

UNITED NATIONS
TRUSTEESHIP
COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/L.337
12 June 1953

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Twelfth session
Item 5 of provisional agenda

PETITIONS CIRCULATED UNDER RULE 85, PARAGRAPH 2,
AND COMMUNICATIONS CIRCULATED UNDER RULE 24

Twenty-third report of the Standing Committee
on Petitions

Chairman: Mr. H.K. Yang (China)

1. The Standing Committee, composed of the representatives of Belgium, China, El Salvador, New Zealand, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, has, as provided in rule 90, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the Trusteeship Council, examined the petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, and the communications circulated under rule 24, in order to decide which if any of them should have the established procedure concerning petitions applied to them.
2. In carrying out this examination, which took place at the 40th, 41st, 42nd, 57th and 64th meetings on 24 July 1952, 15 October 1952, 17 March, 4 and 10 June 1953 respectively, the Standing Committee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat (T/C.2/L.26, 27, 27/Add.1, and 28) which contain lists of the documents, brief summaries of their contents and grounds for their initial classification by the Secretariat.
3. As a result of this examination, the Committee decided that the established procedure concerning petitions should be applied to the following petitions and communications:

Petitioners:

Meru Citizens Union
The Secretary-General of the "Union des Populations
du Cameroun"
"Union des Populations Camerounaise", M'Balmayo Section

Symbol:

T/PET.2/L.1 *
T/PET.5/L.1
T/PET.5/R.5

* Petition reclassified by the Standing Committee on Petitions in respect of its last paragraph only.

Petitioner:

Mr. A.K. Amenomanya
Mrs. Fatema Barjeeb, Galcaio
Chief Borle Gheir
Chief Aden Gohad
Chief Sceek Mohamed Keinan
The "Capo Procuratore Dahir Sciukel", Bardera
Mr. Ali Nur Abdi
The Somali Youth League, Branch of Galcaio
Mr. Ibrahim Abdo and other elders of the Jajele Tribe
The Somali Youth League, Branch of Gardo
The Somali Youth League, Branch of Alula and
Surrounding Area

Symbol:

T/PET.7/L.1
T/COM.11/L.4
T/COM.11/L.6
T/COM.11/L.7
T/COM.11/L.8
T/COM.11/L.10
T/COM.11/L.12
T/COM.11/L.26
T/COM.11/L.36
T/PET.11/L.3

T/PET.11/L.4

These petitions have therefore been so classified in the provisional agenda for the twelfth session of the Council and will be reported on separately by the Committee in due course.

4. Under rule 90, paragraph 5, of the rules of procedure, the Committee is required to make such recommendations as it deems necessary concerning the consideration by the Council of, in the first place, the petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2. In this connexion the Committee notes that the petitions are separately listed in the annex to the provisional agenda for the twelfth session according to the territory which they concern. The Committee recommends that as a general rule, and subject to what is said in the succeeding paragraph, such petitions should be taken into consideration by the Council during its examination of the next annual report on conditions in the territory to which they relate.

5. There are, however, some petitions which relate more closely to other items of the Council's agenda and which can be taken into consideration more usefully in that connexion. In particular, the Committee recommends that the petitions listed below should be taken into consideration by the Council during its examination of the following items on the agenda of the twelfth session:

- (a) Ewe and Togoland unification problem *

* A number of earlier petitions and communications relating to the Ewe and Togoland unification question were brought to the attention of the Council by the Secretariat in document T/L.329 in connexion with the Council's examination of the special report of the Visiting Mission on this question.

Petitioners:

Symbol:

Mr. Kofi Quarshie and other members of the Dzanku Family	T/PET.6/L.1
Mr. Theophilus Dzitowu	T/PET.6/L.2
The Chairman of the Togoland Congress	T/PET.6/L.3
Mr. Vincent Zonyra	T/PET.6/L.4
Mr. V.C. Brekumi	T/PET.6/L.5
Chiefs and representatives of the people of the Southern Section of Togoland under United Kingdom Administration	T/PET.6/L.6
The General Chairman of the Committee of the "Unité togolaise"	T/PET.6&7/L.4
The Representatives of Juvento, Ewe-Togo Youth Action Movement, and Togoland Youth Association	T/PET.6&7/L.5
The Secretary-General of the Joint Togoland Congress	T/PET.6&7/L.6
Mr. Ben Agaloo, President of "Juvento"	T/PET.7/L.2
President of the "Syndicat de la Confédération générale de l'Artisanat Togolais"	T/PET.7/L.3

(b) Hearing of petitioners from the Cameroons

Petitioners:

Symbol:

Cameroonians living in Paris and London	T/PET.4&5/L.1
The Kamerun United National Congress	T/PET.4&5/L.2
The "Union des populations de Cameroun", Central Committee of M'Balmayo	T/PET.4&5/L.3
The "Union des populations du Cameroun"	T/PET.4&5/L.4 and Adds. 1-4
The General Chairman of the "Evolution sociale camerounaise"	T/PET.5/L.5
The Secretary-General of the "Union des populations du Cameroun"	T/PET.5/L.6
The Chairman of the "Assemblée traditionnelle du Peuple douala (Ngondo)"	T/PET.5/L.7
The Executive Committee of the "Kumzse", Traditional Assembly of the Bamileké People	T/PET.5/L.9

6. Under rule 90, paragraph 5, of the rules of procedure, the Committee is required to make such recommendations as it deems necessary concerning the consideration by the Council of the communications circulated under rule 24.

These communications are listed in the working papers prepared by the Secretariat to which reference was made in paragraph 2 above (T/C.2/L.26, 27, 27/Add.1, and 28) and they fall into three groups.

7. Into the first group fall communications which are concerned with general questions. The Committee recommends that communications in this group should be dealt with in the same way as it has recommended, in paragraph 4 and 5 above,

that petitions circulated under rule 85, paragraph 2, should be dealt with. That is to say, each such communication should be considered by the Council during its examination of the next annual report on conditions in the territory to which the communication relates - or during its examination of some other more relevant item on the agenda.

8. Into the second group fall communications which are concerned with the same specific event or grievances which are the subject also of petitions to which the established procedure is to be applied - i.e., petitions which will be individually examined by the Council. (The reason why such communications are not treated as petitions to which the established procedure should be applied is that, usually, they are copies sent to the United Nations of requests addressed to other authorities.) The Committee recommends that each communication in this group should be taken into consideration by the Council during its examination of the petition concerning the events or grievances with which the communication is also concerned.

9. Thirdly, there remain those communications which do not fall into either of the first two groups. Again, communications of this kind are not usually addressed directly to the United Nations, or else they do not contain any requests for action on the part of the United Nations. When communications in this group have been brought to the attention of the Committee, and the Committee has decided that they should not be elevated to the status of petitions to which the established procedure should be applied (i.e., petitions to be examined individually by the Council), then the Committee considers that no further action is necessary in regard to them.

10. This report was adopted by the Committee at its 64th meeting, on 10 June 1953, by 5 votes in favour and one against.

11. The representative of the Soviet Union voted against the report, stating that he was protesting against the classification of petitions, as that classification was intended to exclude a number of important petitions received from the indigenous population of Trust Territories and to prevent the adoption of measures which would defend the rights and interests of the indigenous population and make its lot easier. He pointed out that the

Standing Committee on Petitions and the Trusteeship Council were bound to examine all petitions from the indigenous inhabitants of Trust Territories in order to carry out the aims and functions of the International Trusteeship System.

12. In voting for the report, the representatives of Belgium, China, El Salvador, New Zealand and the United States of America expressed the view that the present means of dealing with petitions, including those raising questions of a general nature, are the best means yet devised by the Council to give satisfactory consideration to all types of petitions and at the same time to make it possible for the Council to proceed in a systematic and orderly manner to deal with a growing volume of petitions.
