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INDEX UNIT

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CONTENTS

International collaboration in regard to economic, social and educational conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories, including information on technical assistance (A/AC.35/L.86, A/AC.35/L.92, A/AC.35/L.93, A/AC.35/L.95, A/AC.35/L.96)

/PRESENT:

PRESENT:

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| <u>Chairman:</u> | Mr. ASAD | Pakistan |
| <u>Members:</u> | Mr. LOOMES | Australia |
| | Mr. RYCKMANS | Belgium |
| | Mr. de ARAUJO CASTRO | Brazil |
| | Mr. BLANCO | Cuba |
| | Mr. HOLTEN-EGGERT) | Denmark |
| | Mr. SVEISTRUP) | |
| | Mr. BUSTAMANTE | Ecuador |
| | Mr. FAHMY | Egypt |
| | Mr. PIGNON | France |
| | Mr. SHIVA RAO | India |
| | Mr. TAITENAPIS | Indonesia |
| | Mr. SPITS | Netherlands |
| | Mr. DAVIN | New Zealand |
| | Mr. ROSCHIN | Union of Soviet Socialist Republics |
| | Mr. MATHIESON | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland |
| | Mr. CARGO | United States of America |

Representatives of specialized agencies:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Miss BAÑOS | Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) |
| Mr. GAVIN | International Labour Organisation (ILO) |
| Mr. DESTOMBES | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) |
| Dr. STOCK | World Health Organization (WHO) |

Secretariat:

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| 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 NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES, INCLUDING INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (A/AC.35/L.86, A/AC.35/L.92, A/AC.35/L.93, A/AC.35/L.95, A/AC.35/L.96) (continued)

The CHAIRMAN thanked the Food and Agriculture Organization on behalf of the Committee for its prompt response to the interest shown by representatives in the agricultural development of Non-Self-Governing Territories and for placing copies of its recent publication The State of Food and Agriculture: Review and Outlook - 1952 at the disposal of the Committee.

Mr. SHIVA RAO (India) said that he was becoming increasingly aware of the practical interest shown by the specialized agencies, as evident from their reports, in the economic, social and educational conditions prevailing in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. But there was still not sufficient evidence of full international co-operation in certain aspects. In the Secretariat memorandum on technical assistance (A/AC.35/L.96), for example, it was stated that the ratio of participation of Non-Self-Governing Territories, as compared with other under-developed countries, in the benefits of technical assistance still remained low, although he was glad to note that a trend towards providing Territories with a larger percentage of experts than in the previous years was apparent (paragraph 32).

It was evident from paragraphs 20, 22, 28 and 31 that much urgent work had yet to be done with regard to public health as a preliminary to the improvement of agricultural and economic conditions in general.

In the course of the past few years, the Indian Government had sent a large number of students to the United States, the United Kingdom and other countries to train in various subjects. On their return, the Government was faced with the practical difficulty of absorbing them usefully in the specialities for which they had trained. It would therefore be interesting to hear from representatives of the Administering Powers whether they had experienced similar difficulties.

/With regard

With regard to the work accomplished by the regional commissions, he appreciated that Article 73 d advocated co-operation with specialized international bodies with a view to the practical achievement of social, economic and scientific development. He was therefore somewhat surprised by the rather negative approach of the South Pacific Commission as indicated in paragraph 83 of document A/AC.35/L.95 which stated that, at its ninth session, the Commission had noted that the absence of unanimous approval of its previous resolution, inviting the participating governments to authorize it to co-operate in an advisory and consultative capacity for the time being with the United Nations and five specialized agencies, did not preclude the informal exchange of information between it and those agencies. The condition requiring unanimous approval prior to full co-operation seemed to call for an explanation. The presence of observers from the specialized agencies in such commissions was not sufficient. The agencies were in a position, in conducting their investigations and in framing their recommendations, to bear in mind the essential purposes of Article 73 and the regional Commissions should make a more positive effort to seek fuller co-operation with the United Nations and its agencies.

A recent conference of Western European representatives, dealing with matters of special concern to the participants, had included in its deliberations consideration of the possibilities which the Western European metropolitan countries had of pooling their resources with a view to developing their dependent territories. He recalled that the FAO representative had spoken earlier in the session of a certain delay in reaching an agreement with the Caribbean Commission. He was not sure whether the delay meant a slowing down in the co-operation between FAO and that Commission or whether FAO activities in the Caribbean area could not be initiated as soon as they would be if overtures from the Caribbean Commission were forthcoming.

Mr. LOOMES (Australia) recalled that the Indonesian representative had remarked at the previous meeting that the Administering Powers should make fuller use of United Nations technical assistance in the dependent territories and that he had doubted whether those Powers could provide a sufficient number of qualified experts by themselves. The experts of the United Nations technical assistance programme were giving admirable service and Australia encouraged

/the provision

the provision of such assistance to those territories which needed it. But he did not feel that the progress of the territories should be gauged from the amount of United Nations technical assistance rendered. Most such assistance came from the Administering Powers themselves, which were better acquainted with the particular conditions of the territories for which they were responsible. The administrative services in colonial territories were a form of technical assistance. The Administering Powers felt that, in addition to the preponderance of technical assistance provided by themselves, supplementary action was needed and they therefore turned to the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and to other forms of international co-operation, such as the Caribbean Commission and the South Pacific Commission.

As indicated in the preamble to the agreement establishing the South Pacific Commission, the governments concerned had decided to co-operate fully in discussing matters of common interest, in initiating research and in seeking methods of assisting the populations of the territories for which they were responsible. It should be noted that, according to article 4 of that agreement, the powers and functions of the South Pacific Commission were consultative and advisory. The Commission concerned itself with projects as far apart as co-operative societies and linguistic research. In 1951 twenty-one social and educational projects and ten public health programmes had been inaugurated. The South Pacific Commission was one instrument created by the Administering Powers to fulfil their international obligations under the Charter. Both the Caribbean and the South Pacific Commissions dealt with conditions not common to other parts of the world and much benefit was derived from the exchange of experience and information.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) recalled that the Indonesian representative had pointed out that the United Nations was anxious to ensure that the Non-Self-Governing Territories received a fair measure of technical assistance and that a study of the United Nations technical assistance reports and Secretariat memoranda had made him doubt whether those territories obtained from the international organizations a fair proportion in relation to what the sovereign States in under-developed areas derived. He assured the Indonesian representative that the Belgian Congo received a much larger measure of technical assistance than any sovereign State.

/It was

It was generally agreed that advanced peoples were expected to assist those less well adapted to helping themselves. Among the under-developed populations, some had more special claims on the attention of certain more developed countries. Belgium, for example, was naturally interested particularly in the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, for which it was responsible. It was therefore not surprising that those territories applied for assistance to Belgium more than to other sources. Belgian experts gave much more service at a smaller outlay to the territories under Belgian administration and the territories were better served by such a homogeneous group of officials than by international teams, however willing and competent.

The world could make full use of all available technical assistance programmes such as those which the colonial Powers had been implementing for decades, those of the regional Commissions, those initiated under the Truman Plan and those of the United Nations and the specialized agencies. The United Nations and the specialized agencies, however, did not have sufficient financial and personnel resources - their staffs were also heterogeneous and not fully prepared - to meet world requirements.

The Indonesian representative's question whether the Non-Self-Governing Territories received a fair measure of technical assistance would require an inventory showing the assistance which they obtained from all sources and not merely from the United Nations. Even if all the technical assistance resources available to the United Nations and the specialized agencies were reserved exclusively for the Non-Self-Governing Territories, they would represent only a trifling percentage of the total assistance supplied to them. The Indonesian representative had referred to the shortage of nurses in Brunei, but, if Brunei were to have the proper number of nurses in proportion to its population, it would require one for every 20,000 inhabitants. It should be remembered that the ratio of nurses to population was much smaller in some of the larger countries with dense populations.

He drew the Committee's attention to paragraphs 46 and 47 of the fourth report of the Technical Assistance Board to the Technical Assistance Committee (E/2213 (Vol.I)), which referred to future experimental projects. The under-developed countries covered by the United Nations technical assistance programme had a total population of about 1,500 million. By the end of March 1952 the United Nations and its specialized agencies had recruited 1,024

/technicians

technicians for their technical assistance programmes on a short-term basis; most of them had had no experience of working in under-developed areas. The Belgian Congo alone, with its 11 1/2 million inhabitants, had 4,673 full-time European officials at the moment and 2,000 more were needed to fulfil the ten-year plan. Most of them were of the expert calibre sought by the United Nations for its technical assistance programme. They spent their entire active career in the Belgian Congo and knew the people, climate, customs, languages and needs of the Territory. To qualify for the grade of "officer" a university doctorate followed by six months' training in a colonial institute was required. In Belgian universities, every faculty of law had its colonial school and every faculty of science its agronomical school. No doctor, medical assistant, midwife or nurse was allowed to practise in the Belgian Congo without passing through the Antwerp Institute of Tropical Medicine.

One thousand five hundred Europeans, mainly missionaries, were responsible for educating the indigenous inhabitants and were obliged to meet the Belgian educational standard. Territorial officials in regular contact with local chieftains had to study for five years in a special training college. He doubted whether such intensive preparation for duty in the Belgian Congo would be compared with the training which the United Nations was able to give its experts. On 1 January 1952, for example, FAO had had 271 experts and a budget of less than 6 million dollars for its world agricultural programme, whereas, on the same date, the Belgian Congo agricultural service had had 633 European technicians and \$14,600,000 for its 1952 programme. In addition, the Belgian Central Africa Institute (INEAC), of twenty years standing, accorded technical assistance to the Congo which many wealthy sovereign States might envy, having had, as of 15 September 1952, 273 agents in the Congo and forty-five in Europe and a 1952 budget of \$6,500,000. Twenty-five research and experimental centres had been established throughout the Congo; all food and industrial crops and associated agricultural sciences were covered. Encouraging results had been achieved during its existence and the output per hectare of the various crops showed considerable increases due inter alia to improved seed selection. At the same time, the average income of farmers had increased by the end of 1951 to eighteen times the average for 1945. Similar progress could be noted in all other fields of economic development.

/INEAC

INEAC demanded very highly qualified experts and insisted that they should work together as a team. It was prepared to send its experts anywhere in the world where they could get the best training and experience and to recruit experts from other countries if necessary.

The United Nations programme of technical assistance was excellent in its own way and it was the only source of such assistance to the independent under-developed countries, but, as he had amply demonstrated, it could hardly be compared at the existing stage of its development to the immeasurably greater contribution made by Belgium to the Belgian Congo.

Mr. FAHMY (Egypt) drew attention to paragraph 79 of document A/AC.35/L.95 and was glad to note that indigenous representatives of French West Africa and Kenya had been able to attend the international conference on education in the under-developed African territories, held at Leyden in April 1952. He hoped that that practice would be encouraged by all the Administering Powers. The Secretariat document did not mention the six very important resolutions adopted by the Leyden conference on such subjects as the education of women, the use of the vernacular language in education, and the African peoples' right to universal education adapted to their own particular needs.

Another point which did not figure in document A/AC.35/L.95 was the fact that the Belgian Government had informed the United Nations that it had been unable to give effect to General Assembly resolution 317 (IV) inviting Member States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. In explanation, the Belgian Government had stated that article 23 of the Convention was contrary to one of the fundamental principles of Belgian policy, namely, that international agreements signed by Belgium were not automatically extended to the Belgian Congo. He asked whether that was purely a question of principle or whether there were, in fact, any special conditions in the Belgian Congo which would prevent it from becoming a party to the Convention.

Mr. RYCKMANS (Belgium) replied that the Belgian Government's action had been based purely on the question of principle.

/Mr. MATHIESON

Mr. MATHIESON (United Kingdom) said that he would refer to the same texts as the Indian representative had done, although he might not reach identical conclusions. Referring first to Article 73 d of the Charter, he emphasized that the principle it set forth had always been an essential element in his Government's policy towards its dependent territories. With regard to paragraph 32 of document E/AC.35/L.96, he emphasized the point made by the representatives of Belgium and Australia, and remarked that the paragraph should refer to United Nations technical assistance rather than to technical assistance in general. Even then, however, he did not think that the conclusion was fully justified and he would therefore demonstrate the use which his Government had made of United Nations facilities for the benefit of its dependent territories. Those territories had certainly benefited from United Nations assistance as much as the other under-developed countries of the world, and they had probably had rather more than their share of assistance, if the problem was regarded from the point of view of equitable sharing of the world's resources.

There was nothing new about the idea of technical assistance. It was, in fact, a very old concept and the whole spread of Western civilization had at the same time involved the spread of technical assistance. On the international level, the specialized agencies, and particularly the International Labour Office, had been concerned with technical assistance for some time before the United Nations itself had taken up the question. The greatest impetus to international interest in technical assistance had been given by Mr. Truman's speech outlining the Point IV programme. Very shortly after that speech, the United Kingdom had responded to the call and had promised to collaborate in the programme. The matter had then been taken up by the United Nations and the Economic and Social Council had adopted its resolution 222 (IX), which had subsequently been approved by the General Assembly. It was interesting to note that the Committee of the Council which had drawn up the observations and guiding principles subsequently included in the annex to that resolution had worked under the chairmanship of an official of the United Kingdom Colonial Office, so that the United Kingdom,

/with its

with its experience of similar work in its own colonial territories, had been able to contribute towards the preparation of the United Nations expanded programme of technical assistance. The Economic and Social Council resolution had been submitted to the General Assembly at the end of 1949 and there had then been the question of financing the programme and recruiting the staff, so that the expanded programme had not really started to operate before the end of 1950. As early as 13 May 1950, the Secretary of State for the Colonies had sent a circular dispatch to Colonial Governments, describing the purpose and the various sources of technical assistance. In so doing, he had made it clear that the Colonial Office had in fact been fulfilling the purpose of technical assistance for the Colonies, and that the United Kingdom was and would remain the principal source of technical assistance to them. At the same time, he had drawn attention to the supplementary assistance which would now become available from various other sources.

The Belgian representative had already demonstrated very effectively the magnitude of the technical assistance supplied by the Administering Powers to their colonial territories. That applied equally to the dependent territories of the United Kingdom. Official United Nations reports showed that the United Nations had employed 165 experts in 1951 to service all the under-developed countries of the world. For a 12-month period, which coincided approximately with the period shown in the United Nations reports, the United Kingdom had recruited 1,396 technical assistants for its colonial service. That figure included 169 doctors (a figure in excess of the United Nations total). Similarly, the total number of United Nations scholarships and fellowships granted in 1951 under the regular and expanded technical assistance programmes amounted to 451, whereas, in May 1952, there had been 1,554 colonial students studying in the United Kingdom, including 1,450 scholarship holders. It was clear, therefore, that the Administering Powers had accepted their responsibilities to provide technical assistance and that, thus far, the assistance they had provided compared favourably with that which the United Nations was able to supply.

It had been implied that the Administering Powers were denying their dependent territories the benefits of United Nations technical assistance because they did not want any interference from anyone in any way connected with the United Nations. In order to show that such an assumption was quite unfounded, he gave a detailed account of the way in which his Government had associated its dependent territories with the technical assistance work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

Collaboration with UNESCO had included the attendance of representatives of the Colonial Office and of various colonies at UNESCO conferences. Two experts had been provided by UNESCO, one to help in the literacy campaign in Jamaica and the other to help in the study of language problems in Nigeria.

The extent of the collaboration with WHO could be seen from document A/AC.35/L.86. The funds supplied by UNICEF, working in co-operation with WHO and the Governments concerned, had been of great assistance in United Kingdom dependent territories. A child feeding programme had been established in British Honduras in 1950 and continued into 1951. In North Borneo, specialist staff had been provided to train nurses and health visitors and to promote maternity and child welfare work. Extensive BCG vaccination campaigns had been carried out and many other projects had benefited greatly from the assistance of UNICEF and WHO. Seven WHO fellowships had been awarded during 1951 to officers of the Colonial Medical Service.

With regard to FAO, the Colonial Governments had always played an active part in the regional meetings arranged by that Organization and Colonial Government officials had also attended training courses organized by FAO. Under the expanded technical assistance programme, thirteen applications for experts had been submitted to FAO on behalf of United Kingdom dependencies; all the applications had been approved and four of them had already been met. Early in 1952, a training course in timber grading had been organized under the joint auspices of FAO and the Government of the Federation of Malaya for trainees from the countries of South-East Asia. The Governments of Hong Kong, Malaya and Borneo had supported rice hybridization experiments undertaken under the auspices of the International Rice Commission. Finally, six fellowships had been awarded by FAO to candidates from United Kingdom dependencies.

Collaboration with ILO had included the attendance of representatives from the United Kingdom dependencies at various conferences and seminars. The ILO Committees of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations and on Social Policy in Non-Metropolitan Territories included members from United Kingdom dependencies. Under the expanded programme of technical assistance, ILO had provided two experts to advise the Government of Singapore on the proposed establishment of a Provident Fund. A trade unionist from Trinidad and an official of the Labour Department of the Government of the Federation of Malaya had been granted ILO fellowships for study abroad.

Thus, the record showed that the United Kingdom certainly had no objection to associating its dependent territories with the work of the specialized agencies. In fact, there had been so many applications from the United Kingdom and its dependencies to send representatives to a conference to be held by UNESCO in Nigeria that UNESCO, through no fault of its own, had been obliged to refuse some of the applications.

The participation of the United Kingdom dependent territories in the benefits of the United Nations Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance had been ensured as early as June 1951 by a basic agreement concluded with the Organization and the specialized agencies. Colonial governments were constantly urged to take advantage of the facilities available to them and a procedure had been worked out for the conclusion of supplementary agreements between particular agencies and applicant governments. Opportunities for informal discussions with the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration regarding the utilization of specific technical services were welcomed by both the metropolitan government and the governments of the dependent territories. Nevertheless, the initiative in applying for assistance was left to those governments in order to ensure that requests would follow the pattern of development envisaged in their respective development plans. Many applications were made directly to the appropriate specialized agencies. Others, however, particularly in matters not covered by the agencies, such as public administration and social welfare, were addressed to the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration. One of the most important functions of the central organ, through the Technical Assistance Board /was to

was to co-ordinate technical assistance, define responsibility in the various fields and prevent duplication or overlapping with the work of the specialized agencies. It would be seen from volume II of the fourth report of the Technical Assistance Board to TAC (E/2213) that from one-quarter to one-third of the total number of requests received came from Non-Self-Governing Territories. While the United Kingdom was especially gratified by the valuable fellowships and scholarships awarded to colonial candidates under the technical assistance programmes, their number was not likely to exceed that of scholarships granted by the metropolitan Power itself.

A further important contribution to the technical assistance flowing to the United Kingdom dependent territories was being made through such outside regional groups as the Colombo Plan nations, COTA and ECA. The Colombo Plan represented a concerted effort by the governments of sovereign as well as dependent territories in South-East Asia to co-ordinate development plans and, through mutual assistance, to raise the standards of living of the peoples in the area. The cost of the six-year programme to the United Kingdom dependent territories in the region was being defrayed from the territories' own resources and from those of the metropolitan government. A joint fund had also been set aside to finance a concurrent programme of technical co-operation, which would provide the participating countries with training facilities, including equipment, and the services of experts. United Kingdom dependent territories could apply for assistance from that fund only against the contribution of nations other than the United Kingdom. Conversely, the United Kingdom contribution to the Colombo Plan would be made available to countries other than its own dependent territories. Up to 30 June 1952, 38 candidates from those areas had been accepted for training under the technical co-operation scheme. In that part of the world, the United Kingdom was also participating in the work of ECAFE and drew its representatives to sub-committees dealing with problems of special concern to the peoples of South-East Asia from the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the area.

Technical co-operation in Africa was ensured by COTA, a body comprising the government of Belgium, France, Portugal, Southern Rhodesia, the Union of South Africa and the United Kingdom. Apart from the biennial sessions at which common policies were elaborated, technical conferences were regularly held on

the broad problems of public health, rural economy etc. at which United Nations specialized agencies were represented, and recommendations were made for action by Member Governments. Although colonial governments often found it difficult to spare local experts for participation in such international meetings, the United Kingdom urged them to do so. As a result of conference recommendations, a series of inter-African bureaux engaged in classifying, summarizing and disseminating technical information linked the various colonial administrations on a permanent basis. A permanent secretariat had also been set up in London to co-ordinate activities between sessions of CCTA and to maintain liaison with the United Nations specialized agencies. Finally, the Scientific Council for Africa supplemented the work of CCTA and the technical conferences by organizing meetings of experts to deal with African scientific problems.

Through ECA and its successor organization, the Mutual Security Agency, substantial technical assistance had been provided to the United Kingdom colonial territories for general development and, particularly, for the promotion of mineral production. Loans for basic materials development might also become available through MSA. The Overseas Territory Committee of OEEC, composed of those members of the European organization with responsibility for overseas Non-Self-Governing Territories, was also co-operating to promote the territories' economic and social development. Its sub-committees examined technical problems which had arisen in connexion with the study of development programmes. A recent conference on plant breeding, for example, had resulted in a valuable exchange of experience between various colonial experts.

The comprehensive machinery for international co-operation created to promote the development of dependent territories had only limited value unless the problem of the applicability of experience could be satisfactorily resolved. In the last analysis, the United Kingdom preferred to rely on local experts who had spent a lifetime studying a specific problem and had evolved a solution immediately applicable to local conditions.

Replying to a query from the Indian representative, Mr. Mathieson said that his Government had found no difficulty in placing fellows and scholars, who had been trained abroad, upon their return to the home territory. Before endorsing the candidacy of a given applicant, it had generally prepared the post he was to fill upon completion of his specialized United Nations training.

Commenting on the role of the South Pacific and Caribbean Commissions, he noted that they constituted a forum for the consideration of regional technical assistance needs and provided an administrative focus for regional projects. Their policies, however, were determined exclusively by their members. Thus, while they could suggest or support applications for United Nations technical assistance, their constitutions probably barred them from making such application on behalf of any territory. The representative of FAO might say whether his agency would regard the Caribbean Commission legally competent to apply for and receive assistance under FAO statutes. In view of the difficulties presented by the two legal aspects of the question, the members of the regional Commissions should not be condemned out of hand on the pretext that they were deliberately refusing to enlist the technical assistance of the United Nations.

Moreover, in addition to the assistance they furnished to the dependent territories which constituted their primary responsibility under Article 73, the Administering Powers, through the United Nations Technical Assistance Programmes, were actively assisting the development of all other under-developed areas in the world. Besides contributing substantial sums, the United Kingdom had made every effort to meet United Nations requests for experts to be despatched to those needy areas. The United States Government had an outstanding record in that respect. Out of a total of 19 million dollars, it had contributed more than 11 millions to the Expanded Programme as of 31 July 1952; it had accepted 105 fellows and scholars from other parts of the world for training in the United States and contributed 50 experts to the United Nations pool for service in under-developed areas. The Administering Powers felt that by asking the United Nations for technical assistance experts for their dependent areas, they would, so to speak, be taking back part of their contribution to the common fund and depriving other under-developed regions of expert assistance they might need far more urgently than the territories under United Kingdom administration, for example. The important factor was not so much the label attached to the expert - whether that of the United Nations or of the Administering Power - as the qualifications of the man himself. In pursuance of the objectives of Article 73, the selection of an expert should be

guided by the principles laid down by the Economic and Social Council. Apart from his technical competence, he should have a sympathetic understanding of the cultural background and the special needs of the people among whom he was to work and the capacity to adapt his methods of work to local social conditions and cultural traditions.

Mr. CARGO (United States of America) thanked the United Kingdom representative for commending the United States Government upon its contribution to United Nations technical assistance programmes.

Mr. DESTOMBES (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), reverting to the matter of international conferences for the benefit of Non-Self-Governing Territories, announced that his agency was sponsoring a meeting on compulsory and free education to be held before the end of 1952 with the participation of all the Pacific and South-East Asia territories and the Administering Powers concerned. As a result of the recent conference of the UNESCO National Commissions in Bangkok, Vietnam had decided to institute free and compulsory education. The Leyden conference on education had been held under the auspices of the Africa Institute, a national non-governmental organization, with nationals of the United Kingdom, Belgium, France and Portugal participating, and a UNESCO observer attending. It had dealt with the social problems created by the education of rural and urban indigenous populations, special teaching problems in multi-lingual societies and the use of the vernacular in instruction as well as the use of the language of the metropolitan country. Its conclusions are not recommendations to governments. In that connexion, the Nigeria conference on the use of the vernacular promised to be very fruitful.

UNESCO was particularly concerned with the problem of training experts, and jointly with the parent organization, was sponsoring a conference of technical assistance experts to be held in New York in 1953.

/Mr. TAJIBNAPIS

Mr. TAJIBNAPIS (Indonesia) had not implied, in his earlier remarks, that the Administering Powers were not furnishing technical services to the territories for which they were responsible, nor that the technical assistance provided by the United Nations and its specialized agencies was sacrosanct. He had concluded from the data in the Secretariat papers that much more effective use could be made by the Administering Powers of the facilities offered under the United Nations programmes. He was gratified to note, however, that the United Kingdom was coping with the problem most effectively and hoped that the other Administering Powers would approach it in the same spirit. He further appreciated the co-operation of both Administering and non-Administering Powers in the collective undertaking known as the United Nations technical assistance programmes, under which Indonesia was receiving valuable aid. On the other hand, the technical services rendered by Administering Powers to their colonial governments could not be characterized as technical assistance, properly speaking, inasmuch as the former were in any case responsible for the development of those territories and exercised full sovereignty over them. Finally, the exchange of experience made possible through regional commissions underlined the practical necessity for them to co-operate more fully with the United Nations and the specialized agencies.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.

13/10 p.m.