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**Chairman: Mr. Guillermo FLORES AVENDAÑO**  
 (Guatemala).

**AGENDA ITEMS 13, 58 AND 59**

**Report of the Trusteeship Council (A/5204, A/C.4/L.772/Rev.1) (continued)**

**Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/5228) (continued)**

**Dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/5231, A/C.4/L.773) (continued)**

1. Mr. GAZDIK (Hungary) stressed that the provisions of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV)) applied equally to the Trust Territories. The end of the International Trusteeship System was therefore near. The Hungarian delegation welcomed the achievement of independence by eight former Trust Territories and hoped that the three remaining Territories would shortly attain self-government and independence.

2. The United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of Nauru and New Guinea, 1962, had come to the conclusion, after conversations with the indigenous inhabitants of New Guinea, that the latter had leaders who were perfectly capable of representing them and, in chapter IV of its report on that Territory (T/1597 and Add.1), it had listed the steps that should be taken for the establishment of a national parliament in New Guinea. The introduction of universal suffrage in the Territory would be an important factor in the implementation of the Declaration. The Trusteeship Council in part II, chapter II, of its report (A/5204), had endorsed those conclusions and had invited the Administering Authority to take steps to put them into effect.

3. Unfortunately the Australian Government had done nothing and a number of important questions re-

mained unanswered. In his statement at the 1426th meeting of the Committee the Australian representative had been extremely cautious regarding the form of the political institutions in New Guinea. Thus the Administering Authority had not carried out the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council or promoted the implementation of the Declaration.

4. For example, the educational level in New Guinea was very low; there were scarcely any schools other than primary schools, since the Australian Government had neglected to establish secondary and technical schools. In 1961 there had been some 10,000 pupils in the primary schools and only 581 in technical establishments. It was the policy of the Administering Authority to discourage the legitimate aspirations of the indigenous inhabitants by providing them with only rudimentary education. The Indonesian Government, on the other hand, had opened an establishment for higher education in West Irian after only three months of administration.

5. Every year the Hungarian Government offered scholarships for secondary or higher education to students from the Trust Territories and it was alarming to note from the report of the Secretary-General (A/5228) that most of those scholarships were not utilized. Financial difficulties could not justify the refusal to make use of such scholarships, since students' travelling expenses were paid. The reason was that the Administering Authority was doing its utmost to slow down the training of technical personnel in New Guinea, thus displaying the anti-social attitude which characterized all the Administering Authorities.

6. Much had been said on the subject of the future of the Nauruans. The Hungarian delegation associated itself with the views of those delegations which held that Nauru should achieve total independence, since that was the wish of its inhabitants.

7. Turning to the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, he emphasized that it must not be divided. The living conditions of the inhabitants of the Territory were precarious. In that connexion he drew the Committee's attention to a petition submitted to the Trusteeship Council by an American citizen (T/PET.10/35) which stated that the indigenous people were without water or electricity while their American employers lived in comfort.

8. Mr. CHAPIN (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, pointed out that the Committee was not competent to examine the situation in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. The report of the Trusteeship Council on that subject<sup>1/</sup> had been transmitted direct to the Security Council.

<sup>1/</sup> Official Records of the Security Council, Seventeenth Year, Special Supplement No. 1 (S/5143).

9. Mr. GAZDIK (Hungary), concluding his statement, thanked the Trusteeship Council and the Visiting Mission for the comprehensive information they had submitted in their reports, which were of great assistance to the Committee in its task.

10. Mr. ABEBE (Ethiopia) observed that according to Article 76 b of the Charter the basic objectives of the Trusteeship System were to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Trust Territories and their progressive development towards self-government or independence. Thanks to the International Trusteeship System, one of the vital objectives of the United Nations had been achieved, as was shown by the fact that six former Trust Territories, now independent States, had joined the United Nations. In that connexion his delegation congratulated the Administering Authorities and the leaders and peoples of the Territories in question. The Ethiopian delegation could not overlook the exception that has been made regarding the application of the Trusteeship System to a former Mandated Territory. He had in mind the Territory of South West Africa, which had been denied the benefits of the International Trusteeship System. Of all the Mandatory Powers, South Africa was the exception: it had proceeded with its unilateral plan in defiance of United Nations decisions regarding the Mandated Territory of South West Africa. The Ethiopian delegation awaited with hope and confidence the final decision of the International Court of Justice concerning the fate of the people of that Territory.

11. He congratulated the members of the Trusteeship Council on their report and stated that the report of the Visiting Mission of New Guinea (T/1597 and Add.1) was a vital source of information concerning that Trust Territory. In paragraph 267 of its report, the Mission had expressed the view that it was essential to be ahead and not behind the rapidly awakening and increasingly insistent desire of the people for material progress, and to equip the people with higher education to take a leading share in the management of their own affairs; and that the whole Territory must be drawn together and given the means for free political expression by the creation of a representative parliament. The Mission had added, in paragraphs 268 and 269, that there should be no delay whatever in pressing on to achieve those three purposes, in order to increase the pace of progress towards national self-determination; and it had proposed that the target for the implementation of the three plans it had advocated should be set no later than 31 December 1963. Those were fair and reasonable conclusions and the Ethiopian delegation fully supported them and hoped that the Administering Authority would give them high priority.

12. The Visiting Mission's report on Nauru (T/1595 and Add.1) raised certain problems which required immediate consideration. The question of Nauru was unique in that there were two objectives to be attained: namely, the achievement of independence and a satisfactory solution of the problem of resettlement. Pending a final solution of that problem, preparations should continue for the achievement of independence in accordance with the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples. It would be for the Nauruans themselves to make the choice of their place of resettlement, but that should not retard their progress towards independence. The Ethiopian delegation was confident that the Administering Authority would continue to

co-operate with the United Nations with a view to finding a satisfactory solution. As the Trusteeship Council had stated, the time had come for the Administering Authority to work out in detail specific and definite plans which would be submitted without further delay to the Nauruans for their consideration and discussion, with opportunity being given to them to make proposals for any changes or improvements which might occur to them (A/5204, p. 33, para. 12). The Administering Authority should take the recommendations of the Trusteeship Council into account and intensify its efforts towards the achievement of the objectives of the International Trusteeship System.

13. The report of the Secretary-General concerning offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Trust Territories (A/5228) showed that not a single student from New Guinea, Nauru or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands had submitted an application. It was to be hoped that in the future those Territories would take advantage of the training programme offered them. The Ethiopian delegation endorsed the suggestion in paragraph 5 of the Secretary-General's report that the scholarship programme for students from Trust Territories should be administered jointly with that for students from Non-Self-Governing Territories, an arrangement which would save both time and money.

14. With regard to the dissemination of information on the United Nations and the International Trusteeship System in the Trust Territories, he had been glad to learn that a United Nations Information Centre had been established at Port Moresby to serve the Territories of New Guinea and Papua. He was glad to note that the Centre was being provided with audio-visual material and that an indigenous assistant was to be engaged. He also noted that the text of the Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples was being distributed in the indigenous languages, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 1644 (XVI). His delegation hoped that further progress would be made in that field, and it thought that the Secretary-General might be asked to report on the subject to the General Assembly at its eighteenth session.

15. Mr. KIDWAI (India) thanked Mr. Bingham, the United States representative, under whose presidency the Trusteeship Council had considered the problems of the Trust Territories and had presented a clear and informative report which facilitated the Committee's deliberations.

16. His delegation was glad to note that three Trust Territories—Tanganyika, Rwanda and Burundi—had acceded to independence during the period covered by the report. It was also glad to note that, of the original eleven Territories under the Trusteeship System, there now remained only three: the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Nauru and New Guinea. At the end of the year, India would cease to be a member of the Trusteeship Council, on which it had served since the Council's inception. It was proud of that long association and of the Council's achievements.

17. The report of the Trusteeship Council on the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands<sup>2/</sup> was to go direct to the Security Council and was therefore not

<sup>2/</sup> Ibid.

on the Committee's agenda. With regard to New Guinea and Nauru, the Trusteeship Council had considered the reports of the Mission which had visited those Territories in 1962. His own country had been represented on that Mission. In its reports, the Visiting Mission had focused its attention on the political, economic and educational needs of the Territories. The Trusteeship Council had discussed those reports thoroughly at its twenty-ninth session but the Administering Authority's reactions to the recommendations in them had not been available at that time, for it had not had time to consider them and to reach decisions on them.

18. The CHAIRMAN apologized for interrupting the Indian representative, but drew attention to the fact that the General Assembly was at that moment considering the Committee's report on the items relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/5371). The members of the Committee might perhaps wish to attend that debate.

19. Mr. KIDWAI (India) suggested that the meeting should be suspended.

*The meeting was suspended at 11.25 a.m. and resumed at 11.40 a.m.*

20. Mr. KIDWAI (India), continuing his statement, said that his delegation was grateful to the Australian representative for having informed the Committee, at its 1426th meeting, of his Government's attitude towards the recommendations in the reports of the Visiting Mission. He had made it clear that the Australian Government intended to submit the proposals concerning New Guinea, as amended by the Select Committee on Political Development of the Legislative Council of Papua and New Guinea, for parliamentary approval.

21. Referring to paragraph 129 of the Visiting Mission's report (T/1597 and Add.1), he noted that the Mission had come to the conclusion that there were at present three principal needs in New Guinea: to undertake a full review of the economy of the Territory; to find, train and guide potential leaders as a matter of maximum urgency; and to develop representative democratic government at the centre to overcome the divisions which had so far bedevilled the Territory. In paragraph 134 it had recommended a full economic survey by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, a new programme of university and higher education and immediate preparations for the election of a representative parliament.

22. The International Bank had agreed to make a full economic survey in the near future. His delegation therefore hoped that a report on the survey, dealing with the economic problems facing the Territory, such as the land problem, crop production, forestry, animal husbandry, industries, mineral resources etc., would be issued at an early date.

23. With regard to education, the Visiting Mission had stressed that the main reason why the present programme was inadequate was that it paid little or no attention to the need for higher education. It had further stated that the need for qualified personnel in all fields was so great that a new approach was essential. His delegation had therefore noted with appreciation the statement by the Australian representative at the 1426th meeting that the Administering Authority was planning to establish an administrative college in 1963 and a university college not

later than 1966. His delegation hoped that every effort would be made to open the latter long before 1966. The Australian representative had also referred to the financial assistance given to secondary school students. While it fully approved of those measures, his delegation was constrained to note that there was still no indication of the number of students who would thus be able to take the secondary course. It would further like to emphasize to the Administering Authority the Visiting Mission's observation, in paragraph 132 of its report, that pending the creation of a university, at least 100 New Guineans should be selected annually for higher education in Australia or elsewhere. His delegation recommended that suggestion very strongly to the Australian Government.

24. By far the most important of the Visiting Mission's three recommendations was the one relating to the creation of a truly representative parliament of about 100 members. His delegation appreciated the interest the Australian Government took in that matter. It also wished to thank the Australian community in New Guinea for having suggested the formation of a Select Committee to review the political needs of the Territory. The Committee had travelled to all the main population centres of the Territory and had heard evidence from all sectors of the population. On the basis of the Committee's recommendations, the Australian Government was contemplating the creation of a legislative body consisting of forty-four elected indigenous members, ten elected minority representatives and ten appointed official members.

25. His delegation saw no objection to the reserving of ten seats for non-indigenous candidates who would represent minority interests. It hoped, however, that the appointment of ten official members was only a temporary measure and that their number would gradually be reduced. It would have preferred a parliament of 100 members, as recommended by the Visiting Mission, but it regarded the Australian Government's proposals as an appreciable advance on the present system, whereby the indigenous population elected only six representatives.

26. Furthermore, all the elected representatives would be elected from a common electoral roll on the basis of universal adult suffrage. His delegation recommended that voting should be by secret ballot and that voting stations should be set up in every sub-district in order that voters would not have to travel long distances. Moreover, the elections should be given intensive publicity and the voting procedure should be thoroughly explained to all adult inhabitants of the Territory. A parliament elected under such conditions would be a truly representative body and would best serve the interests of the people.

27. With regard to Nauru, the main problem was that of the future of its inhabitants. The intensive exploitation of the phosphates would soon deprive the island of its only source of income. It was estimated that the deposits would be exhausted within thirty years; when that happened, the only solution would be to resettle the 2,500 Nauruans elsewhere. In their June 1962 proposals to the Australian Government (T/1600), the Nauruan people had suggested the creation of a sovereign Nauruan nation governed by Nauruans in their own interests but related to Australia by a treaty of friendship. The Nauruans were asking that a resettlement plan should be prepared

which would enable them to settle on an island near the Australian continent. The Indian delegation was glad to note that the Australian Government was assisting the Nauruan leaders in their search for such an island and that Australia was determined not to foist any plan upon the people. It urged, however, that a decision should be reached without undue delay. Although the phosphate deposits would not be exhausted for some time, resettlement would be a protracted operation requiring considerable financial assistance.

28. The Visiting Mission had stated in paragraph 115 of its report on Nauru (T/1595 and Add.1) that the Governments of the countries which had benefited from the exploitation of Nauru's phosphate over the years should provide generous assistance towards the cost of the resettlement of the people. The Indian delegation was glad to note that the Australian Government was fully conscious of its obligations in that respect; it hoped that the Australian Government intended to deduct the necessary sums from the profits accruing to the three Governments concerned from the working of the deposits, without reducing in any way the profits now allocated to the Nauruans. It also considered that the latter's share of the profits, now amounting to 24 per cent, was still inadequate. It noted with satisfaction that the Australian Government, in consultation with the British Phosphate Commissioners, was exploring the best manner of associating the Nauruans with the working of the phosphates and had agreed that, as the Visiting Mission had recommended, annual conferences should be held to that end between the British Phosphate Commissioners and the representatives of the Nauruan people.

29. Another important recommendation by the Visiting Mission related to increased Nauruan participation in the management of the affairs of their island. The Indian delegation had noted the statement by the Australian representative that an extension of the powers and functions of the Nauru Local Government Council was being studied and hoped that at its next session the Trusteeship Council would be informed of specific proposals to that effect. The Visiting Mission had also suggested the establishment of an advisory committee to study the question of legislative and executive power. The Indian delegation hoped that the Administering Authority would bear that recommendation in mind.

30. Mr. BRYKIN (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the abolition of the International Trusteeship System was one of the steps which should be taken as part of the liquidation of colonialism and that it was from that point of view that the Committee should consider the report of the Trusteeship Council now before it. The Trusteeship System had been established by the colonial Powers ostensibly in order to promote the development of certain peoples, but in point of fact they had hoped that the system would enable them to maintain their domination over the colonial territories in question. That was borne out by the fact that when the Trusteeship System had been established the colonial Powers had refused to set a date for the independence of those territories. Their attitude in that respect had not changed, as could be seen from the voting at the 1195th plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held on 17 December 1962. The bureaucracy established to service the Trusteeship Council was further evidence of the fact that the colonial Powers had regarded the Inter-

national Trusteeship System as a means for perpetuating their domination. The delegation of the USSR had always been of the opinion that the Trusteeship System, like the colonial system itself, should be liquidated and it had been working to that end ever since the establishment of the United Nations.

31. The Trusteeship Council had, in point of fact, helped to retard the development of the dependent territories, which would have been in a much more favourable situation now had they obtained independence in 1945. The progress achieved in all fields by the many African and Asian countries which had attained independence in recent years was sufficient to convince anyone of that fact.

32. The true intentions of the colonial Powers were also apparent from the fact that, whenever the question of granting independence to the Territories still under trusteeship arose, they claimed that those Territories were not yet ready for it. They had systematically failed to implement the General Assembly resolutions relating to the development of those colonial territories; they had endeavoured to create the impression that the Trust Territories were making rapid progress and, thanks to the majority they enjoyed in the Trusteeship Council, they had even brought about the adoption of resolutions congratulating them on their alleged achievements. They were now once again placing difficulties in the way of the independence of the remaining Trust Territories, thus violating the provisions of resolution 1514 (XV) and particularly its operative paragraph 3. If matters were left to the colonial Powers, that independence would never come.

33. In the case of Nauru it was obvious that trusteeship had made it possible, not to prepare the Territory for independence, but on the contrary to exploit the phosphate deposits which constituted its only natural wealth. Nor had the United States tried to develop the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, which was under its domination; a truly deplorable situation was known to prevail there.

34. To appreciate the true role of the Trusteeship Council it sufficed to recall that thousands of petitions received by that organ either had not been acted upon or had merely been filed away in the archives without having even been considered.

35. The latest report of the Trusteeship Council made no reference to USSR proposals that a date should be set for the independence of New Guinea and Nauru. The recommendations it embodied were mere manifestations of a superficial interest in those Territories and they too would remain a dead letter. From the practical point of view, the Trusteeship Council was hampering the attainment of independence by New Guinea and Nauru and was helping to maintain the presence of Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom in those Territories. As for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the United States did not even want the question of its independence to be raised. The political situation in New Guinea was so stagnant that even the Visiting Mission, the majority of whose members were representatives of colonial Powers, had been unable to do other than note that fact.

36. The Visiting Mission had proposed in paragraph 269 of its report on New Guinea (T/1597 and Add.1) that 31 December 1963 should be set as the target date for the implementation of the recom-

mendations it had formulated with regard to that Territory, but the great defect in those recommendations lay in the fact that they failed to provide for the immediate and unconditional transfer of power to the indigenous inhabitants. Furthermore, the Trusteeship Council had not endorsed those recommendations because of the objections raised by Australia, which had not really changed its attitude and was merely considering a few steps of no real importance.

37. Nothing was being done to protect the interests of the people of the Trust Territories, as was evidenced by the rapacious exploitation of Nauru's phosphates by the British Phosphate Commissioners. At the present rate of mining, the deposits would be worked out within thirty years. That was a striking example of the manner in which the monopolies operated, and if the colonial system was not liquidated rapidly a similar exploitation would lie in store for the African countries which had not yet attained independence. The delegation of the USSR was of the opinion that, if the tragedy threatening the people of Nauru was to be averted, it was essential that the United Nations should transfer to them absolute control over their natural resources. The British Phosphate Commissioners should be expelled without compensation and the indigenous inhabitants should be given the necessary finance and equipment to enable them to continue the mining of the phosphates for their own benefit.

38. Australia claimed that it intended to co-operate with the United Nations but in point of fact it was pursuing its own policy, which was contrary to the Charter and to General Assembly resolutions, par-

ticularly resolution 1514 (XV). As the Trusteeship Council was powerless to do anything in the matter, by reason of the fact that the colonial Powers had an automatic majority in the Council, it was incumbent upon the General Assembly to ensure that the provisions of resolution 1514 (XV) were applied to Nauru.

39. As for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, under United States administration, which was supposed to be under the control of the Security Council, not once had it been possible to consider to what extent the provisions of the Charter and of resolution 1514 (XV) were being applied to it.

40. The delegation of the USSR considered that the United Nations should insist upon the Administering Authorities' holding democratic elections in all the Trust Territories with a view to the establishment of representative organs and to the transfer of full power to the indigenous inhabitants. Since the Trusteeship Council was incapable of achieving such a result, it should be abolished and its functions should be assumed by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the composition of which was more satisfactory.

41. In view of what it had said about the Trusteeship Council and of the fact that the Council's report did not reflect the views which it had expressed during the Council's discussions, the delegation of the USSR would abstain when draft resolution A/C.4/L.772/Rev.1 was put to the vote.

The meeting rose at 1.20 p.m.