



Eleventh session
Agenda item 13

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Report of the Fourth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. F.H. SOWARD (Canada)

1. At its 578th plenary meeting held on 15 November 1956, the General Assembly decided to allocate to the Fourth Committee the following item on its agenda:

"Report of the Trusteeship Council"^{1/}

2. In connexion with this item the Committee had before it several requests^{2/} for hearings concerning Trust Territories which it granted as follows:

Togoland under British administration

(a) Mr. V.K. Seneadza (decision taken at the 552nd meeting with Belgium dissenting).

Tanganyika

(b) Tanganyika African National Union (decision taken at the 552nd meeting with Belgium dissenting).

Cameroons under French administration

(c) Association Bamiléké à Yaoundé (decision taken at the 552nd meeting with Belgium dissenting).

(d) Jeunesse démocratique du Cameroun (decision taken at the 552nd meeting by 30 votes to 13, with 5 abstentions).

^{1/} See Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/3170).

^{2/} A/C.4/330 and Add.1 to 29.

- (e) Union démocratique des femmes camerounaises (decision taken at the 552nd meeting by 30 votes to 13, with 5 abstentions).
- (f) Kamerun's Women Democratic Union of Tombel (decision taken without objection at the 554th meeting).
- (g) Association des Notables kamerunais (decision taken without objection at the 556th meeting).
- (h) Union des populations du Cameroun (decision taken at the 556th meeting by 30 votes to 11, with 6 abstentions).
- (i) A number of notables of the village of Bakam (decision taken without objection at the 585th meeting).
- (j) Association of Kamerunian Notables of the Coastal Zone of Kribi (decision taken at the 627th meeting by 36 votes to 9, with 9 abstentions).
- (k) Association des Etudiants camerounais (decision taken without objection at the 629th meeting).

3. In fact, as is shown in the following paragraphs, only three of the petitioners who had been granted hearings, appeared before the Committee.

4. At the request of the petitioner, the Committee agreed to hear Mr. Julius K. Nyerere, President of the Tanganyika African National Union before beginning its consideration of the Trusteeship Council's report. Mr. Nyerere accordingly made a statement at the 579th meeting and questions were addressed to him by members of the Committee during the 582nd meeting.

5. The Committee began its consideration of the report at its 627th meeting, on 9 February 1957, when it was introduced by the President of the Trusteeship Council, Mr. Rafik Asha (Syria).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee discussed a number of communications^{3/} from petitioners to whom it had granted hearings requesting assistance from the United Nations in obtaining travel documents. In this connexion, the Committee also considered a memorandum^{4/} on the matter prepared by the Secretary-General pursuant to the resolution adopted by the Fourth Committee at its 510th meeting on 15 November 1955.

^{3/} A/C.4/330/Add.4 to 26.

^{4/} A/C.4/333.

7. At the 628th meeting, the Committee decided, without objection, to invite Mr. Edmundo de Holte-Castello, representative of the United Nations Advisory Council for the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration, to participate in its work for all questions pertaining to that Territory.
8. The general debate on the item began during the 628th meeting and continued until the 636th meeting.
9. At the 638th meeting, the Committee heard a statement by Mr. Marcel Bebey-Eyidi, representing the Association des Notables kamerunais, who was accompanied by Mr. Anatole Kaminyi, of the same organization. Members of the Committee addressed questions to the petitioner at that meeting and also at the 640th and 641st meetings.
10. At the 640th meeting, the Committee heard a statement by Mr. Winston Ntumazah, representing the Union des Populations du Cameroun, who also answered questions addressed to him by members of the Committee both at that meeting and at the 641st meeting. The representative of France, who at the 638th meeting had made a statement explaining the position of his Government regarding the legal status of the organization in the Trust Territory, withdrew during the hearing of this petitioner.
11. During the Committee's consideration of the item, six draft resolutions were submitted dealing with the following questions:
 - (a) Travel documents of petitioners;
 - (b) Offers by States Members of the United Nations of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories;
 - (c) Attainment of self-government or independence by Trust Territories;
 - (d) The future of the Trust Territory of Tanganyika;
 - (e) Report of the Trusteeship Council;
 - (f) Hearings of petitioners from the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration.
12. A detailed account of the Committee's consideration of these questions is set forth in section A to F below.

A. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF PETITIONERS

13. As stated in paragraph 6 above, the Committee, at its 627th meeting, discussed a number of communications from petitioners to whom it had granted hearings requesting assistance from the United Nations in obtaining travel documents. The Committee also considered a memorandum on the matter prepared by the Secretary-General.

14. At the 630th meeting, Greece, Nepal and the Sudan submitted a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.474) in connexion with the difficulties in obtaining travel documents encountered by certain petitioners in the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration, whereby the General Assembly would invite the Administering Members concerned to grant the petitioners travel documents to enable them to appear before the appropriate organs of the United Nations when granted hearings and to return thereafter to their places of residence.

15. The Committee considered the draft resolution at its 632nd meeting in the course of which the representative of India proposed an oral amendment to insert the words "referred to in this resolution" after the word "petitioners" in the operative paragraph. This amendment was accepted by the sponsors.

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution as amended, by 37 votes to 13, with 9 abstentions.

17. The text of the draft resolution is reproduced at the end of the present report as draft resolution I.

B. OFFERS BY STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OF STUDY AND TRAINING FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES

18. At the 635th meeting, Czechoslovakia, Syria and Yemen submitted a draft resolution which was later revised (A/C.4/L.479/Rev.1) whereby the General Assembly would: (1) request the Member States administering Trust Territories to take all the necessary measures to ensure that scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States pursuant to General Assembly resolution 557 (VI) would be utilized by inhabitants of the Trust Territories and to render every assistance to those persons who had been granted scholarships or fellowships; (2) request the Trusteeship Council

to consider how such scholarships and training facilities were being utilized and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twelfth session; (3) invite the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at the same session a detailed report on the actual use of these scholarships and training facilities.

19. At the 636th meeting, the Committee considered and voted upon the draft resolution as follows:

The preamble was adopted by 46 votes to none, with 10 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 42 votes to 5, with 9 abstentions.

Operative paragraphs 2 and 3 were adopted by 46 votes to none, with 11 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 45 votes to 3, with 11 abstentions.

20. The text of the draft resolution is reproduced at the end of the present report as draft resolution II.

C. ATTAINMENT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT OR INDEPENDENCE BY TRUST TERRITORIES

21. At the 628th meeting, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics submitted a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.472) concerning the establishment of time limits for the attainment of independence by the Trust Territories whereby the General Assembly would: (1) recommend that the Administering Authorities take the necessary measures to ensure that the Trust Territories of Tanganyika, the Cameroons under British administration, the Cameroons under French administration, Ruanda-Urundi and New Guinea achieve independence within three to five years; (2) request the Administering Authorities to fix specific time limits for the attainment of self-government and independence by other Trust Territories in conformity with General Assembly resolution 558 (VI); invite the Administering Authorities to report on the action taken to the Trusteeship Council at its nineteenth and twentieth sessions; and (4) request the Trusteeship Council to report on the implementation of the resolution to the General Assembly at its twelfth session.

22. The Committee considered the draft resolution at its 637th to 639th meetings, in the course of which a number of amendments were proposed by the representatives of Syria and India, and were accepted by the sponsor of the draft resolution. The revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.472/Rev.1) was further amended

(a) to take into account two proposals made by Syria (A/C.4/L.480) to replace in the last paragraph of the preamble the words "within three to five years" by "in the near future" and in operative paragraph 1 the same words by "at an early date"; to replace the word "Requests" by "Invites" in operative paragraph 2.

23. At its 639th meeting the Committee voted upon the amended text of the draft resolution as follows:

The first four paragraphs of the preamble were adopted by 43 votes to 6, with 11 abstentions.

The fifth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 34 votes to 13, with 10 abstentions.

The sixth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 30 votes to 16, with 14 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 38 votes to 12, with 10 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 2 was adopted by 34 votes to 12, with 13 abstentions.

Operative paragraphs 3 and 4 were adopted by 38 votes to 10, with 12 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by a roll-call vote of 38 to 13, with 11 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cambodia, Ceylon, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Saudi-Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Portugal, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: Brazil, China, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Finland, Honduras, Israel, Italy, Nicaragua, Spain, Turkey.

24. The draft resolution is reproduced at the end of the present report as draft resolution III.

D. THE FUTURE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF TANGANYIKA

25. As noted in paragraph 4 above, Mr. Julius K. Nyerere, President of the Tanganyika African National Union, appeared as a petitioner before the Committee and made a statement at the 579th meeting. Members of the Committee addressed questions to him at the 582nd meeting.
26. At the 634th meeting, Haiti submitted a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.477) whereby the General Assembly would: (1) draw the attention of the Administering Authority and the Trusteeship Council to the views expressed by the petitioner and to the relevant debates of the Fourth Committee; (2) recommend to the Administering Authority that it should consider making a statement on the policy it proposes to follow in Tanganyika and should include therein the principle that the Territory should be guided towards self-government or independence and should become an essentially African democratic State where all the inhabitants had equal rights; (3) recommend that the Trusteeship Council should instruct its next Visiting Mission to study in particular the question of Tanganyika's political development; and (4) recommend that the Trusteeship Council should include in its next report a special study of the problems mentioned above.
27. The Committee began consideration of the draft resolution at its 639th meeting, in the course of which oral amendments were proposed by the representatives of India, Peru and Venezuela, and were incorporated in a revised text of the draft resolution submitted by Haiti (A/C.4/L.477/Rev.1).
28. At the 641st meeting, the representative of India proposed an oral amendment to replace the words "the problems mentioned above" in operative paragraph 4 of the revised draft resolution by the words "the Territory's political development". This amendment was accepted by the sponsor.
29. At the same meeting, the Committee voted upon the revised draft resolution as follows:
- The first paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 36 votes to none, with 15 abstentions.
- The second paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 22 votes to none, with 29 abstentions.
- The third paragraph of the preamble was adopted without objection.

The fourth paragraph of the preamble was adopted by 38 votes to none, with 16 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 35 votes to 13, with 4 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 2 was adopted by a roll-call vote of 37 to 11, with 7 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Bulgaria, Burma, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ceylon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Liberia, Mexico, Morocco, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against: Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, United States of America.

Abstaining: Austria, Brazil, Israel, Italy, Japan, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Operative paragraphs 3 and 4, as amended, were adopted by 36 votes to 12, with 5 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole, as amended, was adopted by 34 votes to 14, with 4 abstentions.

30. The text of the draft resolution is reproduced at the end of the present report as draft resolution IV.

E. REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

31. At the 633rd meeting, Denmark submitted a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.476) whereby the General Assembly would take note of the Council's report and recommend that the Trusteeship Council, in its future deliberations, should take into account the comments and suggestions made in the course of the discussion of the report at the eleventh session of the General Assembly.

32. At the 641st meeting, the Committee considered the draft resolution and adopted it unanimously.

33. The text of the draft resolution is reproduced at the end of the present report as draft resolution V.

F. HEARING OF PETITIONERS FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY
OF THE CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

34. At the 643rd meeting, India, Yemen and Yugoslavia submitted a draft resolution (A/C.4/L.482) whereby the General Assembly would take note of the statements made before the Committee by the petitioners representing organizations in the Cameroons under French administration and would transmit them to the Trusteeship Council for its further study.

35. In the course of the Committee's discussion, the representative of Czechoslovakia proposed orally amendments which the sponsors subsequently included in a revised text of the draft resolution (A/C.4/L.482/Rev.1). In its revised form, the draft resolution provided additionally that the General Assembly would: (1) express the hope that the Administering Authority would take all necessary measures to restore political activity to normal conditions and to bring to an end the conditions which had characterized the political life of the Territory; and (2) recommend to the Trusteeship Council that it continue to pay attention to the matters dealt with in the resolution and report thereon to the General Assembly at its twelfth session.

36. The Committee voted upon the revised draft resolution at the same meeting as follows:

The two paragraphs of the preamble were adopted by 41 votes to 7, with 8 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 1 was adopted by 43 votes to 7, with 8 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 2 was adopted by 30 votes to 9, with 17 abstentions.

Operative paragraph 3 was adopted by 36 votes to 10, with 11 abstentions.

The draft resolution as a whole was adopted by 38 votes to 9, with 11 abstentions.

37. The draft resolution is reproduced at the end of the present report as draft resolution VI.

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38. The Fourth Committee therefore recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

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Draft Resolution I

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS OF PETITIONERS

The General Assembly,

Having received and granted several requests for hearings from petitioners in the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British administration and the Cameroons under French administration (A/C.4/330 and Add.1 to 26),

Having also received the memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/C.4/333),

Noting that the petitioners are finding it difficult to obtain travel documents,

Considering that the exercise of the right of oral petition to the United Nations by the inhabitants of Territories under the International Trusteeship System should be facilitated,

Invites the Administering Members concerned to grant the petitioners referred to in this resolution travel documents to enable them to appear before the proper organs of the United Nations for hearings when granted by such organs and to return thereafter to their places of residence.

Draft Resolution II

OFFERS BY STATES MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS OF STUDY AND TRAINING
FACILITIES FOR INHABITANTS OF TRUST TERRITORIES

The General Assembly,

Noting from the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/3170) the results of the project of scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to inhabitants of Trust Territories pursuant to General Assembly resolution 557 (VI), of 18 January 1952,

Noting that the major part of the scholarships offered by Member States remains unutilized,

Recalling that in its resolution 753 (VIII) of 9 December 1953, the General Assembly recommended that the Administering Authorities of the Trust Territories take all such measures as would ensure the greatest possible use by inhabitants of the Trust Territories of the scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States,

1. Requests the Member States administering Trust Territories to take all the necessary measures to ensure that scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States be utilized by inhabitants of the Trust Territories, and to render every assistance to those persons who have been granted scholarships or fellowships;

2. Requests the Trusteeship Council to consider, at its sessions in 1957, the question of the way in which the scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States are being utilized by inhabitants of Trust Territories and to report to the General Assembly at its twelfth session;

3. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its twelfth session a detailed report on the actual use of scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States for the education of the inhabitants of Trust Territories.

Draft Resolution III

ATTAINMENT OF SELF-GOVERNMENT OR INDEPENDENCE BY TRUST TERRITORIES

The General Assembly,

Taking into account that in accordance with the principles of the Charter one of the basic objectives of the International Trusteeship System is the progressive development of the populations of Trust Territories towards self-government or independence,

Taking into account that, under General Assembly resolution 289 A (IV), of 21 November 1949, the Trust Territory of Somaliland under Italian administration is to attain complete independence by 1960, and that, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Assembly on 13 December 1956 (A/RES/425), the Trust Territory of Togoland under British administration is to attain independence in 1957 through union with an independent Gold Coast,

Recalling that the General Assembly, in its resolution 558 (VI) of 18 January 1952, invited the Administering Authority of each Trust Territory to determine the period of time in which it was expected that the Trust Territory concerned should attain self-government or independence, and also taking into account that this question has been repeatedly discussed at subsequent sessions of the General Assembly,

Noting that the Trusteeship Council, in its report to the eleventh session of the General Assembly (A/3170), drew the attention of the General Assembly to the fact that up to now the Administering Authorities have not fixed such time limits,

Attaching great importance to the fixing of definite time limits for the termination of trusteeship in Trust Territories and for the granting of self-government or independence to the peoples of these Territories,

Being firmly convinced that most Trust Territories are fully capable of attaining self-government or independence in the near future;

1. Recommends that the Administering Authorities take the necessary measures to ensure that the Trust Territories of Tanganyika, the Cameroons under British administration, the Cameroons under French administration, Togoland under French administration and Ruanda-Urundi achieve self-government or independence at an early date;

2. Invites the Administering Authorities to estimate the period of time required for the attainment of self-government or independence by all Trust Territories in conformity with General Assembly resolution 558 (VI) and the present resolution;

3. Invites the Administering Authorities to submit appropriate information on the implementation of paragraphs 1 and 2 above to the Trusteeship Council at its nineteenth and twentieth sessions;

4. Requests the Trusteeship Council to report to the General Assembly at its twelfth session on the progress made in implementing the present resolution.

Draft Resolution IV

THE FUTURE OF THE TRUST TERRITORY OF TANGANYIKA

The General Assembly,

Having heard, during a hearing granted by the Fourth Committee, the statements of Mr. J. Nyerere, President of the Tanganyika African National Union, on the situation and the future of the Trust Territory of Tanganyika,

Having noted, in particular, the views expressed by the petitioner:

(a) That the Administering Authority should declare that the aim of its policy is to develop that Territory into a democratic State,

(b) That, as an interim measure for the near future, the Constitution of the Territory should be so amended as to introduce parity of representation for Africans on the one hand, and non-Africans, on the other,

(c) That universal suffrage on a common roll should be introduced in the Territory,

Having studied that part of the Trusteeship Council's report (A/3170) which deals with Tanganyika,

Having noted that the Trusteeship Council has expressed the hope that the Administering Authority will continue with all possible speed the process of developing the Territory to the end that an integrated society will be established in which Africans will play their due part,

1. Draws the attention of the Administering Authority and the Trusteeship Council to the views expressed by the President of the Tanganyika African National Union and to the relevant debates in the Fourth Committee;

2. Recommends to the Administering Authority that it should consider making a statement on the policy it proposes to follow in Tanganyika and should, inter alia, include therein the principle that, in accordance with the principles of the International Trusteeship System, the Territory shall be guided towards self-government or independence and shall become a democratic State in which all inhabitants have equal rights;

3. Recommends to the Trusteeship Council that it instruct its periodic Visiting Mission, which will visit the Trust Territories in East Africa in 1957, to study in particular the question of Tanganyika's political development, in the light of such relevant information as it obtains from the Administering Authority and from representatives of the population of the Trust Territory;

4. Recommends that the Trusteeship Council include in its next reports, in the framework both of its annual examination of conditions in the Territory and of the question of the attainment by the Trust Territories of the objective of self-government or independence, a special study of the Territory's political development, in the light of the Visiting Mission's report and the information obtained from the Administering Authority.

Draft Resolution V

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report^{1/} of the Trusteeship Council covering the period from 23 July 1955 to 14 August 1956,

1. Takes note of the report of the Trusteeship Council;
2. Recommends that the Trusteeship Council, in its future deliberations, take into account the comments and suggestions made in the course of the discussion of the report at the eleventh session of the General Assembly.

Draft Resolution VI

HEARINGS OF PETITIONERS FROM THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE
CAMEROONS UNDER FRENCH ADMINISTRATION

The General Assembly,

Having granted, in the Fourth Committee, oral hearings to petitioners representing organizations in the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration,

Having studied that part of the Trusteeship Council's report (A/3170) which deals with the Trust Territory of the Cameroons under French administration,

1. Takes note of the statements of the petitioners and transmits them to the Trusteeship Council for its further study;
2. Expresses the hope that the Administering Authority will take all necessary measures to restore political activity to normal conditions and to bring to an end the tensions which have characterized the political life of the Territory;
3. Recommends to the Trusteeship Council that it continue to pay attention to the matters dealt with in the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its twelfth session.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Eleventh Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/3170).