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TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Sixth Session

VERBATIM RECORD OF THE EIGHTIETH MEETING

Palais des Nations, Geneva.

Monday, 3 April, 1950 at 10.45 a.m.

The Acting PRESIDENT: Mr. Max HENRIQUEZ URENA. Dominican Republic.

Note: The Official Record of this meeting, i.e. the summary record, will appear in provisional mimeographed form under the symbol T/SR.282 and will be subject to representatives' corrections. It will appear in final form in a printed volume.

/The Acting

The Acting PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): I declare open the two hundred and eighty-second meeting of the Trusteeship Council.

EXAMINATION OF PETITIONS: SIXTH AND SEVENTH REPORTS OF THE AD HOC COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS (T/L.77, T/L.79)

The Acting PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): It seems to me that the best procedure would be to take up each Report as a whole and then, if there are any observations with respect to any one of the resolutions contained in the Report, we would have a discussion at that point. However, we could follow the procedure of the General Assembly, namely, to approve the Report as a whole, including all the resolutions. I should like to point out to the members of the Council that with respect to the Sixth Report there are forty resolutions. Nineteen of the draft resolutions use the same text which the Trusteeship Council adopted at this session, namely, a general resolution with respect to the points raised by the petitioners. There are already nineteen cases in which the Council has adopted certain measures. It informs the petitioner of this state of things and invites his attention to the fact that a resolution has already been passed, approximately in the same sense. Then there are fifteen resolutions which contain invitations, suggestions, recommendations or express wishes as regards the policy of the Administering Authority. It takes note of the petitions and, in certain cases, the Committee, in its draft resolutions, mentions the fact that the Administering Authority has already contemplated certain steps with respect to the problem, and it encourages the Administering Authority to continue along these lines. In other cases, the Committee proposes to make concrete recommendations to the Administering Authority. This applies to fifteen cases. Then there remain six cases in which the Committee has not taken any action and in which it considers that no action can be taken. It is of the opinion that the Trusteeship Council should not take any action in the specific cases, because the questions raised should not have been brought up at all. Since all of the representatives have already read the Report, I feel that they may therefore have a definite opinion. In any case, I wish to express the point of view that there is this classification into three sections. We have one group of resolutions which are based upon the fact that the Trusteeship Council has already

passed resolutions on the same question. There is another group of resolutions which extend invitations or make recommendations, in order to invite the Administering Authority to continue in its action, according to the requests of the petitioners. And there are six cases in which no action can be taken.

I should like to hear the opinions, if any, with respect to one or several of these draft resolutions, in order that we may discuss them. I would propose that we discuss the Report in general and then, if there is any given specific point concerning a resolution for which discussion is requested, we might have such discussion and then adopt the Report as a whole.

Mr. SAYRE (United States of America): I was going to suggest something very much along the lines of what you yourself have suggested, Mr. President. As I have looked over and studied these Reports of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions I was impressed afresh by the admirable work performed by this Committee. The Council will recall that only a very short time ago we looked at the mountain of petitions in front of us and wondered how we would master them and how we would get through the work. We asked the Committee on Petitions to attack the problem and to find some way in which to master the difficulties. That ad hoc Committee on Petitions has been meeting faithfully and earnestly day after day. The Committee has now presented the Council with the eight Reports, two of which have already been adopted by the Trusteeship Council. I feel that the Council owes the Committee a very genuine and real debt of appreciation for the way in which they have mastered the work and for the admirable Reports which they have now laid before us, namely, the Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Reports. This Committee was of a very representative character. It contains six representatives, those of Australia, China, the Dominican Republic, New Zealand, the Philippines and the United States, its Chairman, Mr. Peachey, having admirably bent himself to the task. I should now like to propose, if it is in order, that the Trusteeship Council should adopt this Sixth Report which, I believe, is the first one before us for discussion and action this morning. I would like to propose that we adopt this Sixth Report in its present form, and in doing so, I should once again

/like to express

like to express the appreciation of my delegation for the work of the Chairman and the Committee.

Mr. HANROTT (United Kingdom): I was not a member of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions but I had the honour of attending a number of its sessions, as the representative of the United Kingdom in attendance. I must say that as a newcomer to this Council I was most impressed not only by the expedition with which the petitions were dealt with, but by the care and thoroughness with which each petition was examined, weighed and decided upon. I also feel, from my experience in that Committee, that little would be gained by a full discussion, resolution by resolution and point by point, in the full Council. There would be a very real danger of repetition in going over much the same arguments that have already been so fully and zealously covered in the Committee. Therefore, I should like to support the suggestion which you made, Mr. President, and which has been supported by the representative of the United States.

Mr. LAURENTIE (France) (Interpretation from French): I share the opinion which you have expressed, Mr. President, and which was confirmed by the representative of the United States. In turn, I would like to mention, since I attended more than one meeting of the Committee which dealt with this mountain of petitions, to what extent its work was appreciable and important. It is obvious that all petitions have been examined and that in each case an attempt has been made to give as precise and useful a reply as possible. As far as I am concerned, I can only see an advantage in the fact that the study of the Reports were made as a whole.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (Interpretation from French): If the majority of the members of the Council are of the opinion that we should adopt the Report as a whole, without entering into a discussion, in detail, on the various resolutions, I shall not oppose this procedure. However, I must admit that some of the resolutions appear to imply a certain amount of danger. I can conceive the situation of persons who will receive the replies of the Trusteeship Council. These replies will be circulated throughout the territory and they will be understood as each one wishes to interpret them.

/I would simply

I would simply like to point out, for instance, that in reply to Group VIII of the petitions, the English text says the following:

"Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will take all possible steps to place native administration on a more representative basis."

The petitions in the field of indigenous administration are very varied and sometimes contradictory. I do not know how the French texts indicate the words "take all possible steps", but it is clear that the sponsors of certain petitions will interpret the reply of the Trusteeship Council as meaning disapproval of the policy of the Administering Power, which is certainly not the intention either of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions or of the Trusteeship Council.

Similarly, with respect to Group XII, the following is stated:

"Invites the Administering Authority to undertake a general study of the most significant aspects of customary law in the Territory and to transmit the results of this study to the Council for its information."

Should that be interpreted as inviting the Administering Authority to carry out the codification of customs which some people propose? I do not think this is the intention of the Council. But the question is how it will be interpreted.

With respect to Group XIII, the following is stated:

"Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will not allow European immigration to prejudice the economic development of the indigenous inhabitants."

Here again, everything depends on the manner in which this reply will be understood. In point of fact, the Trusteeship Council expresses a hope which is quite a reasonable one and which it was even superfluous to express. First of all, it says that confidence is expressed in the policy of the Administration with regard to immigration. Then we express the hope that the Administration will not allow European immigration to become harmful to the development of indigenous economy. Some may understand, as it should be understood, that it

/is something which

is something which does not in any way modify the first paragraph. However, others will say that the Trusteeship Council agrees and asks that European immigration be prevented from harming the economic development of populations. That means that the Council considers that European immigration is harmful to the economic development of the population; whereas European immigration is absolutely essential for the economic development of the population. Therefore, I think that we might have considered some of these resolutions a little more in detail. If the Council is prepared to vote for it en bloc, I shall not propose this procedure.

Mr. AQUINO (Philippines): We had hoped that it would be possible for the Council to adopt the Reports of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions in toto, as suggested by the President and supported by the delegations of the United States and the United Kingdom. The questions raised by the representative of Belgium, however, make it necessary for the Committee, or a member thereof, to point out certain salient facts surrounding the adoption of the resolutions singled out by him.

The representative of Belgium expresses misgivings as to the context and meaning of this positive portion of resolution VIII, where the Trusteeship Council expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will take all possible steps to place native administration on a more representative basis. Contrary to his fears, this does not in any manner imply even the mildest disapproval of the policy of the Administering Authority with respect to the representation of the indigenous inhabitants in positions of local administration. It will be noted in the record that the ad hoc Committee on Petitions took cognizance of the steps that had already been taken by the Administering Authority towards placing native administration on a more representative basis. When the Trusteeship Council expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will take all possible steps to place native administration on a more representative basis, it means that it hopes that all such steps as have hitherto not been taken by the Administering Authority and which are possible under the circumstances, will be taken by the Administering Authority towards the same end.

/The representative

The representative of Belgium raises the question as to whether the resolution on the study of the significant aspects of local customs or customary law, as the case may be, would imply an obligation on the part of the Administering Authority to seek or bring about a codification of native or customary laws.

As a member of the Committee, we desire to point out that no such ambitious project was envisaged at this stage by the Ad Hoc Committee on Petitions. My delegation took the view that while this would be a most desirable end, it would, at best, be visionary to envisage a project of codification at this stage. We pointed out to the Committee that the Spanish Civil Code, probably the most comprehensive civil code in the world today, was evolved through ages of progressive evolution. We agreed with the representatives of the Dominican Republic and of France that the most that could be attempted at this time is a study of the significant aspects of customary law, with a view to making the results of such study available to the authorities concerned, and also to reporting them to the Trusteeship Council.

We, for our part, believe that no construction other than that which appears on its face, should be placed upon this resolution.

With respect to European immigration, we wish to state that, for its part, my delegation would not place upon the resolution before us a prohibitive interpretation with respect to the immigration of Europeans to the Trust Territory. Just as we stated with respect to the preceding resolution, we would place upon this resolution only the construction that appears upon its face.

While we can very well appreciate the misgivings of the representative of Belgium with respect to the language and the possible construction of the three resolutions singled out by him, we for our part believe that while it would be useful to take them into account for future reference, they should not militate against approval of the six reports of the Committee in toto, as previously proposed.

/Mr. DUSSAUT

Mr. DUSSAUT (Argentina) (Interpretation from French): The fact that the representative of Belgium could only find two or three cases in this series of resolutions, shows that the Report as a whole is a very good one, and I think that his doubts were clarified during the debates which have taken place in the Council. Therefore, I think that we might accept these resolutions as they stand, without this being in any way prejudicial to our work, and also accept the Report as a whole.

Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq): I was going to say practically the same thing. The point raised by Mr. Ryckmans has now, I hope, been explained satisfactorily by our colleague from the Philippines who, like all the other members of the Committee, very actively participated in the work of that Committee. The President and the representative of the United States of America rightly have suggested the adoption of the whole report as it stands. I think the Committee has done a very good work and is to be congratulated on its sustained effort in that respect. I believe we might now proceed to adopt the whole of the report in toto.

The Acting PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): If there are no further observations, I shall put the proposal of the representative of the United States to the vote. It was not a proposal of the Chair, as some of our colleagues have said. The Chair suggested a method of procedure, which was that we took the report in toto and if there were any objections to any given resolution, that could be discussed, but as regards the rest there would be no need for discussion. The representative of the United States of America took up my idea in its most positive part and proposed that the report be approved in toto without any change. We have heard the opinions of the majority of the members of the Council. Two or three delegations have not given their opinions, but they were members of the Committee which considered the petitions and that implies that they agree with the text.

Mr. FRANCO y FRANCO (Dominican Republic) (Interpretation from French): I would have preferred not to have spoken, in order not to protract unduly our work, but I would take the liberty of expressing to the representative of Belgium, whose very clear and practical mind I am well acquainted, that the Committee always attempted in its draft resolutions to follow a balanced course. This is completely clarified by the reading of the reports of the various meetings which the Committee held. In the three cases to which the representative of Belgium referred, I may assure him that neither the spirit nor the terms chosen by the Committee were intended to lead us to the adoption of solutions which would not comply with this concern for equilibrium and justice which the Committee always

attempted to achieve. It is possible that some sentences may have led one to believe that this was not always the case with these three concrete points in these three draft resolutions concerning the groups of petitions.

If we take, for instance, draft resolution VIII, which deals with the question of native administration, it will be seen that the Committee wished the hope to be expressed that the Administering Authority would take all necessary steps to place the indigenous administration on a more representative basis. It only did this after it had taken note of the statement of the Administering Authority which shows that it is concerned with respecting, insofar as they are not contrary to democratic evolution, all traditional institutions. Therefore, when we see that this hope is expressed in the draft resolution, we see that due account has been taken of this wish of the Committee to take note of such statements. Therefore, the Committee gave complete credit to the declaration of the Administering Authority. Of course, the Committee does not ignore the fact that as it is a question of political evolution among these populations, and evolution which as yet is far from being achieved, this evolution can only be progressive and gradual and everyone knows that there is still a great deal to be done in this field. That is quite logical, because the effort of the Administering Authority has been a considerable one, but the task is still a very heavy one. That is why it is here hoped that the Administering Authority will take all possible steps, and the word "possible" is a safeguard, since it takes into account all human possibilities, to place native administration on a more representative basis.

With regard to the question of the codification of customs, this codification is desired but we did not lend an ear completely to this petition because we realised that such a thing was impossible and that, even if it had been possible, there would have been more disadvantage than advantage in such a course. That is why the Committee was influenced in this sense by the representative of France. The Committee did not wish to recommend such a codification; it simply wished to request the Administering Authority to undertake a study of the problem of customary law, and once this study has been completed the Administering Authority shall inform the Council and the question can then be examined as to whether it is advisable to contemplate the codification of customary law. In that case, each

one of the members of the Council will have every opportunity of expressing his opinion on the substance of the matter. I state here and now that not only have I realised the importance of doing this, but also the danger that might be entailed if such a petition were heeded completely. The study which is requested of the Administering Authority may already have been begun by the Administering Authority. It is, in any case, a study of a very general character in order to devise some sort of codification in the future.

As to resolution XIII, here confidence is expressed in the first place in the policy adopted by the Administering Authority in respect to immigration, but the hope is expressed at the same time that in the future this policy will be maintained and developed. This is the meaning of the second paragraph of the operative part of this draft resolution; it expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will not allow European immigration to prejudice the economic development of the indigenous inhabitants. We speak of the future, after expressing confidence in the policy adopted by the Administering Authority in regard to immigration. That means that that policy followed in the past should continue in the future.

Of course, the task of the Committee has been a wearisome one. Day after day, sometimes twice a day, we have been obliged to study and consider and make and remake our draft resolutions in order to present them in the most balanced manner possible and to make them most consistent with the spirit of justice which guided us. Of course, it may be possible that in certain given cases another word may have been better than the one we used, but if the Council compares paragraphs 1 and 2 of the operative part of resolution XIII it will be seen that this resolution is completely balanced. On the one hand, we express complete confidence in what has been done by the Administering Authority up to that time, and immediately afterwards we express the hope that such policy will be continued in the future and developed. I know the very lucid mind of the representative of Belgium and since, on the other hand, my colleague from the Philippines has already explained in great detail the opinions of his colleagues in the Committee on this subject, this will be all that I have to say.

/Mr. RYCKMANS

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) (Interpretation from French): I should not like the few remarks which I made to appear to be a criticism levelled at the Committee. I confess that I was dumbfounded to see the magnificent task which the Committee has done in unravelling this skein which appeared to be completely impossible to unravel. These petitions have been analysed, grouped and screened. Each one of them has been given a reply which I admit contains a spirit of justice and equilibrium. The remarks I made were not directed as a criticism against the formulae adopted by the members of the Committee, but only to state a fear that the equilibrium which the Committee has achieved in such a delicate manner might perhaps not be understood by people whose knowledge of French and of shades of meaning unfortunately is not always as perfect as might be hoped. For instance, I understand full well the intention of the Committee when it speaks of taking "all possible measures". Our colleague from the Philippines expressed this very well; they are measures which are possible at present under the circumstances, but to say that all possible measures shall be taken may be interpreted by people who wish to draw an argument from it in favour of their thesis as saying that all measures are possible and all measures must be taken, and if any given step which they suggest is not taken, then every possible step has not been taken.

That is what I fear. I fear that in the equilibrium which has been carefully maintained beyond criticism and praise, and in the concern for justice and expediency, the Committee in certain circumstances may have adopted formulae which, when the reply reaches the Cameroons, may be interpreted somewhat as the oracles of Sibylle de Cumes, who made each one say what he wished so that in the reply one always found what one wanted to find. In those replies, there was always the possibility of drawing arguments in favour of one's thesis, and the Sibylle always appeared to be right, since there was always the possibility of interpreting the answers in various ways.

Having said this, however, I am not opposed to the adoption en bloc of the report, and once again I pay tribute to the task accomplished by the Committee. I am convinced that if everyone could read of this debate, for instance, and understand the resolutions in the light of today's debate, no harm would be done. The resolutions are good in themselves; the only danger is that people might not always appreciate the justice and delicacy of these resolutions and that they may take from them what they like and leave what they do not like.

Mr. HOO (Assistant Secretary General in charge of Trusteeship Affairs and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories) (Interpretation from French): The reference which has just been made by the representative of Belgium leads me to explain that when we reply to the petitioners we shall also send them the records of today's debates so that all the explanations that have been given will be brought to their notice.

Mr. LIU (China): My delegation, having been a member of the Committee, I have not deemed it necessary to make any further remarks in the Council, as the President has very correctly stated, because we are in complete agreement with all the resolutions contained in the report before us, I have nothing to add to the very lucid clarifications which have been made by some members of the Committee regarding the points raised in the debate in the Council. I should not, however, let this opportunity go by without giving some expression to the gratitude and satisfaction with which my delegation greets the valuable contributions which have been made by the other members of the Committee to the very complex and difficult tasks which were assigned to the Committee and the satisfactory result which has been achieved. I particularly wish to pay my delegation's tribute to the Chairman of the Committee for the skill and ability with which he conducted the numerous and difficult discussions of the Committee and with which he guided the Committee to the successful conclusion of its work. After these remarks, perhaps we may proceed to vote on the adoption of the report.

The Acting PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): I think we may now proceed to the vote in conformity with the proposal of the representative of the United States of America, that is, to the vote on the report as a whole. It is the sixth report of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions, document T/L.77.

The report was adopted unanimously.

The Acting PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): We shall now pass to the seventh report of the ad hoc Committee on Petitions, which contains a dozen resolutions concerning sixteen petitions. The report contains three resolutions asking that no action be taken, four encouraging the Administering Authority to

/pursue a definite

pursue a definite policy or inviting it to take certain steps in conformity with the points raised. Four resolutions contain the texts of resolutions already passed by the Council and one recommends the petitioner to apply to the local courts.

Mr. SAYRE (United States of America): This report is very similar in its form to the sixth report which we have just adopted. It maintains the same excellence and merits the same appreciation of the Council for the work of the Committee. I move its adoption in toto.

Mr. LAURENTIE (France) (Interpretation from French): The Secretariat informed us this morning that unfortunately, because of the short time, it was not in a position to circulate the report in French this morning, so that we shall have to work on the English text. Personally, I do not see any difficulty in this, since I attended the meetings of the Committee and I know quite well how the conclusions are drafted. These conclusions are as good as it can be hoped they would be. I think Ambassador Franco y Franco will not see any difficulty either, in view of the fact that he also took part in the work of the Committee and he knows what is contained in the resolutions. In these circumstances, I think we might, as proposed by the representative of the United States of America pass to a vote on the report in toto.

Mr. FRANCO y FRANCO (Dominican Republic) (Interpretation from French): I accept the solution proposed that we work on the English text, because the Secretariat always has been concerned to grant me a special interpreter and in that way I was able to follow in all the detail and with all the attention required the work of drafting in the Committee.

The Acting PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): If there are no further observations we shall proceed in the same way as we proceeded with the first report and, in conformity with the proposal of the representative of the United States of America, I shall put the report to the vote in toto.

The report was adopted unanimously.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): In spite of the fact that the agenda provided for two meetings to-day, we have now completed the morning's agenda and the Assistant Secretary General suggests that, if the Council sees no drawback to such a procedure and the representative of the United Kingdom does not object, we might continue with the Report on the Petitions from the Cameroons under British Administration, which was reserved for this afternoon.

As there is no objection, we might begin with the Third Report. We have before us the Third, Fourth and Fifth Reports of the Ad Hoc Committee on Petitions.

Mr. LAKING (New Zealand): I was under the impression that we had adopted the Third Report and that only the Fourth and Fifth Reports were before us.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): The Assistant Secretary General informs me that only the First and Second Reports were adopted.

The Third Report includes two petitions, one from Joseph Mosenja and one from Carl Peter Albrechtsen. In the first case, the Committee recommends that the petitioner apply to the local courts, and in the second case, it states that no action should be taken.

Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq): I believe we are all agreed that the Committee has done an excellent job, not only in connection with the Reports already adopted by the Council but in connection with all the Reports on which they have worked. In that case, perhaps we might adopt this Report as expeditiously as we have adopted the others.

Mr. LAKING (New Zealand): I agree entirely with what has been said by the representative of Iraq, and I would propose the adoption of the Third, Fourth and Fifth Reports at this minute.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): The representative of New Zealand has widened the proposal of the representative of Iraq. However,

/I believe we must

I believe we must vote separately on each Report.

Mr. GERIG (United States of America): I agree with the proposals that have just been made and seconded, and I would add that we adopt the Eighth Report at the same time. I do not think that was mentioned by the representative of New Zealand, but it would complete all the Reports now before the Council.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): As there are no further observations, we shall proceed to a vote on the Third Report.

Mr. KHALIDY (Iraq): I thought the proposal was to vote all the Reports that remained at one time.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): The Chair considers them as different documents and believes that each one must be voted separately.

We shall proceed to a vote on the Third Report.

The Report was adopted unanimously.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): We shall now proceed to a vote on the Fourth Report in conformity with the proposal of the representatives of Iraq, New Zealand and the United States.

The Report was adopted unanimously.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): We shall now proceed to a vote on the Fifth Report.

The Report was adopted unanimously.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): We shall now proceed to a vote on the Eighth Report.

The Report was adopted unanimously.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): We have now completed our agenda for this morning and this afternoon. This is an innovation in our procedure and our history.

Mr. PEACHEY (Australia): On behalf of the Committee on Petitions, I should like to thank the members of the Council who have praised the work of the Committee and expressed satisfaction with the task we have performed. The Committee worked long and hard, and it was only with the cooperation and goodwill of all members of the Committee that we were able to achieve what looked like a rather impossible task when we first sat down to it.

We had many difficulties in the Committee. First of all, it was not until very late in this session that the Council decided to give the Ad Hoc Committee the task of examining petitions presented to the Visiting Mission. That meant the processing of documents, translation and so on, which presented quite a difficulty for the Secretariat and which was admirably overcome. We had further difficulty in that it was not possible to make simultaneous interpretation available in a really satisfactory way, and I should like to express the appreciation of the other members of the Committee for the excellent cooperation of the representatives of the Dominican Republic and France for allowing the Committee to continue its work and to have simultaneous interpretation in a rather strange manner, that is, by having interpreters whisper simultaneously as we went on with our work. I estimate that that approximately halved the time it took us to carry out our discussions, and was, I should imagine, not entirely satisfactory to the two representatives concerned. Therefore, I should like to express our sincere thanks for their sacrifice in this direction.

I should also like to express the Committee's appreciation for very hard and thorough and good work done by the Secretariat which assisted the Committee, and to thank the Council for its confidence in adopting our Reports so rapidly this morning.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): I think I interpret the feelings of all members of the Council when I renew our congratulations to the Chairman and members of the Committee on Petitions.

Mr. LAKING (New Zealand): I merely wanted to make an enquiry about the future work of the Council. As I understand, we are not to take up the one remaining item on our agenda until to-morrow afternoon and that the only

reason for the delay until that time is to enable the final draft to be revised by certain members of the Council. As we are now ready to take up that work, it seems to me we might consider the possibility of taking it up somewhat earlier than to-morrow afternoon and perhaps fixing the closing date of the Council somewhat earlier than Thursday. I appreciate the fact that the United Kingdom representative who was to be responsible for part of that revision will not be here until sometime after midday to-day, but I wonder whether, in those circumstances, it might not be possible to take up Jerusalem to-morrow morning with a view to completing the work of the Council either to-morrow afternoon or, at the latest, on Wednesday.

I am not greatly concerned about that except that my delegation has made certain dispositions on the assumption that the Council would end on Thursday, but, if there is a firm prospect of ending to-morrow, I should like to have an opportunity of altering those arrangements.

Mr. AQUINO (Philippines): We were about to make the same enquiry as the one made by the representative of New Zealand. We would go even further. We would urge the Council to go out of its way to ensure that it meet to-morrow morning on the question of Jerusalem. Like the representative of New Zealand, we express the hope that, instead of adjourning on the 6th, we might adjourn to-morrow night or Wednesday.

We believe that a revision of our working schedule to this end would give the various delegations more time to spend for themselves and would, we hope, lighten the burden, however slightly, of the over-burdened Secretariat. Therefore, we would ask that extra efforts be exerted to ensure that we meet to-morrow morning on Jerusalem.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): The point raised by the representatives of New Zealand and the Philippines will be considered in consultation with the Secretariat. We are expecting Mr. Fletcher-Cooke to be here to-morrow. Delegations will be informed during the day to-day as to whether we can or can not meet to-morrow morning to begin the discussion on Jerusalem. However, we can not decide that point at the present moment because there are certain details which have to be considered.

Mr. HOO (Assistant Secretary General): The Council decided the other day that Mr. Fletcher-Cooke and Mr. de Leusse would go over the statute for Jerusalem once more. Mr. Fletcher-Cooke said he would be here to-day at 2.30 p.m. If he comes at 2.30 p.m. and he and Mr. de Leusse finish the revision of the statute by 4 o'clock - I do not think it will take very long - we can have the document distributed this evening, and the Council could meet to-morrow morning.

Mr. LAKING (New Zealand): I am grateful for that clarification. The point about which I am particularly concerned is the actual closing date of the Council. I wonder whether, if we could meet to-morrow morning, we might not be able to take a decision as to when we will conclude our work. I should think myself that we could finish to-morrow or Wednesday morning, at the latest. I wonder if that point could be borne in mind for consideration by the Council at the next meeting.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (Interpretation from French): I think it is very likely that we shall be able to meet to-morrow morning. Delegations will be informed as to whether the work will be ready for them, and the texts will be circulated this evening. Of course, that will depend on the work done this afternoon. I hope, however, that we shall be able to meet to-morrow morning, and the Assistant Secretary General believes that we will be able to do so.

We shall, therefore, adjourn the meeting, and delegations will be informed regarding the time of the next meeting.

The meeting rose at 11.55 a.m.
