

UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL



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DRAFT REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE PERIOD COVERING 23 JUNE 1973 TO 1974

Working paper prepared by the Secretariat

PART I

ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

CHAPTER I

ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNCIL

A. Membership

1. The composition of the Trusteeship Council on 1 January 1974 was as follows:

Members administering Trust Territories

Australia

United States of America

Members mentioned by name in Article 23 of the Charter of the United Nations and not administering Trust Territories

China

France

Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

B. Officers

2. Sir Laurence McIntyre (Australia) and Mr. James Murray (United Kingdom) were elected President and Vice-President, respectively, at the beginning of the forty-first session on 3 June 1974.

C. Sessions and meetings

3. The Council held the following meetings during the period covered by this report: forty-first session (1421st to 1429, 3 to 14 June 1974 and 1430th to _____, 1974).

4. All meetings took place at United Nations Headquarters, New York.

D. Procedure

5. No change affecting procedure was made by the Council in the period under review.

E. Relations with the Security Council

6. In accordance with Article 83 of the Charter, with resolution 70 (1949), adopted by the Security Council at its 415th meeting on 7 March 1949, and with its own resolution 46 (IV) of 24 March 1949, the Trusteeship Council continued to perform those functions of the United Nations under the Trusteeship System relating to political, economic, social and educational matters in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and submitted a report thereon to the Security Council. 1/

F. Relations with the specialized agencies

7. Representatives of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) participated in the work of the Council.

8. WHO submitted written observations concerning conditions in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (T/1753). The representative of WHO made a statement in regard to conditions in the same Territory at the 1426th meeting of the Council, on 7 June 1974.

1/ Official Records of the Security Council, Twenty-ninth Year, Special Supplement No. 1 (S/11415).

CHAPTER II

EXAMINATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS

9. The Trusteeship Council had before it the annual reports of the Administering Authorities on Papua New Guinea (T/1751 and Add.1) and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (T/1752).

10. The annual report on the administration of Papua New Guinea covering the year ending 30 June 1973 was received by the Secretary-General on 1 May 1974. Details of the Trusteeship Council's examination of the annual report of the United States on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands are contained in the report of the Trusteeship Council to the Security Council. 2/

/To be completed/

CHAPTER III

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS

A. Examination of petitions

11. The consideration and examination of communications and petitions relating to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands are dealt with in the Trusteeship Council's report to the Security Council. 3/ Concerning Papua New Guinea, the Council examined

/To be completed/

CHAPTER IV

VISITS TO TRUST TERRITORIES

/To be completed/

2/ Ibid.

3/ Ibid.

CHAPTER V

ATTAINMENT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT OR INDEPENDENCE BY THE TRUST
TERRITORIES AND THE SITUATION IN TRUST TERRITORIES WITH
REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE
GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

A. General

/To be completed/

- B. Co-operation with the Special Committee on the Situation with
regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the
Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

/To be completed/

- C. General Assembly resolution 3109 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973
on the question of Papua New Guinea

12. In resolution 3109 (XXVIII), concerning Papua New Guinea, the General Assembly,
inter alia:

"...

"2. Welcomes the attainment of self-government as an important step in
the progress of Papua New Guinea towards independence;

"3. Calls upon the administering Power and the Government of Papua
New Guinea to consult on the timing of independence, noting in this regard the
views of the administering Power and of the Government of Papua New Guinea that
the House of Assembly is regarded as representing the wishes of the people of
Papua New Guinea;

"4. Emphasizes the imperative need to ensure that the national unity of
Papua New Guinea is preserved;

"5. Strongly endorses the policies of the administering Power and of the
Government of Papua New Guinea aimed at discouraging separatist movements and
at promoting national unity;

"6. Stresses the right of the people of Papua New Guinea to control and
dispose of their natural resources in their national interest;

"7. Stresses also the importance of preserving the cultural heritage of
the people of Papua New Guinea;

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"8. Welcomes the growing involvement of the Government of Papua New Guinea in matters of defence and external affairs and calls upon the administering Power to continue to expand its consultations with the Government of Papua New Guinea regarding these matters;

"9. Calls upon the organizations of the United Nations system and their members to assist in accelerating progress in all sectors of the national life of Papua New Guinea;

"10. Notes the continued willingness of the administering Power and the Government of Papua New Guinea to receive a visiting mission, notes also that the Trusteeship Council is to consider the dispatch of a visiting mission to Papua New Guinea at its forty-first session and reaffirms that such missions are to be composed on the basis recommended in General Assembly resolution 2590 (XXIV) of 16 December 1969;

"11. Requests the administering Power to report to the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on the implementation of the present resolution;

"12. Requests the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twenty-ninth session."

/To be completed/

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CHAPTER VI

OTHER QUESTIONS CONSIDERED BY THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

A. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories

13. The United Nations programme of scholarships for inhabitants of Trust Territories was initiated by General Assembly resolution 557 (VI) of 18 January 1952. Under the procedure approved by the Trusteeship Council for the administration of this programme, the Secretary-General was invited to submit to the Trusteeship Council at least once a year a report containing all appropriate details of the programme.

14. The report of the Secretary-General submitted to the Council at its forty-first session (T/1754) covered the period from 1 June 1973 to 31 May 1974. It contained information on the use made of the scholarships and training facilities offered by 11 States Members of the United Nations. According to information made available to the Secretary-General, no application for scholarships offered by these Member States was received from either of the two remaining Trust Territories during the period under review.

15. At its 1428th meeting, on 12 June, the Council considered the Secretary-General's report on the scholarships programme for inhabitants of Trust Territories.

16. During the consideration of the report, the representative of Australia said that his Government would continue to make available study and training facilities for students from Papua New Guinea. He pointed out, however, that inasmuch as matters relating to education were within the competence of the Papua New Guinea Government, the extent to which such offers by Australia and by other Members of the United Nations might be accepted was a matter entirely for decision by that Government.

17. The representative of the United States said that 871 Micronesians had pursued programmes of higher education abroad in 1973. The great majority had studied in Guam and the United States; others had studied in the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Canada, Fiji and elsewhere.

18. The United States delegation hoped that, in processing applications for overseas studies, full consideration would be given to the importance of helping Micronesians to acquire the skills and training necessary for the economic development of a sparsely populated island complex. It urged that other States Members of the United Nations, particularly those in the Pacific region, consider making available scholarships to Micronesian students who wished to develop skills pertinent to Micronesian development.

19. The representative of France considered that it was for the Administering Authorities to assess the value of the offers of scholarships made to inhabitants of the Trust Territories, because, in his view, they were in a better position to pass judgement on the utilization of such scholarships.

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20. At its 1428th meeting, on 12 June, the Trusteeship Council decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General.

B. Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in Trust Territories

21. The annual report of the Secretary-General (T/1755) on the arrangements undertaken in co-operation with the Administering Authorities for distributing official records of the United Nations and disseminating information concerning the aims and activities of the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territories was submitted to the Council at its forty-first session, in accordance with the provisions of Trusteeship Council resolution 36 (III) of 8 July 1948 and General Assembly resolution 754 (VIII) of 9 December 1953.

22. The report, covering the period from 14 April 1973 to 13 April 1974, set out the activities carried out by the Office of Public Information through its information centres in Washington, D.C. and Port Moresby in disseminating information on the United Nations.

23. The report indicated that the services of those centres to the media, including the press and radio, had been expanded to meet the increased interest in the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System within the Territories. Efforts had been made in both Territories to strengthen the relationship between the centres and government authorities, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations. The report further indicated that a greater flow of information material had been established and maintained between the centres and the major information channels.

24. The Trusteeship Council considered the Secretary-General's report at its 1428th and 1429th meetings, on 12 and 14 June.

25. During the consideration of the report, the representative of Australia noted the considerable and diverse nature of the publications being distributed in the Trust Territories, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General. He commended the practice recently adopted by the United States delegation in making arrangements to relay the Council's proceedings to Micronesia by broadcast satellite and had no doubt that the Council would, at its next session, find it of considerable interest to learn how those broadcasts were received in Micronesia and the degree of interest which they aroused.

26. The representative of the United States stated that schools and libraries were regularly supplied with the United Nations Monthly Chronicle and the UNESCO Courier, along with other printed material, photographs, films and film strips. Tapes about United Nations activities, particularly the weekly round-up, were used regularly by the radio stations of the six districts. United Nations activities constituted an important element in the school curriculum at all educational levels. The Administering Authority continued to execute its responsibilities in that regard and would appreciate any assistance that the United Nations Office of Public Information could provide to assist it with that important task.

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27. The representative of the United States said that, in addition to the use of satellites to beam the broadcasts of the Council's proceedings to Micronesia, the Micronesia news services had been providing daily summaries of the Council's meetings for distribution to the islanders.

28. At its 1428th meeting, on 12 June, the Trusteeship Council decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General. The Council also decided, at the suggestion of France, to invite representatives of the Office of Public Information to provide supplementary information on the dissemination of information on the United Nations in the Trust Territories.

29. At the 1429th meeting, on 14 June, representatives of the Information Centres Service and the Central Services Section of the Office of Public Information appeared before the Council and provided up-to-date information on dissemination of information on the United Nations in the Trust Territories.

C. Co-operation with the Committee on the
Elimination of Racial Discrimination

30. The General Assembly, in its resolution 3134 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973, endorsed the requests of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination contained in its report to the twenty-eighth session of the General Assembly. ^{4/} The Committee, in decision 2 (VIII) of its report, requested the General Assembly to draw the attention of the Trusteeship Council to decisions 2 (III) and 3 (VI) of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination requesting it to make every effort to provide that Committee with all the necessary material to enable it to discharge effectively its responsibilities under article 15, paragraph 2, as set out in annex IV of its first annual report to the General Assembly.

31. In subsections D and E, section III, chapter VII of its report, the Committee made a number of comments and suggestions relating to the chapters on human rights contained in the annual reports of the Trusteeship Council on Papua New Guinea and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands for the year 1972/73. The Committee also referred to the report of the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands in 1973. ^{5/}

32. In regard to the comments and suggestions made by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination in section III, chapter VII, of its report concerning the chapters in the annual reports of the Trusteeship Council relating to human rights, the Trusteeship Council at its 1428th meeting, on 12 June, decided to invite the attention of the Administering Authorities to the requests and observations of that Committee and to take account of them in their forthcoming annual reports to the United Nations.

^{4/} Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18 (A/9018).

^{5/} Official Records of the Trusteeship Council, Fortieth Session, Supplement No. 2.

33. At its 1429th meeting on 14 June, the Trusteeship Council agreed that none of the petitions before it related to racial discrimination and that there was, therefore, no need for action to be taken on the question this year.

D. Decade for Action to Combat Racism
and Racial Discrimination

34. By paragraph 3 of its resolution 3057 (XXVIII) of 2 November 1973, the General Assembly invited United Nations organs to participate in the observance of the Decade by intensifying and expanding their efforts towards ensuring the rapid eradication of racism and racial discrimination.

35. The Trusteeship Council placed on the agenda of its forty-first session an item entitled "Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination" which it considered at its 1428th meeting on 12 June.

36. At that meeting, the representative of Australia stated that his Government, as Administering Authority, had made known its intention to ratify the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. It was unlikely, however, that on that occasion Australia would be acting also on behalf of Papua New Guinea. Having regard to prospective constitutional developments in that Territory, Australia had every expectation that Papua New Guinea would wish to act decisively for itself on this matter upon its attainment of independence.

37. The representative of France stated that his Government had ratified the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 19 July 1971, and that it had, therefore, no difficulty in supporting the objectives of the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination. Resolution 3057 (XXVIII), which had been adopted unanimously by the General Assembly, provides for the organization of various events in the course of the Decade. The French delegation was not in any way opposed to the organization of those events, and, in fact, intended to take part in them as far as it was able to do so. It would, however, take into consideration the financial implications of such events and the arrangements that might be made, which was in conformity with the concern it had always shown regarding the best utilization of the resources of the United Nations.

38. At its 1428th meeting, on 12 June, the Trusteeship Council decided to authorize its President to issue an appropriate statement on the occasion of Human Rights Day, to be held in December. The Council further decided to draw the attention of the Administering Authorities of the Trust Territories concerned to the provisions of resolution 3057 (XXVIII) and the Programme for the Decade for Action to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination annexed thereto, and to request them to take appropriate steps in that regard and to report to the Trusteeship Council at future sessions.

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PART II

CONDITIONS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA

/This part will include the chapter on conditions in Papua New Guinea as it is finally adopted by the Trusteeship Council at its forty-first session.7
