particular at Douala and Garoua. It is encouraging to note that in the North the Moslem traditional chiefs are co-operating with the Administration in promoting education for women and that the Lamibé of Ngaoundéré and Maroua in particular had set a good example by sending their girls to school.

271. The Mission itself, in the course of interviews with various elements of the population in the Northern and Southern Cameroons, frequently took the occasion to stress the importance to the advancement of the Territory of educating girls. It hopes that the Administration will increase its efforts in this field as far as possible.

272. A number of complaints were received by the Mission in the South in connexion with the school attendance age. The problem is as follows: the Directorate of Education fixed the age limit above which pupils are not admitted to school. The reason for this rule is the limited number of places available. The latter must be kept for the most intelligent or the most studious pupils, and the existence of a school age limit enables lazy or dull pupils to be rejected. Protests have, however, been made that the rule is unjust because young Cameroonians who are neither lazy nor dull are frequently denied an education. Furthermore, it is impossible to discover the exact age of the pupils as many have no birth certificate.

273. The Mission recognizes that the present inadequate number of schools renders a certain selection of pupils necessary. It thinks, however, that all efforts should be made not to discourage persons anxious to obtain an education. It is particularly desirable to apply the present regulations regarding school age as flexibly as possible and to deal with each specific case on its merits. The

problem of the school age-limit might, to a certain extent, be solved by the establishment of adult classes to provide education for persons who cannot be admitted to schools on account of their age. In that connexion, the Mission noted that mass education was still little developed in the Cameroons. It seems to the Mission that the Administration might consider the possibility of increasing its efforts in this field.

274. The Mission's attention was also drawn to the use of French as the language of instruction in all the schools of the Cameroons. Private schools which request recognition must first promise to use French as the only language of instruction "it being understood that the local languages may be taught in the same way as foreign languages".

275. The Visiting Mission raised this question when it conferred with the officers of the Territorial Assembly. It received the reply that owing to the variety of dialects in the use and the absence of a local lingua franca known by all or most of the Cameroonians, it was desirable that French should be the language of instruction. The Mission received no complaints on the subject from indigenous inhabitants.

276. On the other hand, many communications complained that educational programmes had not been adapted to the Territory's requirements. The Mission noted during a meeting of the Territorial Assembly which it attended that the first Vice-President of the Assembly was of the same opinion.

277. The programmes are, in fact, based on those of the metropolitan country. The Administration pointed out, however, that while school and technical educational programmes are the same as those of the metropolitan country and lead to the same diplomas, primary educational programmes have been adapted to local needs. Thus, as regards French, much time is devoted to language lessons in the lower forms, character training is given, the administrative organization of the Cameroons is studied and there are lessons on the United Nations. Local history and geography, and the study of the Territory's flora and fauna, are also given an important place.

CHAPTER V. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON
THE UNITED NATIONS

278. The Visiting Mission was instructed by its terms of reference to examine, in consultation with the Administering Authorities, the measures taken or to be taken in respect of the provision of information about the United Nations to the peoples of the Trust Territories; it was also instructed to ascertain what would be the most suitable form in which such information should be given.

279. The local Administration informed the Mission that it had taken the following steps to disseminate information about the United Nations in the Territory:

- (a) As early as 1949 the Territory sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations a list of the senior officials and chiefs of services and a list of the political leaders and the heads of religious missions in the Territory to whom information about United Nations activities should be sent regularly;
- (b) Posters and propaganda booklets supplied to the Territory by the United Nations Department of Public Information have been widely distributed, particularly in public and private schools;
- (c) Radio-press, a paper published in the Territory every other day, frequently contains articles on questions concerning the United Nations, and more especially the Trusteeship Council;
- (d) The Territory's chief press organs receive communiques from the Agence France-Presse which regularly describe the principal activities of the United Nations;
- (e) Mr. Watier, chief of the Service des Relations extérieures and special representative for the Territory on the Trusteeship Council, has volunteered to serve as correspondent of the Volunteer Education Centre and as such regularly distributes among the interested services and organizations documentation which he receives from the United Nations;
- (f) The curriculum for the intermediate grades in the primary schools also includes lessons on the United Nations.

280. The Mission observed that United Nations propaganda posters were prominently displayed in many class rooms in the public and private schools it visited.

It also noticed during its stay in the Territory that the Territory's newspapers frequently published news about the United Nations and the Visiting Mission.

Radio-press published a long article on the seventh anniversary of the United Nations on 24 October 1952.

281. Through conversations with indigenous inhabitants the Mission was able to note that the political leaders and many of the educated Africans had a good knowledge of the United Nations and showed evidence of having studied with care the proceedings of the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly. But the notions of the uneducated people on the subject were understandably often extremely vague.

282. With respect to the most suitable form in which information about the United Nations should be given, the Mission considers that information documents which could be readily understood by the people of the Territory are documents drafted in a simple form, posters and pictorial material.

ANNEX I
ITINERARY

<u>Date</u> (1952)	<u>Description</u>	<u>Distance covered</u>
14 October	Depart by air from Ngaoundéré Arrive at Yaoundé Attend meeting of the Territorial Assembly	1,280 km. (800 miles)
15 October	Depart by air from Yaoundé Arrive at Ngaoundéré	1,280 km. (800 miles)
16 October	Depart by car from Ngaoundéré Visits in La Falaise and Wack Arrive at Garoua	353 km. (220 miles)
17 October	Visits and meetings in Garoua	
18 October	Depart by car from Garoua Visits, meetings and hearings in Guidder Return to Garoua	270 km. (170 miles)
19 October	Depart by car from Garoua Visit to a pagan village near Rumsiki Arrive at Mokolo	220 km. (140 miles)
20 October	Visits in Mokolo Depart by car from Mokolo Arrive at Maroua Visit in Maroua	70 km. (44 miles)
21 October	Visits, meetings and hearings in Maroua	
22 October	Depart by car from Maroua Visits and meeting in Mora and Mokolo Return to Maroua	240 km. (150 miles)
23 October	Depart by air from Maroua Arrive at Ngaoundéré	640 km. (400 miles)
24 October	Visits and meetings in Ngaoundéré	

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Distance covered</u>
(1952) 25 October	Depart from Ngaoundéré Visits in Meiganga Arrive at Bertoua	542 km. (340 miles)
26 October	Visits and hearings in Bertoua Depart by car from Bertoua Visits and hearings in Batouri, Dimako and Doumé Arrive at Abong Mbang	300 km. (190 miles)
27 October	Depart by car from Abong Mbang Visit in Ayos Arrive at Yaoundé	270 km. (170 miles)
28 October	Depart by car from Yaoundé <u>Group A:</u> hearings in Mbalmayo Arrive at Ebolowa Hearings in Ebolowa <u>Group B:</u> visits and hearings in Nden and Sangmelima Arrive at Ebolowa	250 km. (156 miles)
29 October	Depart by car from Ebolowa Arrive at Kribi Visits and hearings in Kribi	124 km. (77 miles)
30 October	Rest at Kribi	
31 October	Depart by boat from Kribi Arrive at Douala Visits in Douala	130 km. (81 miles)
1 November	Visits and hearings in Douala	
2 November	Depart by train from Douala Visits and hearings in Edea Return to Douala	180 km. (112 miles)
3 November	Depart by train from Douala Arrive at Nkongsamba Meetings in Nkongsamba	160 km. (100 miles)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Distance covered</u>
(1952)		
4 November	Visits in Nkongsamba Depart by car from Nkongsamba Arrive at Dschang Hearings in Dschang	127 km. (80 miles)
5 November	Hearings in Dschang	
6 November	Depart by car from Dschang Visits and hearings in Foumbot and Koupa-Matapit Arrive at Foumban	120 km. (75 miles)
7 November	Depart by car from Foumban Visits and hearings in Bandjoun and Bafia Arrive at Yaoundé	425 km. (265 miles)
8 November	Visits and hearings in Yaoundé	
9 November	Meetings and reception in Yaoundé	
10 November	Depart by air from Yaoundé To Maiduguri, Nigeria	

