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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES

Twelfth Session

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Monday, 8 May 1961, at 10.50 a.m.

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PRESENT:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Mr. SCHURMANN	(Netherlands)
<u>Rapporteur:</u>	Miss KAMAL	Iraq
<u>Members:</u>	Mr. ROS	Argentina
	Mr. FORSYTHE)	Australia
	Mr. HOOD)	
	Mr. WIJEGONAWARDENA	Ceylon
	Mrs. BERNARDINO CAPPAL	Dominican Republic
	Mr. de CAMAKET	France
	Mr. DADZIE)	Ghana
	Mr. YOMEKPE)	
	Mr. VELLODI	India
	Miss BROOKS	Liberia
	Mr. MERCADO)	Mexico
	Mr. CASTANEDA)	
	Mr. GOEDHART)	Netherlands
	Mr. de BRUYN)	
	Mr. EDMONDS	New Zealand
	Mr. PEREZ RUIZ	Spain
	Mr. CASTON)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
	Mr. THOM)	
	Mr. CHINN)	
	Mr. BINGHAM	United States of America
<u>Representatives of specialized agencies:</u>		
	Mr. LLOYD	International Labour Organisation
	Miss PROCTOR	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
	Dr. SACKS	World Health Organization
<u>Secretariat:</u>	Mr. PROTITCH	Under-Secretary for Trusteeship and Information from Non-Self- Governing Territories
	Mr. KUNST	Secretary of the Committee

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (ST/TRI/B.1960/1,2 and 4; A/4760) (continued):

- (a) ASPECTS OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (A/AC.35/L.335)
- (b) ASPECTS OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (A/AC.35/L.336)
- (c) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (A/AC.35/L.337)
- (d) LEVELS OF LIVING (A/AC.35/L.345 and Corr.1)
- (e) ASPECTS OF LABOUR PROBLEMS (A/AC.35/L.330 to L.333, L.339 and Corr.1)
- (f) RACIAL DISCRIMINATION IN NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES (resolution 1536 (XV)) (A/AC.35/L.334 and Corr.1)
- (g) JUVENILE DELINQUENCY (A/AC.35/L.329 and Corr.1)
- (h) PUBLIC HEALTH (A/AC.35/L.335, L.336, L.338, L.345 and Corr.1, L.346)

Miss BROOKS (Liberia) dealt first with aspects of rural development.

In East Africa, most families lived by agriculture and the question of land tenure was therefore of great importance. In paragraph 20 of its report (A/AC.35/L.336) the Secretariat had stated that the African population resented the fact that there were extensive land holdings reserved for the exclusive use of the European settlers. Furthermore, the United Kingdom representative had stated that the East African Royal Commission's recommendations regarding the Crown Lands had been implemented and that the laws reserving the rich Highlands exclusively for Europeans had been revoked. Unfortunately, however, he had added that the 999-year leases remained valid. She wished to know whether those leases covered all the lands in the area, as that would nullify the new laws of abrogation. Admittedly, legal instruments were binding, but it was also necessary to take the circumstances into account and to observe the principles of justice and equity. The Administering Power could therefore either amend those instruments, safeguarding the land interests of both Africans and non-Africans, or delimit those areas and let them revert to the Africans who were their rightful owners. Failure of the United Kingdom Government to act on that question might one day result in the nationalization of such privately owned land and in a conflict between that Government and the Government of Kenya.

As the traditional farming system led to soil erosion, the recommendations of the Royal Commission with regard to improvement of the agricultural methods used by the Africans should also be heeded.

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(Miss Brooks, Liberia)

The United Kingdom representative had stated that the Buganda people in Uganda opposed alienation of land to Africans outside the tribe or clan. That statement emphasized one of the weaknesses of colonial administration which, applying the "divide and rule" principle had encouraged the maintenance of the tribal system. Discrimination, whether between tribes or between races, should be eliminated. The Swynnerton land consolidation plan would greatly benefit agriculture in those areas and, in paragraph 39 of the report on rural development, it was stated that progress had been made in that connexion.

Her delegation would have liked to have statistics concerning the contribution of the African population to the production of cash crops. She hoped that such information would be provided in the following year.

In East Africa and in Central Africa, the Africans, having no title to the land, could not negotiate loans or obtained only inadequate ones. Furthermore, there was a shortage of labour which was possibly due not only to expansion of the urban areas, but also to the fact that life in the rural regions was not very attractive. The inadequacy of irrigation systems posed another problem, and there were not enough co-operatives.

It was evident that the Administering Power should take into account the ILO suggestions for an over-all plan of rural development and should invite the ILO to assist in its implementation.

With regard to the Caribbean region, it was interesting to note that increasing agricultural productivity was regarded as a means of improving levels of living and of meeting the problems created by a rapidly expanding population.

Some progress had been made, on the whole, in the Asian Territories, but there were not enough co-operatives and water supply posed problems.

Turning to the question of community development, she noted that, in Kenya, the central Government provided the funds for personnel, for the purchase of equipment and for the establishment of training centres. The value of community development could not be over-emphasized: it helped to establish friendly relations among the inhabitants, promoted social, economic and educational advancement, raised the levels of living and offered adults an opportunity to obtain an education.

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She hoped that more detailed information would in future be provided on that subject also.

Another vital question was that of racial discrimination, which constituted one of the greatest obstacles to political, social, economic and educational advancement in some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. In that connexion, she cited operative paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 1536 (XV).

The Australian representative had made an interesting statement on the subject, but her delegation would like to have further information concerning the Workers Compensation Ordinance, which established a single system for all workers except as regards wages. The Australian representative had also stated that the White Women's Protection Ordinance, which provided the death penalty for rape or attempted rape of a European female, had been repealed in 1958. She asked whether the death penalty had been imposed in the case of all convicted persons and, while the ordinance had been in force, what had been the penalty for rape of a non-European female. The Australian representative had also stated that, in a formerly primitive country which was gradually becoming a new nation, it was necessary to maintain certain legislation providing for differential treatment. She did not fully understand what he meant by that, but she wished to emphasize that all racial discrimination was inherently vile and should be eliminated. Dependent peoples should not be treated like children and should certainly not be discriminated against.

She had been glad to hear the United States representative say that there was no racial discrimination in the Virgin Islands, but according to The New York Times of 4 May 1961, the Legislature had created a commission to investigate discrimination against Negroes, who made up the majority of the population, and Jews. The newspaper reported that immigrants from the United States were attempting to create exclusively white residential areas in the islands of St. Croix and St. Thomas. If that was true, the United States should take immediate steps to end such practices, which were contrary to the principles of the United Nations.

Some progress appeared to have been made towards abolishing discrimination in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, but distinctions on grounds of race and colour still existed in some Territories, particularly in Africa. However, her delegation had noted the steps taken by the Australian Government to give effect to General Assembly resolution 1536 (XV) and it warmly congratulated the Government of the Netherlands on its compliance with the principles of the Charter and the resolution

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of the General Assembly in basing its policy on racial equality. It also noted the New Zealand representative's statement that no racial discrimination existed in the social organization of the Territories administered by New Zealand. Regarding the Territories under United Kingdom administration, it was stated in paragraph 12 of the Secretariat report (A/AC.35/L.334) that those fundamental rights and freedoms which were part of the British tradition were established and protected by the laws of the Territories. She would like to have more detailed information on that point.

Regarding juvenile delinquency, the information was inadequate. Her delegation trusted that the Administering Powers would bear in mind the suggestions in paragraph 5 of the Secretariat report (A/AC.35/L.329), where it was stated that uniform, adequate and consistent information could be obtained if: (a) statistics in each Territory were prepared by one authority that would be responsible for their reporting; and, (b), if the principal court dispositions relating to juveniles were reported separately from similar statistics concerning adult offenders.

Apparently, juvenile delinquents in the Territories of Hong Kong, Jamaica and Aden Colony were given sentences of imprisonment, although there had been a reduction in the number of imprisonments in Hong Kong and Aden.

Credit must be given to the United Kingdom Government for abolishing laws providing for the imprisonment of juvenile delinquents in some of the United Kingdom's Territories, but the practice still existed in some of the other Territories it administered.

She stressed that the steps taken to prevent juvenile delinquency in some Territories were far from adequate and that that situation must be remedied, for the perpetuation of a society depended on the younger generations. With regard to corporal punishment, which had been repeatedly deprecated, the Committee could not make a proper evaluation in the absence of complete information. However, it was stated in document A/AC.35/L.329 that eighteen juveniles had been sentenced to corporal punishment in Hong Kong in 1959 and that in Africa corporal punishment continued to be used and was still sometimes the principal measure of treatment. It was the hope of her delegation that action would be taken by the Administering Powers to abolish all laws providing for punishment of that kind.

She wished to make some comments on the Territories administered by Portugal, in view of Portugal's refusal to comply with General Assembly resolution 1542 (XV),

of 15 December 1960, listing nine Territories regarding which Portugal should transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter. Moreover, in those Territories, political freedoms were suppressed, racial discrimination was rampant, forced labour was still practised, the people were living in abject poverty, education was inadequate, even the most primitive sanitary facilities were lacking and the population was divided into "civilized" and "uncivilized". All those facts were helping to intensify the people's awareness of the movement towards decolonization which had occurred elsewhere.

Everyone knew that the future of Portugal lay in its overseas territories, laden with enormous riches, such as the oil wells of Angola. That was why, in recent months, the Portuguese Army had taken an active interest in African problems.

There were local governments in those territories, but the Governor General was still the supreme authority in actual fact. Furthermore, the Legislative Council did not really represent the whole of the population. There were two classes of citizens, those with Portuguese citizenship, which included the handful of assimilados, and the indigenous inhabitants, who were governed by the Portuguese authorities in accordance with what was termed "indigenous uses and customs". According to the so-called "Native Statute" of 1924, the indigenous inhabitants had a special status: they had no political rights in respect of non-indigenous institutions, they could not own land and they had no franchise. In theory, they could freely choose whether to be self-employed or work for an employer, but in practice forced labour still existed, even with women and children. It was estimated that 99 per cent of the indigenous inhabitants of Angola were illiterate.

In general, the situation was just as deplorable in Mozambique and the other territories as in Angola. The inhabitants lived in fear. It had been reported two days earlier that Portugal had sent some 8,000 soldiers to Mozambique. The nationalist movements were characterized as "Communist subversion" by the Portuguese Government, and from time to time there were large-scale arrests and imprisonments by the police.

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In Mozambique, only 6 per cent of the African children of school age attended school. Only six girls and some twenty boys were attending secondary schools and there were only about fifteen students from the territory in Portuguese universities. African education was left entirely to the Christian missions, for the Government concerned itself only with schools for the so-called "civilized persons".

Although there had been some economic improvement in Mozambique, only the Europeans and Asians benefited from it. In the cities, Africans worked as household servants or unskilled labourers and they were employed also by the railways, highway and sanitation services and construction firms, where they earned about \$6 a month. A concession firm had a monopoly on the purchase and export of cash crops. All prices were fixed by the Government in consultation with that firm. The Africans had no voice in fixing the prices and, even worse, they were forced to sell all their produce and then buy what rice they needed for their own consumption on the market, at more than double the price.

As regards administration, it was more or less the same for all the Portuguese overseas territories.

Lastly, she wished to make a few comments regarding the Territories administered by Spain. The entire Committee was delighted at the presence of a Spanish delegation, although thus far, Spain had not transmitted any information under General Assembly resolution 1542 (XV), which recalled that the Spanish Government had agreed to transmit information in accordance with Chapter XI of the Charter. Her delegation hoped that Spain would contribute to the work of the Committee before the end of the session.

In Ifni, the Decree of 9 April 1934 and the Order of 11 July 1944 authorized the Governor to exercise civil and political powers. On 29 August 1934, Ifni and the "Spanish Sahara" had been united and placed under the authority of the High Commissioner for Morocco. The Capitán General of the Canary Islands had military powers in the province and also authority regarding internal policy related to public order. Under article 1 of the Spanish Code of 13 April 1934, it would seem that the laws applicable in the Territories were the same as in metropolitan

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Spain. However, there were local judicial authorities for civil cases between the Moslem inhabitants.

The Sahara administration had undergone similar developments to that of Ifni, but the administrative status of the territory had been affected by the termination of the Spanish Protectorate of Morocco.

In Fernando Po, Rio Muni, Corisco and the two Elobey Islands, the same laws obtained as in other parts of the national territory. Fernando Po and Rio Muni had the same right of representation in the Cortes as other Spanish provinces. They did, however, have independent judicial organs.

Since 1938, various decrees and ordinances had governed the administration of the Sahara and of the Territories on the Gulf of Guinea. They provided inter alia for the application of customary law to judicial cases between Africans and recognized the principle of equality of rights of all the inhabitants of the Territories. The system had been subsequently changed, and "grants of emancipation" had been made to those inhabitants whose intellectual and moral qualities proved them capable of assuming full responsibility for themselves and their possessions. A permanent commission acted as the legal representative of unemancipated indigenous persons who could not, without permission, alienate or make agreements on real estate or contract debts for amounts exceeding 500 pesetas. The Act of 30 December 1944 provided that the general laws in force in Spain should apply to emancipated persons, and customary law to unemancipated persons; the same Act established the status of limited emancipation.

Although lack of information prevented a proper evaluation of the Spanish Government's activities in those Territories, there was no doubt that discrimination existed in some of them. Indeed, the expressions "emancipated" and "unemancipated" meant simply Spanish citizens and indigenous persons.

She would like to thank those Administering Members which had transmitted information on the Territories for which they were responsible. However, much remained to be done. While she did not doubt the goodwill of those Members, the trend of events in the modern world required a quicker pace than had been set by them even three years previously.

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Mr. BINGHAM (United States of America) said that while the United States delegation had noted the article in The New York Times which had been quoted by the Liberian representative, it had no additional information on the matter. The Commission established by the Legislative Assembly was conducting an inquiry, and if the facts alleged in the article were confirmed, appropriate corrective measures would be taken.

Mr. CASTON (United Kingdom) pointed out to the Liberian representative that paragraph 12 of document A/AC.35/L.334 was a very condensed summary of the information supplied by the United Kingdom Mission and published in document A/4760.

Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand) said that some of the information in document A/AC.35/L.345 concerning levels of living in the Territories administered by New Zealand was out of date or incomplete. In Niue, for example, the infant death-rate in 1958 had been 38.27 and not 43.1 as stated in table I; in 1959 it had been 49.26. In the Cook Islands it had been reduced to 33.43 in 1960. These statistics were, however, rather misleading because of the very small absolute numbers involved, especially in Niue where, as there were only 200 live births per year, each infant death was multiplied by five when it appeared in a table based on a thousand live births. Regarding the number of physicians per 100,000 population, if account was taken of the fact that assistant medical officers were quite capable of discharging the routine functions of physicians, it could be said that there were more than ninety physicians per a theoretical 100,000 population in the Cook Islands and over 100 in Niue. In table 2 of the same document the percentage of deaths which occurred under the age of five years was shown as 25, but unfortunately the true figure appeared to be over one third. Tables 3 and 4 did not give any details of the number of children registered in schools in the Cook Islands and Niue; but in the latter island in 1959 609 boys and 608 girls were enrolled in primary schools and a similar high percentage of girls enrolled in the Cook group, where education was compulsory for children of both sexes and attendance at school was very satisfactory.

With regard to nutrition, the report stated that the daily per capita food consumption in Niue had amounted to 2,030 calories in 1953. He did not have exact figures for the present food consumption, but thought there was normally no shortage of foodstuffs, save temporary shortages caused by drought and hurricanes in Niue, which, in fact, was able to export copra, sweet potatoes and bananas. Recently, there

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had been considerable research into the dietary habits and nutritional needs of the islanders, and the Administration was taking appropriate measures to rectify any deficiencies such as those which occurred in some of the northern atolls of the Cook group.

Mr. DADZIE (Ghana) congratulated Miss Brooks and Miss Kamal on their election as officers of the Committee, and he thanked the members of the Committee for their words of appreciation to Mr. Quaison-Sackey in connexion with his chairmanship at the previous session. He was gratified by the presence of the representative of Spain and regretted that Portugal had not followed that example. The delegation of Ghana was also pleased to see that special advisors were attached to the delegations of the Administering Members. He expressed thanks to the Secretariat for its outstanding work and hoped that Administering Members would ensure that information on the Territories administered by them was transmitted in good time. He also offered the Government and people of Sierra Leone his best wishes for their prosperity.

The documentation before the Committee demonstrated the truth of the theory that social advancement could not be dissociated from political and economic advancement. The greatest progress had been made in Territories where the people were most widely represented in the political bodies responsible for the formulation of general policy and where the local administration had the support of the inhabitants and worked in co-operation with them. In Territories where, on the contrary, local participation was merely advisory in nature, the results left much to be desired. It was sometimes claimed that expenditure on social services should not exceed the capacity of a country to bear the costs involved. His delegation believed, on the contrary, that it was essential to create a solid infrastructure in the Territories and to provide social services on a more extensive scale than their financial resources would seem to justify.

Where urban development in Non-Self-Governing Territories was concerned, the Administering Powers did not take sufficient preventive measures to deal with the problems resulting from urbanization. Only too often in African Territories, the centre of a town enjoyed satisfactory amenities and services because that was where the non-Africans lived, but living conditions in the rest of the urban area left much to be desired. The influx of African workers into urban areas and the lack of housing resulted in overcrowding that caused serious problems in towns like Nairobi and Kampala. A further cause for concern was the situation in Northern Rhodesia where employers were required to house their workers but not their families. The African urban worker was thus caught in a vicious circle; in order

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to be able to take up employment in an urban centre he required housing, but his income made it impossible to purchase or rent a house. In the Blantyre/Limbe municipal area of Nyasaland, for example, rents exceeded the wages of an African unskilled worker. It was, however, encouraging to note that in some areas the minimum wage now took into consideration the needs of a family unit.

In connexion with juvenile delinquency, his delegation had noted with satisfaction the trend towards replacing punitive methods by corrective methods aimed at the re-education of delinquents and their reintegration into the community. However, more emphasis should be placed on the prevention of delinquency through supervision of those categories in need of special protection. In titutional treatment should be more widely applied in place of fines and corporal punishment, but in the majority of Territories a fine was still the penalty most frequently imposed on juveniles by the courts. It was also distressing to learn that the imprisonment of young persons and the infliction of corporal punishment still continued, especially in Africa. The report prepared by the Secretariat showed that there were no special institutions for juveniles in the Territories administered by Australia, the Netherlands and New Zealand. As in the previous year, his delegation stressed the need for workers' organizations and youth corps which would help young people unable to secure formal apprenticeship and in danger of becoming delinquents to contribute to the service of the nation. If young people were to play their part in national reconstruction, there should be an increase in apprenticeship schemes and in vocational and technical training.

It was encouraging to note that various programmes of community development had been instituted, especially in Africa, and that it was the intention to expand them in the rural districts. In Kenya, however, and in the Territories of Southern Africa, community development was restricted to certain districts, and in Gambia it was almost non-existent. The argument that the Administering Powers did not wish to interfere in village affairs could not justify the lack of progress. Nor was it true that no interest in community development was shown by the communities themselves. Ghana had achieved excellent results by the use of appropriate

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methods, in particular audio-visual aids and travelling exhibitions. The Government of Ghana was continuing to place its experience and its training facilities at the disposal of other countries, particularly in Africa, and hoped that that example would be followed. However small the progress that had been made so far, it was gratifying to note the Administering Members' growing realization that community development programmes had a tremendous part to play in the social advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

With regard to labour problems, he observed that the migratory movements of labour which had long been a feature of life in the African Territories had become intensified owing to greater urbanization and industrialization. More attention should therefore be paid to the stabilization of labour in urban centres and to the rehabilitation of rural areas through the diversification of agricultural production and an acceleration in the shift to a cash crop economy. As far as trade-union movements were concerned, they only too often, owing to the legislative restrictions in force, represented but a small proportion of the workers. In the Southern African Territories the authorities apparently acquiesced in the unions being organized on a racial basis. The Administering Powers should recognize that it was often necessary for trade unions to deal with political questions and should refrain from limiting their activities. They should also do much more than in the past to foster the growth of trade-union movements. They should nevertheless be congratulated on their efforts to educate workers in the principles and techniques of trade unionism and on the provision of special training courses for trade-union leaders. He hoped that they would avail themselves to an increasing degree of the expertise and assistance of the ILO.

In the field of race relations, progress had been made only in those Territories where settlement from the metropolitan countries had been slight. Racial discrimination continued to be practised in the Territories administered by the United Kingdom in Eastern and Southern Africa. In Swaziland, for instance, where the European element amounted to only 2 per cent of the population, 49 per cent of the total area of land was reserved for European occupation. In spite of official protestations to the contrary, racial discrimination was used to perpetuate political, social and economic inequalities.

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(Mr. Dadzie, Ghana)

With regard to education, the situation was not much better. In most multi-racial Territories, primary and secondary education continued to be organized on racial lines, and there were deplorable differences as between the amenities, the allocations of funds and the curricula of the separate systems. The transition from segregation to integration was clearly too slow; considerable progress had, however, been made where higher education was concerned.

While the delegation of Ghana realized that to change people's minds and attitudes would take time, it was glad to note that some progress in improved race relations had been made in the United Kingdom Territories in Eastern and Southern Africa. It was essential, however, not to be content with attempts to re-educate public opinion or with a general condemnation of racial discrimination; legislation must be enacted to make all discriminatory practices illegal. His delegation could not agree that the education of public opinion should come before legislation. It was the duty of Governments to lead, not to follow, public opinion.

In conclusion he congratulated the specialized agencies on their activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and stressed that those Territories should in return be induced to participate more and more actively in the international economic and social co-operation mentioned in Article 55 of the Charter. In that way, the Non-Self-Governing Territories would not only be able to co-operate effectively with their neighbours in the solution of regional problems, but would be assisted in the formulation of their own programmes and could thus look beyond the limits of their own frontiers and take the fullest advantage of the experience and advice of the specialized agencies. Lastly, he paid a tribute to the Administering Powers for their efforts to improve social conditions in the Territories under their administration.

Mr. VELLODI (India) said that he would deal briefly with sub-items (d), (e) and (h) of agenda item 4 (levels of living, aspects of labour problems and public health). Since those problems were considered in detail by the specialized agencies and by some of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Committee should look at them from the point of view of the provisions of Chapter XI of the Charter.

(Mr. Vellodi, India)

He expressed his delegation's appreciation of the extremely useful reports prepared by the International Labour Office, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund. His delegation realized how much those bodies had done to improve general living conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The Administering Members, too, had initiated what had sometimes been very significant progress, especially in the field of health and social services.

With regard to levels of living in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, his delegation entirely agreed with the Secretariat that good health was not only an important part of individual and social well-being, but also a prerequisite of economic development.

The first table in the Secretariat document gave a somewhat disheartening picture of the problem of infant mortality in certain areas; in Guam, for instance, and to an even greater extent in the Caribbean, the infant mortality rate had increased in some cases rather strikingly. The Secretariat report attributed that fact in the main to an inadequate supply of medical personnel. The WHO report also referred to the serious shortage of qualified medical staff and to the unsatisfactory hospital facilities for African patients as was evidenced by the fact that in some cases patients had to be accommodated two in a bed. His delegation hoped that the Administering Powers would give the matter the highest priority and that increased expenditure would be provided to remedy the situation. The assistance rendered by WHO and UNICEF in the form of fellowships, surveys, the provision of health services and the control of tuberculosis and malaria deserved special commendation.

In the field of education, there had been general progress in practically all the Territories. He was particularly happy to note that universal education was already in force in a number of Territories in the Pacific and Caribbean areas. As universal compulsory education spread to the African Territories, the problem of the education of girls would disappear. Incidentally, he would like to hear from the United Kingdom representative why in Bechuanaland the number of girls attending not only primary but even secondary schools was considerably higher than the number of boys.

His delegation wished once again to emphasize the need to eliminate racial discrimination from educational institutions and, with that goal in view, to

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establish more multi-racial schools. It had also noted that the teacher-student ratio in African schools was relatively poor (in Kenya, for example, there were on the average about three teachers for each African primary school as against 9.5 teachers for each European school). While that disparity was entirely due to the shortage of qualified African teachers, the amalgamation of all schools into one multi-racial system would remove what the average African considered to be discrimination.

Where nutrition was concerned, the view expressed by the Committee at its eleventh session that both under-nutrition and malnutrition were still to be found extensively in many Non-Self-Governing Territories, especially in Africa and Asia, and that under-nutrition was found to be the rule rather than the exception seemed to be applicable to the present situation. According to paragraph 66 of the Secretariat report, the nutritional level of the peoples of the Territories was bound to remain low until families were guaranteed an income that was more equitable and more closely related to its size and requirements.

With regard to agenda item 4 (e) (Aspects of labour problems), he stressed the importance of labour-management relations and the problem of wages. The report submitted by the International Labour Office on the first point (A/AC.35/L.332) was comprehensive and objective. His delegation, which had stressed the importance of the question in the past, was glad to find that some progress had been made in regard to trade unions. It noted, however, that according to paragraph 24 of the ILO report, the trade union movement remained in many Territories a limited representation of the general body of workers. In Kenya, for example, only 5 per cent of the wage-earners were members of trade unions (A/AC.35/L.332, table 2). One practical difficulty which seemed to be at the root of the trouble was the requirement of registration. The ILO report indicated, in paragraph 13, that registration was not automatic and might be refused or even in certain circumstances cancelled. The trade unions were also required to render annual accounts. Lastly, certain trade unions were allowed to begin to organize, but only on a probationary basis. All those restrictions were undesirable and impeded the development of a healthy trade union movement. Collective bargaining did not

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appear to be developed to any noticeable extent. His delegation noted with regret the statement in paragraph 32 of the ILO report that some employers held the view that African workers were not ripe for trade unionism or for collective bargaining and that what was important was that production should not be disturbed by imaginary grievances. Those employers who had encouraged trade union development were therefore all the more to be commended. There appeared also to be certain limitations placed on strikes and the ILO report indicated that the authorities should ensure the existence of adequate machinery to safeguard the interests of the workers and the trade unions.

The ILO report also mentioned, in paragraph 21, that there was a tendency for workers to organize along racial lines. That would appear to have an unfavourable effect on industrial relations. Where the involvement of trade unions in politics was concerned, his delegation endorsed the view of the representative of Ghana that legal restrictions on the political activities of trade unions would be unlikely to promote the growth of a healthy and effective trade union movement.

His delegation would be glad if the Administering Members in the Committee would indicate whether all the conventions referred to in the annex to document A/AC.35/L.332 were in fact being applied in the Territories for which they were responsible.

On the question of wages, his delegation once again stressed the need to eliminate the existing disparity in wages between indigenous workers and Europeans. In reply to a question he had asked previously, the United Kingdom representative had said that that disparity was particularly marked because the average tended to be higher in the case of the Europeans, who were fewer in number in Northern Rhodesia, than in the case of the Africans. He had confirmed that the figures he had quoted applied to basic wage rates, which had no relation to the relative number of Africans and Europeans. There was clearly a need for a more thorough examination of the matter.

(Mr. Vellodi, India)

On the question of the status of women, the ILO report (A/AC.35/L.330) was very useful but not very heartening. In most of the Territories, women continued to receive lower salaries than men. While there had been some increase in the number of women entering various professions, such cases were apparently still the exception rather than the rule. Opportunities for education and vocational training still appeared to be very limited. He was, however, glad to note that there was a growing recognition of the role of women in the life of the community and hoped that the trend would continue.

Mrs. BERNARDINO CAPPÀ (Dominican Republic) wished first of all to congratulate the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Rapporteur on their election.

The Committee had before it a large number of reports prepared by the Secretariat, the ILO, WHO and UNICEF. She regretted that the work of the Spanish-speaking representatives had been made more difficult because those reports had not yet been issued in Spanish.

She wished, however, to thank the Secretariat and the specialized agencies for the care and lucidity with which those documents had been drafted. It was clear both from the information transmitted by the Administering Powers and from the documents prepared by the Secretariat the Administering Members were making resolute efforts to improve the situation of the Territories for which they were responsible. However, the vestiges of ancient customs and archaic laws could not be eliminated overnight. For example, while the report on the social aspects of urban development indicated that the African population of the West African Territories enjoyed adequate social services in the form of clinics, hospitals, maternity centres, social welfare services and even day-nurseries for the children of working mothers, the Secretariat document on racial discrimination clearly showed that it had not yet been possible to eliminate that grave problem, which directly affected the lives of millions of human beings. In that connexion, her delegation had been glad to hear the United Kingdom representative say that certain information given in document A/AC.35/L.334 did not correspond to the facts and in particular that the United Kingdom was making every effort to eliminate all forms of racial discrimination in the Territories under its jurisdiction.

(Mrs. Bernardino Cappa, Dominican Republic)

The document on juvenile delinquency showed that the lack of statistics precluded any detailed analysis of that alarming problem. It could, however, be said that until corporal punishment was abolished and until modern methods were used for the rehabilitation of juvenile delinquents, the question would continue to occupy the Committee's attention.

With regard to the conditions of employment for women, she noted that in many Territories the role of women was confined to domestic work. That feudal concept of the place of women in society must yield to more modern ideas, in conformity with the United Nations Charter. There was no democracy worthy of the name in which the system of political or social organization differentiated between the sexes. Where education was concerned, her delegation agreed with the Indian delegation that steps should be taken to institute compulsory education for both sexes. It was well known that, in many cases, parents paid more attention to the education of their sons than to that of their daughters.

Although the rate of progress was not the same in all Territories, the Committee's task was not to criticize but to encourage the Administering Powers to continue their efforts to further the advancement of the Territories for which they were responsible until the latter had attained complete independence.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.