

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



Distr.
LIMITED

T/L.760
9 May 1957
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ENGLISH-
FRENCH-RUSSIAN

Nineteenth session
Agenda item 3 (a)

CONDITIONS IN THE TRUST TERRITORY OF RUANDA-URUNDI

Summary of observations made by individual members of the Council during the general discussion and of the comments of the representative and Special Representative of the Administering Authority

I. GENERAL

General considerations

1. The representative of France considered that the Council should express its satisfaction to the Administering Authority at the manner in which it had always administered the Territory. He noted that the indigenous population had given evidence of their profound satisfaction at the progress achieved in the Territory on the occasion of the visit of the King of the Belgians.
2. The representative of India stated that the situation in the Territory was on the whole a pleasing one, but stressed the need for a greater degree of flexibility and a more accurate sense of timing in its future development.
3. The representative of the United Kingdom commended the Administering Authority for the progress achieved and said that organic development in all fields was the outstanding characteristic of Belgian administration.
4. The representative of the United States of America paid tribute to the spirit of sincerity and dedication with which the Administering Authority discharged its duties in the Territory. He commended it for carrying out its part of the contract it concluded ten years ago with the United Nations.
5. The representative of Italy expressed his satisfaction at the progress achieved by the Territory during the period under review and congratulated the Administering Authority for the work accomplished.

6. The representative of Haiti referred to the success which had been achieved by Belgium in the task of developing economically the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi. This very success had, however, given rise to an excessive "paternalism" on the part of the Administration. In his opinion, the Administering Authority had been overcautious in reforming indigenous laws and customs.
7. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics noted with regret that the Administering Authority continued to ignore the General Assembly's repeated recommendations that a date should be set for the attainment by the Territory of self-government, emphasizing that that attitude on the part of the Administering Authority was part of its whole policy in the Trust Territory. There was no justification whatever for saying that it was impossible to lay down a definite time limit for the Territory's attainment of independence. He urged the Administering Authority to open up new perspectives for the indigenous people, to allow them to participate in the administration, to create conditions which would permit them to gain the necessary experience and help them to prepare themselves for an independent life, and also to establish a time limit within which all those measures would be achieved.
8. The representative of New Zealand noted that the achievements of the Belgian administration in the period under review were substantial.
9. The representative of Syria stated that some important progress had been achieved by the Administering Authority in the Territory, for which he congratulated it, but that this progress seemed to be rather sporadic and insufficient, particularly in the political field, and was marked by certain deficiencies. He hoped that the Administering Authority would in general press forward with the development of the Territory along the lines recommended by the Trusteeship Council and the General Assembly and would remedy the deficiencies which had been noted.
10. The representative of Australia stated that, in the light of recent developments in the social, economic and educational fields and of changes in the political scene, there was every reason for the Council to maintain its confidence in the future of the Territory under Belgian administration.

II. POLITICAL ADVANCEMENT

Status of the Territory and administrative union with the Belgian Congo

11. The representatives of India and Burma objected to the continued colonial status of the Territory as a Vice-Government-General of the Belgian Congo and urged that the law from which that antiquated arrangement was derived should be so amended as to bring them into line with the present situation.
12. The representative of Haiti felt that the administrative union with the Belgian Congo should not be an obstacle to the establishment of executive and legislative organs with a view to assuring the attainment by the Territory of the goals set out in Article 76 of the Charter.
13. The representative of Guatemala stated that the fears of his delegation that the practical operation of the administrative union might, even outside the plans of the Administering Authority, result in a step towards political union, had not been completely dissipated.
14. The representative of India, referring to the lack of a locally recruited defence force in the Territory, expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would pay special attention to the provisions of article 5, paragraph 3, of the Trusteeship Agreement, which stipulates that the Administering Authority may raise volunteer contingents for that purpose.
15. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics drew attention to the Administering Authority's definite policy of doing everything possible to link the Territory with the Belgian Congo as a source of cheap labour. There were clear indications of an attempt to preserve Ruanda-Urundi's status of dependence on Belgium by setting up a federation of the Trust Territory and the Belgian Congo.
16. The representatives of Burma and Syria considered the establishment of a local military force would bring together the two countries and would promote their national unity.
17. The representative and Special Representative of the Administering Authority noted that the administrative union between Ruanda-Urundi and the Belgian Congo was expressly authorized by the Trusteeship Agreement. There was no aspect of the administrative union which was not consistent with the purposes of Trusteeship or advantageous to the Trust Territory, nor did it prejudice in any way the future development of relations between the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

18. The Special Representative pointed out that the provision of the Trusteeship Agreement concerning the recruitment of volunteer forces in the Territory was permissive and not mandatory.

Status of the inhabitants of the Territory

19. The representative of China hoped that the Administering Authority would define more precisely the status of the inhabitants of the Territory in accordance with the terms of the Trusteeship Agreement and that it would avoid recognizing juridically distinct sections or classes within the population.

20. The representative of Guatemala was happy to note that the Administering Authority had taken certain steps which would contribute towards a consciousness of national unity in the Territory, but considered that the inhabitants should be provided with a common citizenship and encouraged to adopt a national name, a national anthem and a national flag. He suggested that they should be called Ruanda-Urundians and therefore avoid the use of terms like "native", "indigenous" or "aborigin" which unfortunately had a discriminatory connotation.

21. The representative of Burma thought that it seemed necessary to consider whether the discriminatory legislation classifying the indigenous population of registered civilized persons and holders of civil merit cards did not in part stem from the administrative union with the Congo.

22. The representative of Syria stated that no common citizenship had been established for the inhabitants of the Territory and no specific plan was provided for the introduction of such a citizenship. The inhabitants were differently labelled and classified, and different parts of the Territory lived an independent life.

23. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority considered that the suggestions for a common citizenship and a common national name for the inhabitants of the Territory failed to take into account the strong local patriotism of the inhabitants of Ruanda and of Urundi. That question nevertheless remained one of the main problems of the Territory.

Development of representative, executive and legislative organs and extension of their powers

24. The representative of France considered that the Administering Authority should be congratulated for having drawn up, in agreement with the members of that Council, the proposed reform of the Council of the Vice-Government-General. He expressed the view that the indigenous councils had functioned satisfactorily.

25. The representative of India considered that the proposed African representation on the enlarged Council of the Vice-Government-General, while a great improvement over the present situation, should be broadened, if that body was to evolve in time into an elective central legislature. He hoped that the representation of the two High Councils of State on the central Council would be substantially increased and that the Council would be invested with not only additional functions, but increased powers.

26. The representative of India also invited attention to the need for some sort of representative executive council; perhaps to begin with, the Vice-Governor-General and the two Bami could comprise such a body.

27. The representative of the United Kingdom and the representative of the United States of America congratulated the Administering Authority for the projected enlargement and reorganization of the Council of the Vice-Government-General, which envisaged the increase in African representation.

28. The representative of China expressed the hope that the functions of the Council of the Vice-Government-General would be considerably enlarged and that the reforms with regard to its membership would come into force as promptly as the Council has been assured.

29. The representative of Italy congratulated the Administering Authority on the contemplated enlargement of the Council of the Vice-Government-General, which would ensure an increased representation of the indigenous population in that body.

30. The representative of Haiti, stating that he had not been able to obtain a satisfactory reply as to when the Territory would have a real legislative organ, did not feel that it was necessary to wait for the end of the Trusteeship System to institute in the Territory a legislative organ with more or less extensive powers.

31. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics stated that the Administering Authority was refusing to effect broad democratic reforms that would ensure the rapid political development of the indigenous population. It did not want to develop democratic institutions; on the contrary, it was ardently supporting institutions based on tribal and clan traditions. Monarchic tendencies played a major part in the Administering Authority's policy.

32. The representative of New Zealand noted with satisfaction the contemplated reforms of the Council of the Vice-Government-General, the increase in the number of members of the Council and in the representation of the indigenous inhabitants, and the link between the superior councils of the two Territories and the Council of the Vice-Government-General.

33. The representative of Guatemala noted with satisfaction the increase in the size and African membership of the Council of the Vice-Government-General. Regretting, however, that the Administering Authority did not contemplate extending its functions, he expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would find it appropriate to grant legislative power to the Council, which must be progressively broadened until it became the legislative body of the Territory. In general, he considered that the present system of two parallel administrations should be changed into a single structure.

34. The representative of Burma welcomed the enlargement of the Council of the Vice-Government-General and the increased indigenous participation in it as a step in the right direction, as was the link with the Councils of the States, but urged the Administering Authority to press forward with maximum speed towards the establishment of a fully-elected legislature.

35. The representative of Syria stated that even with the contemplated increased number of African representatives, the Council of the Vice-Government-General would still have an indigenous minority and its functions would be essentially advisory. In the political life of the Territory, it would not play anything more than a subordinate part.

He noted that the complete executive power was retained by the Administering Authority.

36. The representative of the Administering Authority shared the view that the Council of the Vice-Government-General should become progressively more representative and that its powers should be expanded. The structure of the

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Council did not take into account racial representation so that in the future the figure of fifteen indigenous members might be increased without necessarily changing its formal structure. The final stage would be to base its composition upon universal suffrage. For the present, the powers of the Council were still advisory, but they offered it a wide and extremely important field of activity.

Speaking of the indigenous councils, he emphasized that they were playing an increasingly important role in the administration of local affairs, as evidenced by the large budgets at their disposal, and that the indigenous inhabitants were acquiring thereby experience which would enable them to take a greater share in the administration of the Territory. He stated that the local administration of the States and the Territorial Administration did not constitute parallel structures, but integrated and complementary ones. He added that the Administering Authority was working towards the maintenance of a union between Ruanda and Urundi, but that the final decision must be taken by the peoples concerned.

Development of universal adult suffrage and direct elections

37. The representative of India expressed gratification at the successful introduction of adult male suffrage, even if exercised indirectly. He expressed the hope that the suffrage would soon be extended to all adults and that direct elections to all representative bodies would be introduced at the expiry of the life of the present councils.

38. The representative of the United Kingdom considered that the smooth introduction of the electoral system for the sub-chiefdom councils and the interest shown in these elections by the population was an excellent augury for the future ability of the Territory to absorb and to turn to good account the forces of nationalism in Africa.

39. The representative of China considered that it was only by the gradual delegation of power to the Council of the peoples' representatives that democracy could be firmly established and was happy to learn that the Belgian administration wanted to take new steps towards the democratization of institutions and the organization of elections.

40. The representative of the United States of America congratulated the Administering Authority for the steps taken to use the electoral ballot for the first time by some 700,000 adult male inhabitants of the Territory.

41. The representative of Italy congratulated the Administering Authority on the introduction of male suffrage in the recent election for the sub-chiefdom councils.
42. The representative of Haiti congratulated the Administering Authority on having held in 1956 the first general consultation of the inhabitants on the selection of representatives to the various councils.
43. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regretted that despite the experience in the partial elections for the local and district councils the Administering Authority refused to consider a rapid political development of the Territory. The experience of the elections should convince the Administering Authority that it was necessary to proceed boldly with elections and to prepare the population for self-government.
44. The representative of New Zealand welcomed the introduction of adult male suffrage in elections for the sub-chiefdom councils and noted that on the basis of this experience the further steps of introducing suffrage could effectively be taken.
45. The representative of Guatemala stated that the holding of elections to the sub-chiefdom councils by secret ballot and adult male suffrage constituted an important step in the political development of the Territory. The encouraging results of that step justified a recommendation that the Administering Authority should study the means of extending that system of elections to the other indigenous councils and to the Council of the Vice-Government-General and should confer the right to vote on women.

He stressed the need for preparing adequate voting registers, which might also serve for other administrative purposes.

46. The representative of Burma was glad to note the introduction of adult male suffrage, thereby changing the character of the Councils to that of a representative body, and recommended the extension of this right to women, if there were no objections on either customary or religious grounds.
47. The representative of Syria stated that the elections of 1956 still remained partial elections and that councils so elected were purely advisory. Further, the Administering Authority did not contemplate extending the principle of direct elections to the Councils of the chiefdoms, to the Supreme Councils of the States or to the Council of the Vice-Government-General.

48. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority stated that he would not fail to submit to the Administration the suggestion of the representative of Guatemala for the establishment of voting registers.

Public office: Training and appointment of indigenous persons for positions of responsibility in the administration

49. The representative of India expressed concern at the lack of indigenous persons in the senior services of the Belgian administration. That was a difficulty which could be overcome by careful planning, by selection of indigenous students and by making the services sufficiently attractive.

50. The representative of China felt that the Administering Authority should develop opportunities for Africans to advance to higher positions in the administration of the Territory and hoped for the progressive Africanization of the Belgian administration.

51. The representative of the United States of America expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would actively encourage and assist more and more Africans to qualify for high administrative and consultative posts in the Government.

52. The representative of Haiti hoped that the Bahutu would show an increasing interest in participating in the administration of public affairs, thereby putting an end to the last signs of a feudal system.

53. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that the Administering Authority was doing nothing to promote the direct participation of the indigenous inhabitants in the administration of all spheres of the Territory's life. As in the past, the indigenous inhabitants were not represented in the administration or in the bodies responsible for directing the Territory's economic life. After forty years of Belgian administration not a single indigenous inhabitant had been prepared for a leading post, however unimportant, in the administration and nothing was in fact being done to train even a small number of specialists to take over control of the country's affairs.

54. The representative of the Administering Authority stated that the Administration wanted the indigenous inhabitants to have access to posts on every level but the level of qualification must be maintained for the good of the country. In future, an increasing number of the indigenous inhabitants would have the necessary qualifications to occupy higher posts.

Judicial organization

55. The representative of New Zealand noted that in the organization of justice fundamental and gradual changes had been made along lines which the Trusteeship Council might well agree to endorse.

56. The representative of Syria stated that the Administering Authority exercised a certain control over the judicial authorities and that certain administrative officials continued to exercise judicial functions.

III. ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT

General economy; public finances; steps taken to obtain adequate public revenue

57. The representative of France congratulated the Administering Authority on having promoted the development of the main commercial crops, without sacrificing the necessary food crops. As a result, however, public revenues had tended to lag behind the increased expenditures, particularly on the social services and a strict budgetary control was therefore necessary.

58. The representative of India was glad to note the success of the co-operative movement, the increased participation of Africans in the retail trade, the valuable work done in reforestation, soil conservation and the reclamation of marsh lands, as well as the remarkable progress made in the abolition of ubuhake. These advances would no doubt be consolidated and followed up by the establishment of a livestock industry, the redistribution of population from overcrowded areas and increased agricultural production. He trusted that the Administering Authority would devote special care to fostering a more active participation of the indigenous inhabitants in the major economic activities of the Territory, particularly in the fields of industry and external trade.

59. The representative of the United Kingdom was of the opinion that the greatest problem was the problem of developing the resources of a densely populated, mountainous area so that means could be found to maintain the increasing population and support the services on a basis of rising standards. He also stressed the importance of the paysannats which represented a new form of social life, where special forms of agricultural development took place.

60. The representative of the United States of America suggested that the Administering Authority seriously study the possibility of developing tourism in the Territory.

61. The representative of Haiti felt that the Administering Authority should think about disposing of surplus production on foreign markets so that the purchasing power of the indigenous inhabitants might be increased.

62. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considered that the economy of Ruanda-Urundi was typically colonial. Economic development was directed at maintaining the Territory as an appendage producing raw materials for the metropolitan country and not at laying the economic foundations for

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independence. He regretted that it was not possible to observe any major, qualitative changes in Ruanda-Urundi's economic situation, which might help in the near future to ensure the Territory's economic independence and to satisfy fully the population's material needs.

63. The representative of New Zealand recognized that development towards self-sufficiency continued to depend on the direct financial contribution of the Administering Authority and noted that the potentialities of the Ruzizi scheme in particular were of interest to his delegation.

64. The representative of Guatemala recognized that the Administering Authority had achieved some progress towards the solution of the important economic problems of the Territory. He believed, however, that the resources brought into play by the Ten-Year Plan were not sufficient and therefore urged the Administering Authority to continue its negotiations with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development with a view to obtaining additional finance. He considered that it would be useful to have the help of specialists of the Technical Assistance Administration of the United Nations in evaluating the results achieved in the first five years of operation of the Plan and in making suggestions as to its future orientation.

65. He also believed that greater opportunities should be offered to the indigenous inhabitants to participate at a higher level in the economic life of the Territory.

66. The representative of Burma considered that, generally speaking, economic advancement during the past ten years had been satisfactory, especially in agriculture and related spheres. The Council might propose to the Administering Authority that it should plan its future programmes with a view to the building of a sound infrastructure for productive development.

67. The representative of Syria noted that progress had been achieved in the fields of food production, the co-operative movement and reafforestation. Progress elsewhere seemed to be due to the development of certain activities useful and profitable to the Administering Authority. Moreover, the privileges granted to certain foreign firms were likely to prevent the attainment of wealth among the indigenous inhabitants, and the income of the indigenous inhabitants was taxed very heavily while the much larger incomes of settlers and foreign companies were taxed very lightly. He had the impression that the Ten-Year Plan for economic development was not compulsory but rather a programme of action designed to appease certain fears and answer certain criticisms.

68. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority noted that it was not accurate to suggest that the European companies have monopolized foreign trade and industry in the Territory. The fact was that they create these industries from nothing and that the time had now come when the indigenous inhabitants were beginning to participate in them.

69. He also stated that the Administering Authority had established a tourist bureau, but felt that tourism would for a long time constitute only a limited source of income.

70. He also stated that in 1956 direct taxes paid by the indigenous inhabitants amounted to 164 million francs and direct taxes from other sources to 75 million. As there were more than 4,300,000 indigenous inhabitants while there were only 8,500 non-indigenous inhabitants, it did not appear that the taxes of indigenous inhabitants were excessive.

Land and agriculture

71. The representative of India commended the Administering Authority for its wise policy in regard to the alienation of land.

72. The representative of China wished to receive more encouraging information about an experiment being introduced in the Territory according to which a natural region was selected where agricultural propaganda for food cultivation would be carried out in 1957 by the indigenous peoples themselves.

73. The representative of the United States of America hoped that the Administering Authority would make every effort in order to introduce early legislation that would furnish the African with credit facilities based on land ownership in order to increase the participation of Africans in the wealth producing factors and to develop the future African middle class.

74. The representative of Italy, while urging the Administering Authority to pursue to the greatest extent its work in the field of propaganda for food production, soil survey, erosion control and water utilization, trusted that the Administering Authority would take adequate measures to promote the migration of the excess population to neighbouring countries.

75. The representative of Haiti expressed his appreciation of the participation of the Territory in the development of its sub-soil resources.

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76. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics noted that the economy was still based on one product, coffee, which accounted for 75 per cent of the value of all cash crops. Such single-crop agricultural production meant that the fate of the Territory's population was dependent on the unstable price of coffee on the world market. The coffee trade was entirely in the hands of foreign companies and brokers and the indigenous inhabitants' attempts to market coffee on a co-operative basis had met with hostility in the Territory and had been a failure. The problem of ensuring the population's subsistence, given the limited land available, was being dealt with in a totally unsatisfactory way. During the year under review the production of food crops had declined despite the fact that the area under such crops had increased. The only technical improvements introduced in agriculture concerned export crops and were intended to increase the profits of European companies and brokers. The branches of agriculture furnishing the necessary foodstuffs for the majority of the population still remained at a very primitive level.

He considered that the solution to the problem of agricultural productivity lay in the large-scale mass mechanization of labour and the application of the most modern agricultural techniques which were at present out of the reach of the vast majority of the population of Ruanda-Urundi. He expressed particular concern at the continuing alienation of land from the indigenous inhabitants when there was land shortage, pointing out that in 1955 1,300 hectares of land had been alienated for the benefit of the Administration and foreign settlers.

77. The representative of New Zealand, in emphasizing the narrow margins by which self-sufficiency in food production was being maintained, expressed interest in information on the economic and social results of the campaign to raise food production in selected regions.

78. The representative of Burma, while noting with satisfaction the Administering Authority's achievements in the areas of land reclamation, irrigation, anti-erosion and reafforestation, felt that there was an imperative need to assure a steady proportionate increase in the production of foodstuffs, to keep pace with the growth in population, by further introduction of agricultural machinery and other modern methods of farming.

79. The representative of Syria suggested that measures be taken to establish a system of private ownership of land.

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80. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority stated that the Administration would continue to attack with great urgency the problem of individual ownership of land. He denied that the Administering Authority maintained the Territory in a dangerous one-crop economy; Belgium had introduced coffee and cotton and now was seeking the introduction of potato, barley, wheat, tea and sugar cane. Finally, he stressed that the non-indigenous inhabitants occupied 0.4 per cent of the land in the Territory much of which was used for indigenous housing, for roads and aerodromes and for schools, hospitals and missions.

Stockbreeding

81. The representative of Italy hoped that the abolition of the ubuhake contracts and the other measures contemplated by the Administration would lead to a decrease in the number of cattle and thus in its pressure on grazing lands.

82. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics doubted whether the Administering Authority's attempts to reduce the number of livestock were a progressive means of solving the problems of agricultural productivity, since with the reduction of cattle by 40,000 head a year the indigenous population had been compelled to increase the number of sheep and goats by 130,000. Furthermore, the experiments in raising livestock productivity which the Administering Authority was conducting on its model farms were for the present of little practical benefit to the indigenous inhabitants who could not apply the results in the primitive agricultural conditions obtaining in the Territory.

He considered in particular that the argument that the low productivity of the livestock was due to the lack of fodder was not borne out by such actions on the part of the Administering Authority as the export of valuable oilcake.

83. The representative of New Zealand said that it was of great interest to his delegation to learn that considerable success had been obtained in suppressing the ubuhake contracts, a fact which should be noted by the Council.

84. The representative of Burma stated that the measures undertaken by the Administering Authority to redistribute cattle and to abolish the ubuhake contract system seemed to be progressing satisfactorily.

Industry

85. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considered that no progress had been achieved in the development of industry and noted in

particular that the planned hydroelectric power station would not be built. There was no cotton manufacture and no food industry. In the mining industry, the indigenous population participated only by supplying manpower.

86. The representative of Burma urged the Administering Authority to explore ways and means of developing secondary and cottage industries and handicrafts utilizing locally-produced raw materials and producing consumer goods presently being imported, with increasing participation by the indigenous people.

87. The representative of Syria stated that industrialization of the Territory did not seem to receive serious and sustained interest on the part of the Administration.

Commerce and trade

88. The representative of China hoped that the Administering Authority would continue to push the co-operative movement with vigour. He also hoped for more stimulation and promotion of African participation in the economic development of the Territory.

89. The representative of Guatemala requested that the Administering Authority should supply, in its next annual report, a more detailed information of the part played by the indigenous inhabitants in the processing of coffee. He considered that encouragement should be given to the formation of further indigenous co-operatives for the processing and marketing of export crops.

90. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that there was absolutely no indigenous participation in trading and administrative activities. There was no indigenous representation whatever on the bodies managing the Territory's economic life. There was not a single indigenous member of the chambers of commerce and industry of the Territory.

91. The representative of Burma was disturbed to find that the import-export trade and the wholesale trade were almost entirely in the hands of Europeans and Asians and hoped that the Administering Authority would spare no efforts to remedy this situation by providing greater credit facilities and adequate opportunities for Africans to gain experience.

92. The representative of Syria regretted that the indigenous population was kept out of foreign trade and wholesale trade and of such bodies as the chambers of commerce.

93. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority noted that the indigenous inhabitants were beginning to take their part in larger enterprises. There was nothing in the legislation which would prevent indigenous inhabitants from engaging in any economic activity.

IV. SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT

Human rights and fundamental freedoms

94. The representative of India paid tribute to the Administering Authority for its wise policy in fostering good race relations. As regards, however, restrictions on freedom of movement, the curfew in the urban areas and the system of issuing cards to civilized persons, it would be appropriate for the Council to take note of the steps taken by the Administering Authority with a view to removing them and to reiterate its previous recommendations for their early removal.
95. The representative of China hoped that the last obstacle to freedom of movement at night would be removed without undue delay.
96. The representative of Haiti stated that he had not been convinced by the reasons given for the maintenance of the curfew at Usumbura and for the existence of separate schools (despite the integration already begun at a higher level), separate hospitals, separate quarters, etc., for Europeans.
97. The representative of Guatemala noted with satisfaction the statement by the special representative that a radical improvement had taken place in the relations between the various ethnic groups of the population. He considered that the Council would be pleased to obtain more detailed information on that matter.
98. While noting that the Administering Authority had improved the situation as regards the curfew and other restrictions on the freedom of movement of Africans, he considered that the Administering Authority should be encouraged to eliminate completely such restrictions on the free exercise of fundamental human rights. He considered that a separate charter of human rights and fundamental freedoms should be drawn up for Ruanda-Urundi as a basis for its future constitution.
99. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considered that basic human rights were not observed in the Territory and the indigenous inhabitants were not free as regards their movements, anyone might be deported for expressing his opinion.
100. The representative of New Zealand considered that the experience of other centres regarding the abolishing of the curfew would be watched by the Usumbura authorities, who had put forward practical reasons for maintaining the existing restrictions at the present time.

101. The representative of Burma, while commending the Administration for the abolition of curfew in all other towns of the Territory, regretted, however, that there still remained vestiges of such practice in Usumbura and was grateful for the assurance that this last obstacle to freedom of movement would be removed as soon as possible.

102. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority, replying to the suggestion that a separate charter of liberties should be drawn up for the Territory, read out the existing basic liberties derived from the Belgian Constitution and applied to the Territory since 1925.

Labour

103. The representative of India stated that Belgian policy in regard to labour was realistic and, on the whole, satisfactory, but that it was difficult to understand reasons for the delay in the application of international conventions to the Territory.

104. The representative of China expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would facilitate the development of trade unions and further encourage the development of joint councils with direct representation of African workers.

105. The representative of Italy noted that wages for workers had been increased, and new legislation instituting a system of pensions for all indigenous workers and allowances for elderly workers had been formulated.

106. The representative of Haiti stated that wages were low, even if one took into account that many workers received more than the minimum and if one added the social benefits. He praised the Administration for imposing social charges on enterprises.

107. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics noted that the standard of living of the indigenous population and wages were low, so that the overwhelming majority continued to live in primitive huts. In 1955, more than 50,000 workers had been unable to find employment in the Territory and had left the Territory to look for work.

108. The representative of New Zealand believed that the Council would be gratified to note the passage of legislation instituting pensions for all indigenous workers and allowances for elderly workers, as well as the regulation of the conditions of work in the larger enterprises.

109. The representative of Guatemala requested that the Administering Authority should supply fuller information on the implementation of ILO conventions. He

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expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would find some means of harmonizing the interests of the populations with the abolition of the system of forced labour. He was pleased to note that the Administration had authorized its employees to join trade unions and had set up a system of pensions for indigenous workers.

110. The representative of Burma stated that the labour situation seemed to be quite satisfactory.

111. The representative of Syria would have wished the Administering Authority's annual report to contain fuller details regarding the results of the application of labour legislation. The number of labour inspectors was insufficient to ensure strict application of the Labour Code, there was apparently no limitation of the hours of work, and forced labour still existed to a certain extent, although the need for it had not been shown. He doubted whether working conditions were generally satisfactory and noted the considerable emigration of workers from the Territory.

112. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority stated that the Administration was endeavouring to create the conditions under which forced labour could be abolished. But it was not possible to reform radically a society by the adoption of a law. However, legally imposed forced labour no longer existed in the extra-customary centres.

113. The representative of the Administering Authority assured the Council that the Administration regularly received the observations of the ILO concerning the labour conditions and implementations of international conventions and accorded them its most careful attention.

Housing

114. The representative of Italy welcomed the institution of the King's Fund for the improvement of African housing.

115. The representative of Haiti expressed doubt that the majority of people possessed the resources to acquire adequate housing.

116. The representative of Burma felt that more attention should be paid to African housing.

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Medical and health services

117. The representative of India noted with satisfaction the increasing expenditure on medical services and the progress made in the medical field.
118. The representative of Italy was gratified to note that the percentage of public expenditure in this field had increased.
119. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics said that health conditions in the Territory were unsatisfactory. There was only one doctor for each 60,000 inhabitants outside the major centres of population. Yet the Administering Authority had reduced its appropriation for health services by 2 per cent in 1955.
120. The representative of New Zealand commended the Administration for the progress achieved in the field of public health.
121. The representative of Guatemala paid tribute to the achievements of the Administering Authority in constructing dispensaries, in developing hospital services and in combatting certain endemic diseases. He supported the suggestion of the World Health Organization for greater unification of medical and health services and also suggested that the principle of hospitals common to all sections of the population should be adopted. The training of medical assistants should be improved, either by establishing better training facilities in the Territory or by offering scholarships for study abroad.
122. The representative of Burma found that there was still a need for an increase in the number of African doctors and trained technicians and hoped that this would soon be dealt with.
123. The representative of Syria noted with satisfaction the efforts made by the Administering Authority, particularly in connexion with public sanitation, mother and child care and campaigns against malaria and other diseases. He felt that steps should be taken, however, to enlarge the existing hospitals and dispensaries, to accelerate the training of the necessary qualified staff and to eliminate certain discriminatory measures.

Penal system

124. The representative of China urged the immediate abolition of the entire system of corporal punishment in the Territory.
125. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics expressed disapproval of the fact that corporal punishment was still applied in the Territory. He emphasized that the use of corporal punishment had always been a symbol of slavery.

126. The representative of Guatemala expressed the hope that corporal punishment would be completely abolished and that a penal reform including measures for the prevention of delinquency and for the rehabilitation of offenders would be introduced.

V. EDUCATIONAL ADVANCEMENT

Organization of education

127. The representative of France noted the considerable increase in the school population which was remarkable for Africa.

128. The representative of India noted with satisfaction the increasing expenditure on education and the progress made in that field. He nevertheless expressed concern at the low retention rate of pupils in primary schools and at the enormous number of uncertificated teachers. Moreover, in comparison with neighbouring territories, the results achieved so far in the field of higher education were depressing; greater encouragement should be provided to young Africans in this respect.

129. The representative of the United Kingdom commended the Administration for the rapid progress and mentioned the problem of wastage after the first years in the primary schools, the problem of adequate inspection and the problem of providing sufficient teacher-training facilities among those which remain to be overcome.

130. The representative of China commended the Administration for progress made and welcomed the assurance of the Administering Authority that it was seeking gradually to secure complete freedom from racial discrimination and to evolve a system of inter-racial education. He laid special emphasis on the need for the strengthening of the school inspection system and asked for increasing participation of the indigenous population in the formulation of the educational policy.

131. The representative of the United States of America hoped that the Administering Authority would give most serious thought to the suggestions of UNESCO. He asked the Administration to try to devise some means to encourage the fifth-year students to continue their studies.

132. The representative of Italy stated that it was noteworthy that there had been an increase in classes and in boys and girls attending school. Due prominence was also being given to professional and vocational schools. Finding the progress in this field encouraging, he felt that the Administering Authority should proceed along present lines. He expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would develop the broadcasting service as a medium for fundamental education.

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133. The representative of Haiti expressed satisfaction that, in the last ten years, the number of schools and of pupils had more than doubled. Nevertheless, there was a serious financial problem and a very serious shortage of teachers. Moreover, secondary education was neither widespread nor complete. There were no institutions of higher learning in the Territory and there had been a decrease in the number of inhabitants receiving higher education outside the Territory.
134. He drew attention to a social element generally referred to in the Territory as "évolué". According to a great Belgian teacher, the "évolué" was only a caricature of an educated man. He hoped that better training would make the indigenous inhabitants in general less vain.
135. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics considered that the situation in education demonstrated not only a concern for economy, but also the presence of the old colonialist tradition of giving a special role to the Catholic and Protestant missions. Two-thirds of the children did not go to schools and 75 per cent of the teachers did not have the necessary qualifications. The number of students in institutions of higher learning was being reduced year by year and even those courses which existed in the past to train students for higher education had been discontinued.
136. The representative of New Zealand expressed the view that it would be difficult for the Administration to allocate funds for education at levels much in excess of the present high proportion. He also noted that the Administering Authority was fully seized of the social problem of raising the attendance level of girl students. He was gratified that the level of studies in the secondary schools had been raised and that the scope of non-denominational facilities had been broadened.
137. The representative of Guatemala, basing himself on the observations of UNESCO, expressed the view that the indigenous inhabitants should be encouraged to assume greater responsibility in the educational field, that the number of inspectors should be increased, that a course preparing girls for secondary education should be established, that the number of primary schools and boys and girls attending such schools should be increased and that attention should be paid to the problem of wastage. Noting that progress was slow in secondary education and that the number of students receiving higher education abroad had shown no real increase during the past three years, he considered that the Administering Authority should

be encouraged to increase its efforts in that field. He shared the opinion of UNESCO that additional efforts should be taken to improve the qualifications of teaching and urged the development of adult and fundamental education and the increased use of audio-visual material. He presented detailed suggestions for improved teaching about the United Nations, the Trusteeship System and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

138. The representative of Burma noted with concern that despite the apparent increase in school attendance the majority of children of school age were without any education. It was also disturbed to note the high rate of wastage in primary schools. The Administration should do its utmost to increase the number of primary school inspectors and to reduce the number of uncertificated teachers. Women should be given a greater opportunity and incentive to participate in teaching. Greater opportunities should be given for higher education and there was an imperative need to increase the number of fellowships for study abroad. He did not wish, however, to reflect on the work of the Administration in this field and was pleased to note the increasing budgetary appropriations for education.

139. While not wishing to minimize the invaluable contributions of the religious missions in the educational field, he expressed concern about their growing tendency to extend their influence beyond the necessary point, a course which might well be detrimental to the proper growth of the African people.

140. The representative of Syria noted some progress in education, particularly in primary and secondary schools and an increase in budgetary credits and in teaching staff. Nevertheless, the rate of wastage was high; there were too few inspectors and teachers and no systematic mass education; the teaching of civic consciousness was insufficiently emphasized and audio-visual means were not used as they should be. He regretted that the Territory was not independent in secondary and higher education. The religious missions could not continue indefinitely to make up for the inadequacies of the teaching staffs. Vocational training was not sufficiently broad in scope to create the human material needed to carry out large-scale plans of industrialization and economic development.

141. The representative of Australia stated that while a great deal remained to be done to promote school attendance, the evidence suggested that education in the Territory would soon compare favourably with education throughout Central Africa as a whole. The status of women, on the other hand, left much to be desired and the

Council might well endorse the suggestion of UNESCO that steps be taken to facilitate the access of selected girl students to secondary educational institutions.

142. The Special Representative of the Administering Authority stated that the Administering Authority was aware of the deficiencies in the educational field, but that the Administration devoted 20 per cent of the budget to education and that it must make use of non-qualified teachers in order not to have to close classes. He noted that the Territory had a flourishing system of secondary education, but that one could not think of starting a university, with its many departments and professors, for twenty-one students.

143. He took exception to the criticisms of the role played by the Catholic and Protestant missions in education. The missions had been most valuable centres of education and civilization and without the help of the missionaries in education the emancipation of the Territory would be indefinitely delayed.

VI. ATTAINMENT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT OR INDEPENDENCE

(General Assembly resolutions 752 (VIII) and 1064 (XI))

144. The representative of India, after expressing the arguments in favour of fixing target dates for the attainment by the Trust Territories of self-government or independence and for the several intermediate goals, expressed the hope that the Administering Authority would see fit to respond in a more encouraging manner to the many General Assembly resolutions on that subject.

145. The representative of China held the view that the setting of intermediate targets and target dates for phases of development did not rule out the flexibility as well as the possibility of revisions. The fixing of a time-table of specific phases of development would be a highly desirable step.

146. The representative of Haiti believed that if the Administering Authority would remember that all peoples must use outside assistance if they did not have all the necessary material resources and technical skills, then it would take the necessary measures to enable the population to achieve the aims of Article 76 of the Charter within a period certainly far shorter than the three or four generations which the Governor-General of the Belgian Congo had predicted in 1954.

147. The representative of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics noted with regret that the Administering Authority continued to ignore the repeated recommendations of the General Assembly concerning the establishment of a time-table for independence. The plans of the Administration for the future of the Territory had nothing in common with the aims and the principle of Trusteeship.

148. He proposed that the Trusteeship Council should, in its recommendations on Ruanda-Urundi, provide for the attainment of independence by the Territory within the next three to five years.

149. The representative of Guatemala stressed the need for the Trusteeship Council to comply with the General Assembly resolutions and its own previous recommendations on that subject.

150. The representative of Burma considered it to be essential that the Council should collectively and unanimously reaffirm its dedication to freedom and self-government for all peoples and should address itself to internal target dates for specific projects - political, economic and social - lending themselves as steps up

the ladder of ultimate freedom and independence. He was anxious, therefore, to see the Administering Authority entrusted with the Territory of Ruanda-Urundi respond to the call of the General Assembly resolution dealing with this question.

151. The representative of Syria stated that the most important gap in the political field was the failure to fix a definite period and intermediate stages for the achievement by the Territory of self-government or independence. There was nothing to indicate that the Administering Authority was prepared to follow the reiterated recommendations of the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council on this subject. Genuine and legitimate apprehensions had been expressed in the Council concerning the danger of a vague and evasive policy in this vital matter and these demanded prompt action by the Administration with a view to the harmonious and uninterrupted development of the Territory.

152. The representative of the Administering Authority stated that Belgium did not wish to assume the responsibility of administering Ruanda-Urundi for one day longer than was necessary to attain the basic objectives laid down in Article 76 of the Charter. However, his Government, despite its desire to collaborate fully with the General Assembly and the Trusteeship Council, was unable to say when that goal would be completely or partially achieved. The important thing was not to have hasty independence, but, rather, true independence, in harmony with real and stable progress. To promise in advance that reforms would be introduced at a fixed date would not promote but impede political progress, since it would have the effect of inviting the persons affected to regard the improvement of their institutions as a mechanical process depending on the goodwill of the Administering Authority. If during the course of the evolution of institutions it seemed possible and advantageous to establish in advance the date of certain reforms, the Belgian Government would not fail to proceed in that manner and fix those stages after consultation with the parties concerned. In such cases it would so inform the Trusteeship Council in the course of the annual examination of conditions in the Territory.
