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MEETING**

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Chairman: Mr. Adnan M. PACHACHI (Iraq).

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Ortiz de Rozas (Argentina), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

AGENDA ITEMS 37, 39, 40 AND 41

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/4360-4368, A/4371) (continued):

- (a) Progress achieved by the Non-Self-Governing Territories in pursuance of Chapter XI of the Charter (A/4105-4109, A/4114, A/4124, A/4128 and Corr.1, A/4129, A/4131, A/4134, A/4136, A/4137, A/4142, A/4144, A/4152, A/4162 and Corr.1, A/4165-4167, A/4175, A/4178, A/4181, A/4192-4195, ST/TRI/SER.A/15/vol.5);
- (b) Information on economic conditions (A/4371);
- (c) Information on other conditions (A/4371);
- (d) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information;

- (e) New developments connected with the association of Non-Self-Governing Territories with the European Economic Community: report of the Secretary-General (A/4470)

Dissemination of information on the United Nations in Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/4471 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1) (continued)

Participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies: report of the Secretary-General (A/4472 and Add.1, A/C.4/L.639) (continued)

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/4473 and Corr.1 and Add.1, 2 and 3) (continued)

GENERAL DEBATE (concluded)

1. Mr. EMILIANI (Colombia), speaking on sub-items (b) and (c) of agenda item 37, said that his welcome to the new Member States was no mere formality, for Colombia had not achieved independence without a long and painful struggle. It had economic interests in common with the new States, too, and he therefore renewed the invitation to meet in order to consider plans for economic co-operation which the Minister for External Relations of his country had extended to the African nations in his speech in the General Assembly (880th plenary meeting).

2. A healthy economy was the road to progress and an examination of the economic conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories was a guide to social conditions there. It was undeniable that there was a connexion between economics and colonialism; some speakers, relying on Marxist logic, had even asserted that the Non-Self-Governing Territories existed as such solely to meet the metropolitan country's desire for exploitation. If such economic colonialism existed, it would be contrary to the recommendations of the Charter, since it implied political subjugation. But he would remind the Committee that there was another form of colonialism—political colonialism—under which, on the pretext of a supposed identity of ideas, peoples were cruelly oppressed without hope of freedom. Such colonialism was equally reprehensible and the economies of such peoples were no less greedily exploited. That form of colonialism, however, was not subject to United Nations supervision and its victims languished in silence.

3. The picture to be found in the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/4371) was far from rosy; there had indeed been some progress but his delegation could not feel that the necessary minimum had been achieved. Moreover, in many cases what progress

had taken place had been due rather to natural evolution than to the efforts of the administering Powers. As paragraph 45 of part two of the report pointed out, the basic structure of the economy of the Territories remained, in general, at a low stage of development, based mainly on subsistence agriculture and on the production of a few primary products for export. The economic infrastructure had undergone no improvement; processing industries were not a major factor in the economic life of the Territories, while manufacturing industries had to contend with a scarcity of local capital and a shortage of skilled personnel.

4. It was of course true that to pass from an economy based on agriculture and stock-breeding to one based on manufacturing industry was a difficult economic step. Agriculture itself, however, was still in a primitive state in those Territories and stock-breeding was not conducted on scientific lines and was hampered by diseases which could have been brought under control.

5. The conclusion which emerged was that the standard of living showed no improvement. His delegation wondered whether more effective plans for speeding up the economic development of the Territories could not be adopted, in order to shorten the period of foreign intervention, which could only be justified as a means to improve the lot of the peoples concerned. The problem was a difficult one, because even those countries which had reached a higher stage of development had had to contend with insuperable obstacles. Miracles could not be expected, but he felt that, given more co-operation and a more technical approach, the pace of development could be accelerated.

6. He had been encouraged by the reference in paragraph 54 of part two of the report to the high level of capital investment in the Territories. Poor countries needed foreign capital, since capital formation in such countries was too slow, and economic xenophobia was therefore to be deprecated. The real danger lay in the export of all or most of the profits. A system under which profits would be ploughed back should be adopted without delay, not only with a view to strengthening the economy but in order to make it possible to grapple with the "population explosion" by absorbing increases in manpower. The best way to achieve higher productivity and increased diversification in agriculture was to set up industries, and for that, too, foreign capital would be required. In order to be productive, capital needed labour. It was not all labour that was productive, as the Marxists erroneously claimed, but only skilled labour; labour must therefore be taught modern methods, since without that there could be no hope of raising the level of living. There was no prospect of increasing agricultural productivity if the farmer merely followed ancestral methods. The fact that, in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, the national product had increased without any significant rise in per caput income and that the gap in levels of living between the highly industrialized and the under-developed countries was constantly widening was hardly surprising in the circumstances. The reason for the gap could not be conveyed by statistics, for the matter went far deeper: it was a question of quality.

7. What was needed was a crusade to train workers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and that in turn required the spread of primary education—the

state of which was deplorable—and the establishment of vocational training centres. Levels of living were raised not merely by increasing income but also by enabling men to make use of that increase, and that could be achieved through vocational training.

Mr. Pachachi (Iraq) took the Chair.

8. Mr. BRAIMAH (Ghana) wished to make a few remarks on the subject of sub-item 37 (d). He would speak at greater length on the general question of the transmission of information concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories in connexion with agenda item 38.

9. Firstly, he stressed the need for information on political developments in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which with a few exceptions had not been made available to the United Nations, despite repeated requests by the General Assembly.

10. Secondly, it was unfortunate that the information that was furnished on conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories reached the Secretariat only after considerable delay, arriving often many months after the dates established by the General Assembly. He asked whether any information about the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Malta had been received; if not his delegation would consider it long overdue.

11. With regard to the African Territories under French administration, he pointed out that no information had reached the United Nations during the past three years on the subject of the Comoro Archipelago and French Somaliland. True, they were small Territories—the population of the Comoro Archipelago was well under 200,000 and that of French Somaliland a little under 67,000—but their future was none the less important. In March 1959 the French Government had informed the Secretary-General that no further information would be transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter on any Territories under French administration excepting the New Hebrides.^{1/} Nevertheless, while the previously French-administered Territories in West Africa and Equatorial Africa, as also Madagascar, were now sovereign States, neither the Comoro Archipelago nor French Somaliland had attained that position. At the 981st meeting of the Fourth Committee, held during the fourteenth session, the Indian delegation had pointed out that the situation of the French overseas territories did not correspond to any of the factors laid down in the annex to General Assembly resolution 742 (VIII) and had maintained that the Government of France should for the time being continue to transmit information concerning those territories in accordance with Article 73 e. In the opinion of the delegation of Ghana those remarks still applied to the Comoro Archipelago and French Somaliland.

12. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) regretted that information concerning Malta had not yet reached the Secretariat. The information would, however, be available shortly and therefore, in time for the next session of the Committee on Information, which would be the earliest time at which it could have been examined.

13. Mr. MAX (France) said that the present status of French Somaliland and that of the Comoro Archipelago were in accordance with the wishes expressed by the peoples of those territories in the referendum

^{1/} See A/4096, sect. I.

in 1958. Since they were now self-governing territories they no longer came within the scope of Article 73 of the Charter. He would give further information on the subject later if the Committee deemed it necessary.

14. Mr. HERZI (Somalia) endorsed the remarks made by the representative of Ghana. In his delegation's view French Somaliland was still a Non-Self-Governing Territory and it was the duty of the French Government to transmit information in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter.

15. Mr. BRAIMAH (Ghana) thanked the United Kingdom representative for his reply.

16. The delegation of Ghana would await with interest the further information the French representative had promised to give the Committee.

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.4/L.639)

17. The CHAIRMAN invited the members of the Committee to examine the draft resolution submitted

by a number of delegations concerning participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies (A/C.4/L.639).

18. Mr. ZAID RIFAI (Jordan) stated that the name of his delegation should have been included in the list of sponsors.

19. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked for a short suspension of the meeting in order to give the sponsors time to discuss certain points that had arisen in connexion with the draft resolution.

The meeting was suspended at 11.40 a.m. and resumed at 12.20 p.m.

20. Mr. ZULOAGA (Venezuela) said that the sponsors had been unable to agree on a text and he therefore proposed the adjournment of the meeting.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 12.25 p.m.