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CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF TOGOLAND
UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

Report of the Drafting Committee

Chairman: Dr. J. Salazar (Dominican Republic)

1. At its 439th meeting on 9 July 1952, the Trusteeship Council appointed a Drafting Committee composed of the representatives of the Dominican Republic; El Salvador; New Zealand and the United States of America to propose, on the basis of the discussions which had taken place in the Council, conclusions and recommendations on conditions in Togoland under French Administration and to make recommendations concerning the chapter on that Territory for inclusion in the next report of the Council to the General Assembly.
2. The Drafting Committee held three meetings, at the first of which it elected Dr. J. Salazar (Dominican Republic) as its Chairman.
3. The Drafting Committee decided to recommend that the Secretariat working paper (document T/L.280), as revised to take into account additional information submitted to the Council (T/L.280/Corr.1), should be the basic text for the chapter on conditions in the Trust Territory.
4. In the light of the general discussion by the Council on conditions in the Territory, the Committee drafted a number of conclusions and recommendations which it considered as reflecting the opinions of the Council as a whole and has annexed them to the present report.

/5. On the question
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5. On the question of maintenance of law and order the Committee did not draft any recommendation. The representative of El Salvador reserved the right to make proposals on the matter to the Council, if he deemed it appropriate, after the recommendations by the Standing Committee on Petitions were available.

6. On the question of land alienation and forest classification the Committee did not draft any recommendation in view of the fact that this question will be discussed in detail in the Committee on Rural Economic Development.

7. The Committee considered the question of the preparation of a draft for inclusion in the report of the Council covering the work of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions on consideration of the various aspects of the administrative arrangement affecting Togoland under French administration and the French Union. The Drafting Committee noted that the Drafting Committees on Tanganyika, Ruanda-Urundi and Togoland under British administration had decided to omit from their reports (T/L.291, T/L.293 and T/L.298 respectively) any reference to the question of administrative unions pending consideration by the Council of the general report of the Standing Committee on Administrative Unions. The Drafting Committee on Togoland under French administration decided to follow this example and not to propose in the present report any conclusion or recommendation concerning various aspects of the administrative arrangement affecting Togoland under French administration and the French Union.

8. The Committee accordingly recommends to the Trusteeship Council that it adopt the working paper on conditions in Togoland under French administration (T/L.280, T/L.280/Corr.1) as the basic text for the chapter on that Territory for inclusion in the next report of the Council to the General Assembly that it adopt the following conclusions and recommendations relating to conditions in Togoland under French administration, and that it include those conclusions and recommendations at the end of the appropriate sections or sub-sections of the Chapter on Togoland under French administration for inclusion in the next report of the Council to the General Assembly.

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

Privy Council

The Council, recalling the assurances given by the Administering Authority at its ninth session that the Privy Council was the object of a study leading to its transformation into a body organized on a more representative basis; urges the Administering Authority to expedite the reform of the Privy Council; and expresses the hope that the Privy Council will gradually be transformed into an Executive Council, having some organic connexion with the Territorial Council.

Territorial Assembly

The Council, recalling its previous recommendations at its fourth, seventh and ninth sessions, notes with interest that the Representative Assembly has been transformed by law of 5 February 1952 into the Territorial Assembly elected by a single college and that an even more liberal draft law concerning the Territorial Assembly is under study by the French Authorities; expresses the hope that this law will be adopted in the near future and that it will provide for the grant of increased powers to the Territorial Assembly; and requests the Administering Authority to provide further full information on the matter in its next annual report.

Participation of indigenous inhabitants in administrative and judicial services

The Council, recalling its previous recommendation at the ninth session that the number of indigenous personnel holding senior posts should be further increased, takes note that some progress has been made towards increasing the number of indigenous personnel in the administration and that all posts in the administration are open to indigenous inhabitants possessing the necessary diploma; notes at the same time that only few indigenous inhabitants occupy senior posts in the administration; invites the Administering Authority to intensify the training of suitably qualified indigenous candidates for administrative and judicial posts and to study measures to encourage them to make a career of the public service; and requests the Administering Authority to provide full information on the matter in its next annual report.

/Regional

Regional and Municipal Councils

The Council welcomes the development of District Councils (Conseils de circonscription) and the increase of municipal councils; notes with satisfaction the important functions given to the District Councils by the arrêté of 16 July 1951 which provides for a greater degree of participation by the indigenous inhabitants in local government institutions; notes further that a draft law conferring still wider responsibilities on the councils is in preparation; expresses the hope that this draft law will be enacted shortly, so that opportunities for participation in local government by the indigenous inhabitants would be further expanded; and requests the Administering Authority to keep it fully informed on these matters.

Suffrage

The Council, recalling its previous recommendations at its fifth, seventh and ninth sessions, commends the Administering Authority for the establishment of a single college system in all elections as well as for the expansion of the electorate; and urges the Administering Authority to intensify its efforts to enable all potential voters to qualify for registration and to encourage all registered voters to exercise their rights so that universal suffrage may become increasingly realized in practice.

ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

Chamber of Commerce

The Council commends the Administering Authority for having implemented the recommendation on this question adopted at its ninth session by opening to indigenous inhabitants the posts of President and Treasurer of the Chamber of Commerce.

Agriculture

The Council, noting, on the one hand, the paucity of natural resources and the poor quality of the soil, on the other hand, the fact that methods of mechanized cultivation may not be those most suitable to the soil conditions in the Territory; noting further that the Administering Authority is giving intensive study to the question of promoting agriculture, particularly in the fields of research and experiment; expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will intensify its efforts to disseminate agricultural information to indigenous farmers, assure the conservation and regeneration of the soil and combat plant diseases; and requests the Administering Authority to keep it informed of the steps taken or contemplated to improve soil fertility and all other aspects of agriculture.

Industries

The Council notes with satisfaction that there has been an advance in the development of secondary industries in the Territory and expresses the hope that the present trend will be maintained so that the economy of the Territory may be developed on a more diversified basis.

Balance of Trade

The Council notes with satisfaction the favourable balance of trade and expresses the hope that it will be maintained.

Co-operatives

The Council, recalling its previous recommendation on the matter at its seventh and ninth sessions, notes with regret that the development of co-operatives is still somewhat slow. The Council, however, takes note of the assurances given by the Administering Authority that close attention will be given to the problem of encouraging the development of co-operatives and everything possible will be done to increase the number of persons trained in the establishment and management of co-operatives.

Ten-Year Plan

The Council notes with interest the Ten Year Development Plan and urges the Administering Authority to press forward with its implementation. The Council also urges the Administering Authority to take the necessary measures to improve statistical services as to provide an increasingly detailed factual basis for future planning.

/SOCIAL

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

Status of Women

The Council, recalling its previous recommendation at the seventh session, welcomes the adoption of the decree of 9 September 1951 which inter alia regulates the system of "bride-price" so as to eliminate its worst features; notes that no child marriages have taken place in 1951 and expresses its satisfaction with the improvement in the status of women.

Labour Code

The Council, recalling its previous recommendations at its fifth, seventh and ninth sessions, regrets that the legislation providing for a labour code for the Territory has not yet been finally approved by the French Parliament; expresses the hope that action on this legislation will be completed shortly; and requests the Administering Authority to provide full information on the matter in its next annual report.

Migrant Workers

The Council requests the Administering Authority to make a close study of the problems of migrant workers, especially those who go into neighbouring territories for the harvesting and transportation of the cocoa crops, including the question of adequate supervision of such migratory movements; and requests the Administering Authority to provide full information on the matter in its next annual report.

Public Health

The Council, noting that the medical and health services had been further expanded and in particular, that the total number of medical visits in the year 1951 in the Territory was 4,700,000 and that the proportion of the population suffering from sleeping sickness had been reduced in twenty years from 17 per cent to 0.2 per cent, considers, nevertheless, that in the field of health, a great deal remains to be done; expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will continue its efforts to improve the medical facilities still further and in particular to expand the provisions for the full medical training of indigenous medical students.

The Council, noting that the Administering Authority has given attention to the problem of infant mortality, urges it to give further study to the problem; and requests the Administering Authority to provide full information on the matter in the next annual report.

/EDUCATIONAL

EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

The Council notes with satisfaction that further progress has been made in the field of education and that in particular 15 per cent of the budget is being expended on education and that new schools have been built and their number increased; nevertheless, it considers that an intensified effort should be made in this field, in particular as regards teacher-training, technical and vocational training of workers and adult education. The Council recommends that the Administering Authority should give preference to educational facilities in the North as a step towards equalizing educational advancement in the Territory. The Council also notes with interest UNESCO's comments on the Territory's educational advancement; and requests the Administering Authority to give them careful consideration.
