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FOURTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 13

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

The future of the Trust Territories of the Cameroons
under French administration and the Cameroons under
United Kingdom administration

Requests for hearings

Note by the Secretary-General: In accordance with
the decision taken by the Fourth Committee at its
844th meeting, the following communications are
circulated for the information of members of the
Committee.

1. Letter of 9 December 1958 to the Secretary-General from Mr. Abessolo Nkoudou
(Union des Jeunesses du Cameroun)

Mbalmayo, 9 December 1958

We have the honour to request you to be kind enough to grant us a hearing
at your forthcoming special session in February 1959, at which we can give you
an oral explanation concerning the petition that we submitted to the United
Nations Visiting Mission which has just visited the Cameroons.

The essential purpose of this hearing is to supplement our petition before
the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly and to present to the Trusteeship
Council our wishes with regard to the various problems that affect the life of
young people in the Cameroons.

(Signed) ABESSOLO Nkoudou
Secretary General

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2. Letter of 17 December 1958 to the Secretary-General from Dr. Marcel Bebey-Eyidi (Comité pour le regroupement des forces nationalistes - CRFN)

Douala, 17 December 1958

I have the honour to request you to be kind enough to authorize a delegation from our Committee to be heard by the United Nations General Assembly during the forthcoming debates on the Cameroons to take place on 20 February 1959.

The name or names of the petitioner or petitioners will be sent to you as soon as we have received your consent to the hearing.

(Signed) Dr. Marcel BEBEY-EYIDI

3. Telegram of 29 December 1958 to the Secretary-General from Mr. Philippe Mbarga Manga (Union des associations traditionnelles Camerounaises - UNATRACAM)

Yaoundé, 29 December 1958

UNATRACAM requests hearing special session next February Mbarga.

4. Letter of 27 December 1958 to the Chairman of the Fourth Committee from Mr. David Nokmis (Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail)

Douala, 27 December 1958

We have the honour to inform you that the officers of the Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail (CGKT) request a HEARING before the Fourth Committee at the resumed thirteenth session of the United Nations General Assembly on 20 February 1959 in New York.

The CGKT wishes to be heard by your Committee during this session when the only agenda item will be "The future of the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under French administration and the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration".

In support of our request for a hearing, we wish to recall and set out the following facts.

1. The CGKT asked for and obtained a hearing before the Fourth Committee at the twelfth session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1957 (see document A/C.4/SR.717 of 25 November 1957). At this hearing, the representative

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of the CGKT explained, on behalf of the Kamerunian workers and peasants, the views of our Confederation on economic, social and political questions in Kamerun.

2. The CGKT, in spite of all the difficulties with which it has been confronted, is still the largest trade union organization now active in Kamerun under French administration. Attempts by colonialist circles to create a split in the CGKT have failed. A United Congress of the CGKT has just been convened by what some have chosen to call "the two trends in the CGKT", in accordance with the Unity Declaration of 20 December 1952, attached hereto.

3. The CGKT had intended to request permission to be heard by the Fourth Committee in October-November last, but in view of the presence in Kamerun of the Visiting Mission of the United Nations Trusteeship Council we considered it necessary to assist that Mission in its task of obtaining information throughout the Territory. We were strengthened in this view by the fact that the United Nations General Assembly at its thirteenth session had suspended its own work on the subject of the Cameroons pending the receipt of the report of the Visiting Mission of the Trusteeship Council.

4. The CGKT in fact submitted several petitions to the United Nations Visiting Mission while it was in the various Regions of Kamerun.

As soon as the United Nations Visiting Mission arrived at Yaoundé, the capital of Kamerun, on 17 November 1958, it received a large delegation from the CGKT led by the Secretary-General of the Confederation, Jacques N'GOM, who submitted a preliminary statement on the complex of questions relating to the Kamerunian national problem at its present stage.

On 26 November 1958 a general petition signed by the united leadership of the CGKT was submitted to the Visiting Mission at Douala, the headquarters of the CGKT. Dozens of other petitions from organizations affiliated to the CGKT were also submitted to the members of the United Nations Mission, both at Douala and at other places in Kamerun.

5. At a time when the United Nations General Assembly is about to take decisions which will affect the future and the very life of the Kamerunian people, the country's leading trade union organization considers that it is its duty to request a hearing on the subject of the many petitions that it has submitted to the United Nations with regard to the national problem and the future of Kamerun.

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We are certain that the United Nations will once again grant us this right, which is provided for in its Charter.

We are sending the Secretary-General of the CGKT, Jacques N'GOM, to represent us at the requested hearing.

We ask the United Nations to use its good offices to obtain an exit visa for our delegate Jacques N'GOM, holder of French passport No. 123, issued at Douala on 18 April 1956 and valid until 18 April 1959. The visa can be issued in Paris, or at the American Consulate at Yaoundé.

(Signed) David Nokmis
First Secretary

Song Felix

J. Emile Kohu

5. Letter of 5 January 1959 to the Chairman of the Fourth Committee from Mr. Philippe Mbarga Manga (Bureau National Kamerunais de la Conférence des Peuples Africains)

Yaoundé, 5 January 1959

On 28 December 1958 a movement was founded at Yaoundé combining nearly all the national political parties in support of national unity for the liberation of our country. A national bureau was also established.

I accordingly have the honour to request you to grant a hearing, at the special session of your Assembly on 20 February 1959, to a delegation which wishes to be heard by your Assembly with a view to a speedy and peaceful solution of the Kamerunian problem.

This new movement reflects the true opinion of the whole Kamerunian nation, and it is therefore clearly vital that it should be granted a hearing in order to bring to an immediate end the bloodshed that continues in our country in spite of the Kamerunian people's pacific character and unquestionable goodwill.

(Signed) Philippe MBARGA MANGA

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6. Letter of 31 December 1958 to the Secretary-General from Mr. J. Th. Missam-Han (Comité de Défense des Droits des Réfugiés Politiques Kamerunais)

Kumba, 31 December 1959

In accordance with the decision of the Administrative Council of the Comité de Défense des Droits des Réfugiés Politiques Kamerunais, we have the honour to request, on behalf of the committee, a hearing at the forthcoming special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the Kamerunian problem.

The purpose of our request is to provide the Assembly with necessary information concerning:

- (a) The war of extermination waged in the Eastern Kamerun by French colonialists for almost five years.
- (b) The underwriting of this evil policy by the British Government.
- (c) The living conditions of the Kamerunian Political Refugees, which are very far from being in accordance with the international instruments concerning political refugees throughout the world.

We are convinced that favourable consideration will be given to our request for the good reason that the special session of 20 February 1959 will wish to be fully documented so that it can take adequate, just and proper measures to deal with the Kamerunian problem.

(Signed) J. Th. MISSAN HAM
Secretary-General

7. Letter of 20 January 1959 to the President of the General Assembly from Mr. Tchoumba Ngouankeu (Association Bamiléké du Kamerun)

Yaoundé, 20 January 1959

While the Visiting Mission was at Yaoundé our Association was at our request granted permission to be heard on 3 December 1958. However, the Mission's sudden and unexpected departure before that date prevented us from expressing our regrets in person.

All are aware of the importance in all fields of our Bamiléké Association, whose statutes have just been revised, and which will henceforth be known as ASSOCIATION BAMILEKE DU KAMERUN in accordance with the decision reached by its

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Constituent General Assembly held at the capital of Kamerun on 11 January 1959; I am therefore justified in stressing on behalf of the National Council elected on that date, the absolute necessity that we should be granted a hearing by the United Nations.

It will be remembered that in 1956 our Association had been authorized to speak in New York, but the Administering Authority, fearful of allowing the truth to be revealed before your Assembly, seized the President of the Association, who has only just been set free after two years' imprisonment.

This will make it clear why our Association is well qualified to speak at your special session which is to open on 20 February 1959, when our future will be at stake; we know what preparations are on foot here in order that falsehood shall triumph at the United Nations, and if you consider that the importance of our movement, which includes all the Bamiléké in Kamerun and elsewhere should not be overlooked, you should grant us a hearing on the date in question. I should point out that the steps taken here since 9 January 1959 in order to send our delegates to New York have been fruitless, and that not only on our behalf, but on behalf of all important nationalists, you should deal directly with the Administering Authority with a view to enabling us to obtain exit visas.

At the eleventh hour it appears that our compatriots ANATOLE KAMINY and Dr. LEBEY EYIDI, who live at Douala and who have previously spoken before your Committee last year, may be arrested; this confirms the broadcast statement by the Head of the Camerounian Government to the effect that nobody would be allowed to leave Kamerun without his permission. This was aimed at the Comité National Kamerunais de la Conférence des Peuples Africains, which met recently at Yaoundé and decided to open a national subscription list, which is now being circulated, in order to meet the costs of sending its delegates to the United Nations by 20 February 1959. The above-named persons were advisers of that organization. This information will be confirmed or otherwise in a subsequent letter. The political situation in Kamerun is going from bad to worse.

On behalf of this Association, I accordingly have the honour to ask you to be so kind as to grant a hearing to a delegation of three members at the session to be held on 20 February next.

(Signed) TCHUMBA NGOUANKEU
National President

8. Letter of 28 January 1959 to the Secretary-General from Fongum Ygorji-Dinka (National Union of Kamerun Students of United Kingdom and Ireland - N.U.K.S.)

London, 28 January 1959

The National Union of Kamerun Students of the United Kingdom and Ireland have the honour most respectfully, to request for permission to be heard during the General Assembly Debates and Discussions on the Kameruns (Cameroons) at the Special Session of the Assembly due to open on February 20, 1959.

We should be exceedingly grateful if we can have copies of the recent Visiting Mission's Report and Recommendations and also any other submissions of the Trusteeship Council which would feature in the General Assembly discussions on the Kameruns.

(Signed) FONGUM YGORJI-DINKA
President

9. Letter of 26 January 1959 to the Chairman of the Fourth Committee from Mr. André Marie M'Bida (Parti des Démocrates Camerunais)

Conakry, 26 January 1959

I have the honour to request permission to be heard by the Fourth Committee of the United Nations at its session in February 1959 on the question of the Cameroons, with particular reference to the Cameroons under French administration.

This problem is of very great importance to Cameroonians and it is therefore desirable that the organs of the United Nations should, in order to obtain full information on the Cameroons question and to enable them to solve it fairly and impartially, give a hearing to all highly qualified individuals able freely and truthfully to express the real aspirations of the Cameroonian people.

(Signed) A.M. M'BIDA

10. Telegram of 5 February 1959 to the Fourth Committee from the Association des Notables Kamerunais

Tiko, 5 February 1959

Request you grant a hearing 20 February Notables Kamerunais.

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11. Telegram of 14 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Charles Assale (Association Traditionnelle Bantoue Efoula Meyong)

Yaoundé, 14 February 1959

Request United Nations General Assembly grant hearing our representative Faul Biba during coming debates on future of Cameroons under French administration. Charles Assale, Technical Adviser. For the Executive Committee.

12. Telegram of 14 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Charles Elle Mboutou (Union Sociale Camerounaise)

Yaoundé, 14 February 1959

Request United Nations General Assembly grant hearing our representative Charles Elle Mboutou during coming debates on future Cameroons under French administration. For the Executive Committee, Charles Elle Mboutou.

13. Telegram of 16 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Deputy Ngaba Ndana Medard

Yaoundé, 16 February 1959

As deputy dissident Cameroonian Democrats in Legislative Assembly request hearing by General Assembly during debate on Cameroons Ngaba Ndana Medard Deputy.

14. Telegram of 16 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Alhabji Malgum (Mouvement de l'Union Camerounaise)

Yaoundé, 16 February 1959

Executive Committee Mouvement de l'Union Camerounaise meeting Garoua 14 February has authorized its Secretary General Moussa Yaya to express party's views to United Nations during coming discussion on Cameroons. Requests you grant hearing to our representative Alhabji Malgum.

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15. Telegram of 17 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Mr. Amougou (C.G.T. Force Ouvrière)

Douala, 17 February 1959

Request United Nations General Assembly grant hearing our representative Joseph Amougou at session discussing French Cameroons Amougou.

16. Telegram of 17 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Dr. Essougou (Mouvement Rassemblement du Peuple Camerounais)

Yaoundé, 17 February 1959

Mouvement Rassemblement du Peuple Camerounais requests hearing for its representative Second Secretary General Bindzi Benoit whom it is sending to New York for discussion on the Cameroons. Respectfully. Doctor Essougou, First Secretary General.

17. Telegram of 17 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Mr. Betoe Akou President of the Association Traditionnelle Ngondo

Yaoundé, 17 February 1959

Association Traditionnelle Ngondo authorizes Din Same Richard to present its views to United Nations General Assembly during debate on Cameroons. Request he be granted hearing.

18. Telegram of 17 February 1959 to the Secretary-General from Mr. Frmpo (Committee Association Bamiléké)

Douala, 17 February 1959

Committee Association Bamiléké meeting Douala today has authorized Mr. Paul Monthe member Economic Council to express its views United Nations General Assembly during the coming debates on the Cameroons and requests you grant its representative a hearing.

Frmpo, Chairman
