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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION TRANSMITTED UNDER ARTICLE 73 e OF THE CHARTER

First Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING

Held at Lake Success, New York
on Friday, 8 September 1950 at 11.00 a.m.

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(b) Work of the Economic and Social Council, (A/AC.35/L.14, part IV, A/AC.35/L.14/Add.1, A/AC.35/L.14/Add.2, A/AC.35/L.19).

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Chairman: Mr. SHIVA RAO India
Rapporteur: Mr. Spits Netherlands

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<u>Members:</u> Mr. HAY	Australia
Mr. WENDELEN	Belgium
Mr. JOBIM	Brazil
Mr. LANNUNG	Denmark
Mr. EL MESSIRI	Egypt
Mr. GARREAU	France
Mr. de ARAOZ	Mexico
Mr. LAKING)	New Zealand
Mr. CRAW)	
Mr. LOPEZ	Philippines
Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Mr. GERIC	United States of America
Mr. ALAMO-BIANCO	Venezuela

Representatives of specialized agencies:

Mr. METALL	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Mr. DESTOMBES	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Dr. KAUL	World Health Organization (WHO)

Secretariat:

Mr. HOO	Assistant Secretary-General in charge of the Department of Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories.
Mr. BENSON	Secretary of the Committee

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IN REGARD TO ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS IN THE NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES: (a) COLLABORATION OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES (A/AC.35/L.14, part II, A/AC.35/L.14/Add.1, A/AC.35/L.14/Add.2, A/AC.35/L.9, A/AC.35/L.10, A/AC.35/L.12; (b) WORK OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, (A/AC.35/L.14, part IV, A/AC.35/L.14/Add.1, A/AC.35/L.14/Add.2, A/AC.35/L.19).

INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTED TO NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (A/AC.35/L.14, paragraphs 65 to 84, A/AC.35/L.19).

1. The CHAIRMAN read a draft resolution which he proposed to submit to the members of the Committee at a later meeting, after copies of it had been distributed by the Secretariat.

2. Mr. JOBIM (Brazil) wished to make a few observations on behalf of his delegation regarding items 9 and 10 of the agenda.

3. It appeared from documents A/AC.35/L.14 and A/AC.35/L.14/Add.1 that, so far, technical assistance had been accorded to the Non-Self-Governing Territories principally in the form of fellowships for study and training. It should of course be noted with satisfaction that the number of such fellowships had increased in comparison with preceding years and that the Administering Powers had recognized their importance. It was however nonetheless true that, the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories ought to be given a larger proportion of the fellowships granted by the United Nations and the specialized agencies. In that connexion, he recalled the Economic and Social Council resolution mentioned in document A/AC.35/L.19; that resolution recognized that the Non-Self-Governing Territories were eligible to receive technical assistance and drew the attention of the Technical Assistance Board and the Technical Assistance Committee to General Assembly resolution 331 (IV) as a guide in the Technical Assistance Board's allocation of funds under Economic and Social Council resolution 222 A (IX), paragraph 9 (d). He hoped that the Administering Powers would regard the resolution as an invitation to increase to the fullest possible extent the number of fellowships granted to students from the Non-Self-Governing Territories and that they would make an effort to simplify the administrative formalities involved in the selection of candidates so as to avoid any delay in the awarding of fellowships. He also hoped that the Administering Powers would give careful study to the proposals made in the report of the working party, regarding the procedure to be adopted in the awarding of fellowships.

4. Secondly, the ILO had failed to submit to the Committee a special report on labour conditions and problems in Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Committee had therefore been unable, on that particular subject, to engage in the interesting and fruitful exchanges of views to which, in other fields, the special reports drafted by the other specialized agencies (A/AC.35/L.9, A/AC.35/L.10 and A/AC.35/L.12) had given rise. The Brazilian representative admitted that, like all other specialized agencies, the ILO submitted to the United Nations an annual report on its activities which, where necessary, also covered the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Committee's previous debates on the subject matter of special reports had nevertheless clearly proved that such reports were in no way a duplication of the annual reports received from

the various specialized agencies. Moreover, under its resolution 331 (IV), the General Assembly could have been led to expect that the specialized agencies would, in addition to their annual reports, submit a survey of their activities in Non-Self-Governing Territories which would provide a useful guide to and facilitate the work of the Special Committee. He therefore expressed the hope that the International Labour Organisation would, in the future, submit such a report to the Special Committee.

5. Mr. METALL (International Labour Organisation) recalled that the Special Committee had agreed at its 1949 session that information concerning non-metropolitan territories could be provided either in special documents -- as had been done in the case of a few specialized agencies -- or in the annual report submitted by those agencies to the United Nations under the terms of their agreement with that Organization. At that time, he had pointed out to the Committee that to compel officials of the International Labour Office to submit special reports would add considerably to their administrative work and, moreover, would perhaps not be fully consistent with the constitutional provisions governing relations between the United Nations and the ILO under which it was incumbent on the latter to submit an annual report to the United Nations only and not to any of its organs. The ILO's current annual report, of which the French text covered 373 pages, had been submitted to the United Nations within the specified time limit and distributed to all Members. He believed that Chapter XIV of that report dealing with Non-Self-Governing Territories would give satisfaction to the members of the Special Committee. The International Labour Office was prepared to facilitate the work of the Special Committee and, for that matter, of any other United Nations organ but felt it necessary nevertheless to express reservations with respect to the submission of special reports. In that connexion, he recalled that the Brazilian delegation, both in the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and at the fourth session of the General Assembly, had objected to repetition and overlapping in the reports.

6. With respect to Mr. Jobim's reference to fellowships, he quoted the following passage from the ILO's fourth annual report to the United Nations:

"It (the Governing Body) decided that fifteen fellows will be selected during 1950, one from each of fifteen countries determined on the basis of geographical distribution. In addition, three fellows will be selected from non-autonomous territories under the control respectively of the United Kingdom, France and Belgium. The fields of study in which fellowships will be awarded will include employment organization, vocational training and guidance, social security administration, industrial relations, labour inspection and industrial health, safety and welfare." (Chapter XVIII).

7. It was a matter of regret that the number of fellowships awarded to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories was inadequate, but it should be borne in mind that budgetary provisions were limited and that it was for the governments themselves to increase budgetary appropriations and thus bring about a corresponding increase in the number of fellowships of which a portion would necessarily revert to the non-metropolitan territories.

8. Mr. SPIES (Rapporteur) in reply to a question put by the Chairman at an earlier meeting, stated that he had no detailed information with respect to the representation of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Netherlands delegations to the various committees and conferences concerned with the Non-Self-Governing Territories. He was nevertheless in a position to assure the Chairman that the Netherlands had always seen fit to include representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories in its delegations. For example, a representative from Surinam was attending the current session of the Special Committee, while two representatives from Dutch New Guinea had been sent to the last conference of the South Pacific Commission.

9. Mr. FLETCHER-COOPER (United Kingdom) felt that there was no reason for the ILO to submit a special report with respect to paragraph 3 of the General Assembly resolution 331(IV). The United Kingdom delegation had always taken the view that duplication should be avoided and expressed satisfaction at the information included in the ILO's annual report with respect to the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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10. Turning to another point, he observed that, subject to the necessary amendment, the United Kingdom had faithfully applied the ILO conventions to Non-Self-Governing Territories under United Kingdom administration. In fact, forty-six conventions had been ratified and enforced in those territories. The annual report submitted in 1950 by the ILO committee of experts had expressed satisfaction at the full and detailed reports transmitted by the United Kingdom with respect to the enforcement of ILO conventions.

11. With regard to the representation in United Kingdom delegations of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, he pointed out that representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories had attended the International Labour Conferences in 1949 and 1950.

12. Mr. JOBIM (Brazil) stated that the Brazilian delegation had, in fact, continually objected to the multiplicity of documents likely to duplicate one another. That did not mean, however, that it was not in favour of closer co-operation between the United Nations and the specialized agencies. The special reports, which were in no way duplications, provided a clear proof of that co-operation.

13. Mr. GARREAU (France) agreed that the previous year the Special Committee had tacitly agreed that all the information transmitted by the ILO on Non-Self-Governing Territories should be included in the annual report of that institution. Nevertheless, in order to reconcile the views expressed by the representatives of the ILO and of Brazil, he suggested that the Secretariat should be asked to prepare a separate document giving all information contained in the annual report of each of the specialized agencies regarding Non-Self-Governing Territories. That method would also have the advantage of enabling members of the Committee, who did not always have time to peruse the lengthy annual reports the thorough study of which was undertaken by the Economic and Social Council, to obtain more rapidly all available information on Non-Self-Governing Territories.

14. As to the application of ILO conventions, he pointed out that the previous year the French delegation had submitted to the Committee a complete list of the international labour conventions which had been ratified by France and were automatically applicable to Non-Self-Governing Territories subject to any amendments which might be necessary on account of local conditions or reasons which the French Government was required to explain to the ILO. It should also be noted that the majority of those conventions were applicable without amendment

to Non-Self-Governing Territories under French administration.

15. In conclusion, he agreed with Mr. Metall that budgetary difficulties did not permit any increase in the number of scholarships granted to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was therefore left to each Member State of the United Nations and to the specialized agencies to consider the question and to decide whether they were willing to make supplementary appropriations in order to increase the number of scholarships for students in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

16. The CHAIRMAN, speaking as the representative of India, wished to make some observations on the question of health. Document A/AC.35/L.9 submitted by the World Health Organization was very brief, but that brevity was clearly explained by the last paragraph of page 3 of the document, which read:

"The Constitution of WHO provides under article 61 for the submission of annual reports by each member of the Organization. The practice of reporting, however, has not yet become general, but is expected to be so during 1950."

17. The first paragraph of document A/AC.35/L.9 dealt with the lack of medical personnel and he was glad to note that that problem continued to have the attention of WHO which realized the necessity for training technical medical personnel.

18. He then quoted paragraph 23, 24 and 25 of document A/AC.35/L.14/Add.1 regarding the use of insecticides, particularly that of pyrethum for the prevention of malaria. He had had the opportunity of describing the ravages caused by malaria in India and he hoped that the WHO representative would be able to explain to the Committee the extent of the campaign undertaken by the WHO against that disease.

19. Turning to the positive measures taken in the medical field, he quoted part VI of document A/AC.35/L.10 which stated that the FAO had taken part in the African Conference on Food and Nutrition held in the French Camerouns in October 1949. He also noted that as a result of a recommendation of the African Regional Scientific Conference held at Johannesburg in October 1949, FAO was appointing a committee to study the indigenous breeds of livestock in Africa. He thought that FAO was directly concerned in that question, as the improvement of breeds of livestock in Non-Self-Governing Territories, apart from its important/ ^{consequences} in

/the agricultural

the agricultural field, had a definite influence upon the quantity and quality of the milk made available to the indigenous populations. He hoped that the WHO representative would be able to give some details of the studies undertaken by his Organization in that respect.

20. Dr. KAUL (World Health Organization) said he desired to refer to certain remarks made during the discussion on documents submitted by the specialized agencies.

21. He admitted that document A/AC.35/L.9 on collaboration with WHO was very brief but that was due to the fact that WHO, like other specialized agencies, had given all the necessary information in its annual report to the United Nations.

22. With regard to WHO activities in Non-Self-Governing Territories referred to on page 3 of the same document, he pointed out that that Organization had already received seven requests for assistance from Non-Self-Governing Territories. Some of those requests had been complied with, while others would be dealt with in the near future.

23. Requests for advice had also been sent to WHO.

24. As regards the type of assistance which WHO was asked to supply, he pointed out that French Somaliland had asked for a tuberculosis research centre to be set up, North Borneo had requested the assistance of the Organization in setting up a school for nurses and midwives, Hong Kong needed an anti-tuberculosis campaign, Malaysia required instruction courses for nurses and midwives, and Singapore had asked for a centre for the control of tuberculosis and for the study of BCG vaccine.

25. In reply to a question from the Chairman regarding the reports transmitted to WHO, he observed that the constitution of that body definitely provided that Member States must submit regular reports on the situation in their territories, but those States were not obliged to furnish, in addition, information on Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration unless those Territories were associate members of the Organization. Certain members had, however, transmitted information to WHO on Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration; when all members acted similarly, WHO would be in a better position to study in detail the progress made in the fields within its competence.

26. The World Health Organization had been represented at the African Conference on Food and Nutrition held in Africa in 1948 and had studied nutrition problems with interest. Moreover, FAO and WHO had set up a Joint Committee to examine the questions relating to nutrition. In that field, too, WHO would also attempt to meet all requests for assistance. As regards livestock improvement, he observed that the matter came almost entirely within the competence of FAO, although the related question of improvement in the quality of milk and, consequently, of the health of the inhabitants, were of the greatest interest to WHO. It was therefore logical that FAO should undertake the drafting of the documents relating to livestock improvement.

27. The World Health Organization was also dealing very actively with malaria in those countries where that scourge was endemic. It was considering the organization of a conference of representatives of WHO and experts, to be held in Africa towards the end of the year, to study the means of combating malaria.

28. In India, four WHO teams were assisting the Central Government and the State Governments in their campaign against malaria.

29. The World Health Organization proposed to carry out, in the near future, further studies on the problem of nutrition and malaria. Research work on malaria was already being undertaken in the Far East and in the Mediterranean countries. In that case again, WHO was ready to meet all requests for assistance as far as lay within its power.

30. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) was surprised that the representative of WHO had interpreted article 63 of the WHO Constitution as meaning that the members were not bound to submit information on health conditions in all the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration.

31. He considered that health problems were of paramount importance, irrespective of the part of the world in which they arose and that WHO should have adequate information regarding the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

32. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) also thought that the information transmitted to WHO should include information on the Non-Self-Governing Territories; it was not, perhaps, essential that such information should be as detailed as that required in the questionnaire, but there was no reason why the position in the Non-Self-Governing Territories should not be the subject of replies to certain parts of the questionnaire.

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33. He then drew the attention of the Special Committee to the question whether closer co-operation could be established between the Administering Authorities and certain specialized agencies.

34. It was a question of utilizing a product known as nutrient yeast; that foodstuff was produced in Jamaica under the auspices of the Colonial Development Corporation. Production had so far reached 500 tons a year but that figure could easily be doubled. Nutrient yeast was rich in proteins and vitamin B and could very usefully be added to other foodstuffs in order to increase their food value.

35. It had, however, been difficult to spread its consumption and the representations made to WHO, FAO and IRO with a view to facilitating its distribution to countries suffering from an insufficiency of food had not produced the results expected.

36. He thought that consumption of the product should be encouraged in the less favoured areas and wished to have the opinion of FAO and WHO on the matter.

37. Mr. HAY (Australia) also thought that there was no reason why the reports submitted to WHO by States members of that organization should not contain information on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under the administration of those States. Moreover, the Australian report for 1950 would contain such information.

38. Dr. KAUL (World Health Organization) observed that he had merely placed a literal interpretation on the terms of article 61 of the WHO constitution. He was glad to know that the reports of the Administering Powers contained information regarding their Non-Self-Governing Territories.

39. As regards the question of nutrient yeast raised by the representative of the United Kingdom, he thought that the representative of FAO was better able than he to provide definite information on the subject. However, he could say that the food value of the product was well known and that WHO was making a thorough study of the question of its utilization. He added that the question of intensive utilization of the product in the countries where the food position was less favourable had been considered at the food and nutrition conferences held in Africa and in the Far East.

40. Mr. GARREAU (France) said, in reply to the Chairman's comments on the number of doctors in relation to the population of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, that he wished to provide figures on the number of qualified doctors, figures which dated from 1948 and which were, therefore, considerably higher at the present time.

41. Morocco had 718 doctors for 9 million inhabitants, that was, one doctor for each 12,500 inhabitants; Tunisia had 563 doctors for 3,530,000 inhabitants, or one doctor to each 6,000 inhabitants; French West Africa had 900 doctors for 16 million inhabitants, or one doctor to each 14,500 inhabitants; Madagascar had 356 doctors for 5 million inhabitants, or one doctor to each 12,000 inhabitants, and French Equatorial Africa had 122 doctors for 3,450,000 inhabitants, or one doctor to each 27,000 inhabitants. It was true that the number of doctors in French Equatorial Africa was small; on the other hand, the figures relating to Madagascar and French West Africa, and, above all, Tunisia, could be regarded as more than creditable. The important thing was that the Administering Authorities should make a sufficient effort in the territories administered by them, taking into account the stage of development of the inhabitants, the difficulties in communications, budgetary difficulties and, above all, the time in which the results had been achieved.

42. If the territories in question were not administered by Powers with great financial resources, if, in other words, they were independent, it was quite possible that they would have still fewer doctors and their health conditions would be simply deplorable.

43. The results obtained had been achieved with the help of generous donations granted by the French Government. If the organization of the health services in these territories depended on local resources, there would probably be no more than one half or one quarter of the number of doctors at present practising.

44. The situation was therefore not perfect, but it in no way implied inefficiency or shirking on the part of the responsible authorities. An objective study of the figures showed the extent of the efforts made and the value of the results achieved.

45. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) said that collaboration between the specialized agencies and the various organs of the United Nations had become increasingly closer during the past years. The institutions had contributed usefully to the activities of the United Nations, not only by participating in debates but by helping to draw up and carry out the essential programmes of the Organization. This collaboration was of special importance for organs such as the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee, because of the urgency of the problems they had to solve and the extent of the programmes they had to carry out. In order to be fully efficient, such collaboration should be based on a complete exchange of views and information between these organs and the specialized agencies. The Philippine delegation, together with a large number of other delegations, was particularly anxious that this exchange of information should be increased during the years to come and that more and more frequent consultations should be held on all the questions that came within the scope of these organs. In that respect, Mr. Lopez drew the Committee's attention to a certain number of very valuable suggestions made by the specialized agencies for the revision of the Standard Form. The institutions wished the volume of information, which was of special interest to them, to be increased. The representative of the Philippines hoped therefore that when the Standard Form was revised the Committee would take those suggestions fully into account.

46. Mr. Lopez then invited the specialized agencies to make an effort to increase, on their part, the volume of information -- comparatively small at present -- which they furnished to the Committee. He hoped in particular that they would take the initiative of submitting to the Committee any documents that might, even indirectly, influence its work. The statement by experts on problems of race, which was published by UNESCO (E/CN.4/Sub.2/121), was a typical example. It was a document of capital importance, drafted by experts from various countries, and its scope was equal to that of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was of special interest to the Commission on Human Rights, the Trusteeship Council and the Special Committee, where questions of racial discrimination inevitably arose. In order to give an idea of the importance of this document, the representative of the Philippines read the following conclusions, of incalculable significance, which the experts had reached in regard to the problem of race:

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"(1) In matters of race, the only characteristics which anthropologists can effectively use as a basis for classifications are physical and physiological.

"(2) According to present knowledge there is no proof that the groups of mankind differ in their innate mental characteristics, whether in respect of intelligence or temperament. The scientific evidence indicates that the range of mental capacities in all ethnic groups is much the same.

"(3) Historical and sociological studies support the view that genetic differences are not of importance in determining the social and cultural differences between different groups of homo sapiens, and that the social and cultural changes in different groups have, in the main, been independent of changes in inborn constitution. Vast social changes have occurred which were not in any way connected with changes in racial type.

"(4) There is no evidence that race mixture as such produces bad results from the biological point of view. The social results of race mixture whether for good or ill are to be traced to social factors.

"(5) All normal human beings are capable of learning to share in a common life, to understand the nature of mutual service and reciprocity, and to respect social obligations and contracts. Such biological differences as exist between members of different ethnic groups have no relevance to problems of social and political organization, moral life and communication between human beings."

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON EDUCATION (A/AC.35/L.22): Additional paragraph

47. The CHAIRMAN proposed that the following new paragraph should be added to the end of the draft resolution on education adopted by the Committee the previous day:

"Approves the arrangements proposed by the Special Committee for its work in 1951."

48. He explained that this text was necessary as, without the approval of the General Assembly, decisions taken by the Committee concerning its programme of future work would not be valid.

49. Mr. CRAW (New Zealand) wondered whether a text of that nature was in place in a resolution on education.

50. Mr. FLETCHER-COOKE (United Kingdom) saw no disadvantage in adding the paragraph to the resolution in question, since the first paragraph of the resolution concerned the general report drawn up by the Committee and it was in the second paragraph only that the report on education itself was mentioned.

51. Mr. BENSON (Secretariat) explained that, with the addition proposed by the Chairman, the resolution would have four paragraphs, the first of which would take note of the Committee's general report, the second would approve the special report on education, the third would invite the Secretary-General to communicate that report to the administering authorities and to UNESCO, and the fourth would approve the programme of future work drawn up by the Committee.

The additional paragraph proposed by the Chairman was unanimously adopted.

DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THE REVISION OF THE STANDARD FORM, SUBMITTED BY THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (A/AC.35/L.23)

52. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) explained that the draft resolution submitted by his delegation was merely a summary of the principal points raised by the members of the Committee during the discussions on the revision of the Standard Form.

53. Mr. HAY (Australia) proposed that the end of the first paragraph of the draft should be amended as follows, in order to bring the text into line with Article 73 e of the Charter:

"...to be used as a guide for the preparation by the Administering Members of the information to be transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter in respect of 1952 and subsequent years."

54. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) agreed to this modification.

55. Mr. LOPEZ (Philippines) pointed out that if drafted thus, the resolution would not refer to the information provided by the Administering Powers under the optional section of the Standard Form, which did not come within the framework of Article 73 e.

56. Mr. GERIG (United States of America) did not think that the amendment would prevent the Administering Powers from providing information under the optional section of the Standard Form.

57. Mr. GARREAU (France) proposed that, in order to meet the desires of the Philippine representative, the words "under Article 73(e) of the Charter" should simply be added to the first paragraph.

58. The CHAIRMAN, speaking as representative of India, proposed that the end of paragraph 4 should be replaced, as from the words "to undertake", by the following text:

"to undertake the task of revision at a time which will enable it to prepare a revised form of Standard Form for consideration of all members of the Special Committee before the opening of 1951 session of the Special Committee."

59. The object of the amendment was to enable the sub-committee to submit its report in time for the governments concerned to present their observations before the meeting of the Special Committee.

60. Mr. GARREAU (France) expressed his preference for the following text: "Appoints a sub-committee consisting of ____ members to meet in 1950 or 1951." For his part, he hoped that the sub-committee would meet in 1950 some time before the end of the General Assembly, since at other times of the year the members of the sub-committee, who were also members of the Trusteeship Council, would find great difficulty in meeting.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.