### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

TWELFTH SESSION Official Records



# FOURTH COMMITTEE 719th

Wednesday, 27 November 1957, at 10.50 a.m.

**NEW YORK** 

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Chairman: Mr. Thanat KHOMAN (Thailand).

#### **AGENDA ITEM 13**

## Report of the Trusteeship Council (A/3595 and Corr.1, A/3718, A/C.4/372) (continued)

HEARING OF PETITIONERS (continued)

- At the invitation of the Chairman, Mr. Charles Assalé, Mr. Paul Soppo Priso and Mr. Jean Ekwabi, representatives of the Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun, Mr. Ndeh Ntumazah, representative of One Kamerun, Mr. Félix Roland Moumié, representative of the Union des populations du Cameroun, Mr. Dika Akwa, representative of the Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun, and Mr. Jacques Ngom, representative of the Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail, took places at the Committee table.
- 1. Mr. MESTIRI (Tunisia) said that he understood from the petitioners' statements that they were all agreed in asking for independence for the Cameroons. He asked whether the Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun shared the desire of the Union des populations du Cameroun (UPC) for immediate independence and unification.
- 2. Mr. SOPPO PRISO (Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun) said that the <u>desiderata</u> of his party were set forth in the statement he had made at the Committee's 716th meeting. His party wished, firstly, for full recognition by the United Nations General Assembly of the unanimous wish of the Cameroonians for independence; and, secondly, for the setting up of a special United Nations commission for the Cameroons to ascertain that the factors necessary for the recognition of the country's sovereignty were present and to adopt a procedure whereby the Territory would achieve full sovereignty immediately.
- 3. Mr. MESTIRI (Tunisia), recalling that the Administering Authority claimed to have legally disbanded the UPC on the grounds that it had been engaging in subversive activities, wished to know Mr. Moumié's views on the legality of that ban.
- 4. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said that he understood that the French claim to have disbanded the UPC legally was based on the Act of 10 January 1936. Article 4 of that Act, however, stipulated that the Act applied only to metropolitan France and Algeria. Moreover, the Act laid down that the pro-

cedure in question could only be applied in the case of military groups or groups which threatened territorial integrity. France had never been able to prove that the UPC was a para-military group. When the United Nations Visiting Mission to the Trust Territories of the Cameroons under British Administration and the Cameroons under French Administration, 1955, had been in the Territory, his party had asked it to hear both sides of the question in order to determine the truth of the matter; but France had prevented the UPC from being heard, on the pretext of maintaining law and order. With regard to the allegation that the UPC constituted a threat to French territorial integrity, since that party had never operated in France it was clear that the French arguments were groundless and that the procedure adopted had been illegal.

- 5. Miss IMRU (Ethiopia) asked what was the position of the Cameroonian students on the question of nationalism
- 6. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) replied that their position had been set forth at the last congress of students held in Paris, at which the overwhelming majority had spoken out infavour of unification and independence, in spite of attempts by the Administering Authority and by Mr. Mbida to intimidate them. A number of students had been penalized on their return to the Cameroons for the outspokenness before the United Nations, while others had been prohibited from returning to the Cameroons from France on the pretext that they were regarded as French citizens.
- 7. Mr. CHAMANDI (Yemen) asked for what categories of persons the amnesty was requested and how many such persons there were in the Cameroons under French and the Cameroons under British administration.
- 8. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said that an amnesty was requested for all persons who were held to have been implicated in the events of May 1955 and December 1956. Their exact number was not known but it was a fact that the prisons were crowded with them. Moreover, a recently published pamphlet gave a list of all the concentration camps in the Cameroons, most of which were in the Sanaga-Maritime and Bamiléké regions; he could give the Committee the number of those camps, if it so desired, and could assure it that on 21 November 1957 the French had reinforced their military units in the Sanaga-Maritime region.
- 9. Mr. PRADO (Ecuador) asked for further clarification with regard to the joint proclamation signed by Mr. Moumié on behalf of the UPC on 22 April 1955. That proclamation set forth the political programme to be carried out upon the termination of the Trusteeship Agreement. He would like to know the scope, objectives and basis of that programme.

- 10. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) replied that on 22 April 1955 the leaders of political and trade-union organizations had met and noted with regret that the appeals made to the Administering Authority had been either ignored or rejected. Realizing that the Administering Authority had failed to respect its obligations, the UPC had asked the United Nations to intervene as a mediator in order to establish the legislative and executive organs to be set up for a unified and independent Cameroons after general elections had been held by universal suffrage and under United Nations supervision. Those were the main points made in the proclamation, which had not at any point expressed the intention of taking over the government by force. It had merely confronted the Administering Authority with its responsibilities and had pointed out that the United Nations Charter and the Trusteeship Agreement stipulated that the Territory should eventually attain independence.
- 11. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked what was the attitude of Cameroonians who had become naturalized French citizens to the programme of the One Kamerun party.
- 12. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) said that it was difficult for naturalized French Cameroonians to give their whole-hearted support to the programme for unification and independence, on account of their divided loyalties and of the high-ranking positions and substantial funds granted to them by the French authorities; they had thus become ready supporters of the French plan to integrate the Cameroons.
- 13. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) referred to Mr. Ntumazah's statement at the 715th meeting that shooting, deportation, assassinations, the dethroning of legal traditional chiefs and the enthroning of illegal ones were common practices in the Cameroons. He asked whether Mr. Ntumazah implied that all those crimes had been committed by the French and British authorities in their official capacity or at least with their connivance.
- 14. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) said that although the outrages he had mentioned might seem so numerous and extreme as to lay him open to a charge of exaggeration, the truth of his assertions could be confirmed by a United Nations commission conducting an investigation in the Territory. In Baham, for instance, the commission would be able to see that the town was deserted except for those persons who had supported the chief who had been enthroned illegally and without consulting the people. The fact that the people held that a chief could only be enthroned in accordance with indigenous laws and customs had led to the disturbances in the region, which had been aggravated by the sending of French troops.
- 15. He had no doubt that the Administering Authority had been aware of the crimes committed in Baham and the entire Bamiléké region and that the shootings had been carried out on its orders. The crimes were always committed after dark and the victims were invariably persons who were known to favour unification and independence; moreover, the authorities, who were far from incompetent in the matter of investigations when it suited them, had neither conducted inquiries into the burning down of houses nor sent police to the scene of the disturbances. Even if the Administering Authorities had not directly instigated the crimes in question, their very indifference had the effect of encouraging such crimes.

- 16. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked what Mr. Ntumazah thought the Administering Authorities' object in making so many arrests was.
- 17. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) replied that the aim of the Administering Authorities was to suppress the strong popular feeling for unification and independence in order that they might achieve their policy of integration of the Cameroons within their colonies.
- 18. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked if the situation would be improved if a new Legislative Assembly were to be elected immediately on the basis of universal adult suffrage and under United Nations supervision.
- 19. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) said that if an election were held forthwith it would not be possible for all adults to express their wishes freely, since a number had fled into the bush and others had been deported. Before elections could be held the United Nations would have to induce the Administering Authorities to proclaim a general amnesty and enable the political organizations to hold meetings freely.
- 20. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana), referring to a previous statement by Mr. Ntumazah, asked whether Nigeria was still antagonistic to the One Kamerun movement and, if that were the case, what were the plans of that party.
- 21. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) replied that Nigeria was still unfavourable to the One Kamerun movement. In earlier days it had not considered the Cameroons a part of Nigeria and had made it quite clear that the Cameroons was a separate entity. In 1953, however, Mr. Azikiwe, the Premier of the Eastern Region of Nigeria, had begun to discuss the question of integration. The Cameroons had reacted vigorously and had shown their opposition to the idea in the 1953 elections, with the result that Cameroonian political parties had little or no link with Nigerian parties at present. Thus the Nigerians could no longer openly agitate for integration.
- 22. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana), recalling Mr. Dika Akwa's assertion at the 716th meeting that 71 per cent of the population had abstained from voting in the last elections, wished to know the reason for those abstentions.
- 23. Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) replied that the abstentions had been due to the fact that the French authorities had ignored the appeal by the united nationalist front (Union nationale du Cameroun) expressed in resolutions calling for either a referendum or the constitution of a new Assembly and the granting of an amnesty two months before the elections. Since the amnesty had not been granted the elections had been held in an atmosphere of unrest. The fact that the UPC had been banished from the Cameroons, leaving a large section of public opinion unrepresented, had also encouraged a number of people to abstain.
- 24. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether, in requesting an amnesty, the petitioners had in mind that all those who had been imprisoned or deported for political reasons should be released or allowed to return to the Territory before there was any attempt to discuss the future of the Cameroons with the Administering Authority.
- 25. Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) replied that only if there

was an amnesty followed by new elections could negotiations between the Administering Authority and valid representatives of the Cameroonian people take place. To that end the amnesty must be accompanied by repeal of the Decree of 13 July 1955 dissolving the UPC.

- 26. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether the situation had actually deteriorated so greatly that there was reason to request the sending of a United Nations police force to the Territory.
- 27. Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) said that in view of the gravity of the existing situation, as attested to even by French newspapers, and the severity of the measures being taken by the Administering Authority on the pretext of pacification, a United Nations commission would have to be accompanied by a police force if it was to be able to accomplish its task. It should be remembered that the 1955 Visiting Mission to the Cameroons had been unable to function effectively because the Administering Authority had requested it not to interview representatives of the three outlawed parties.
- 28. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked to what extent the Territory had been affected so far by the provisions of the Treaty establishing the European Economic Community.
- 29. Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) said that although the Cameroons under French administration had not yet been integrated into the European Economic Community such integration was to take place within the near future. When it did it would constitute a further obstacle to the unification of the two Trust Territories, since the economy of the Cameroons under French administration would then develop in association with the French colonial empire, while that of the Cameroons under British administration, through the link with Nigeria, would develop in association with the British Commonwealth. That danger made the question of unification all the more urgent.
- 30. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether, in pressing for the granting of immediate independence, the petitioners thought that the Cameroonian people were actually in a position to assume responsibility for their own affairs at the present time.
- 31. Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) replied that the Cameroonian people were fully aware of the heavy responsibilities which would devolve upon them with the attainment of independence. The Representative Assembly established in 1946 had functioned satisfactorily and even the present Legislative Assembly, while not enjoying the support of the people, was considered by the Administering Authority to be doing its work in a satisfactory manner, as were also the sixty Cameroonians who were now serving as district administrative officers or their deputies. It would therefore appear that the Cameroons had a trained elite which was prepared to take over the management of the country's affairs. It might be added that even the representatives in the present Assembly had promised during the preelectoral campaign to request immediate independence. If independence was to be granted it must be granted immediately, for there was danger that the two Trust Territories might otherwise be integrated into the French Union and Nigeria.

- 32. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked Mr. Ngom what had happened to the trade-union funds and other property which had allegedly been confiscated when the houses of trade-union members had been searched.
- 33. Mr. NGOM (Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail) replied that although the trade-union leaders had protested when their property had been seized they had received no reply from the authorities, who, as far as they knew, had made no attempt to determine what had happened to it. With the exception of a Roneo machine confiscated in 1955 and returned in 1956, none of the property seized by the police had been returned and the trade-union leaders had no way of knowing what had happened to it. Similarly, when trade-union head-quarters had been set on fire or looted the authorities had refused to act upon the union members' request that the buildings should be repaired.
- 34. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether the petitioners were certain that the desire for unification really existed on both sides of the frontier and that there was no movement which held other views on the subject.
- 35. Mr. NGOM (Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail) replied that the practical difficulties to which the artificial division of the country gave rise in the daily lives of the people living along the frontier showed that the issue of unification was a vital one for the people of both Territories. Members of the same tribe and even of the same family were separated by the frontier, so that some of them received a British education while others were taught in French schools. There were even cases in which people living on one side of the frontier worked or had land on the other side. Although the control exercised by the frontier guard had been eased for a time, it had now been tightened again and the hardships suffered by the inhabitants of the area were increasing as a result.
- 36. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked what action the petitioners thought could be taken to enable those who had fled to the bush to return to their homes.
- 37. Mr. NGOM (Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail) said that only an amnesty would permit the return to their homes of the large numbers of people, including in some cases whole families, who had been driven into the bush by the campaign of repression and massacre which had been growing in intensity since 1956. The Administering Authorities sought to excuse their repressive campaign on the ground that it was necessitated by the disorders which the opposition was stirring up in its efforts to re-establish the dissolved organizations. The fact was, however, that it was the action taken by the Administering Authorities in dissolving the organizations which had given rise to the disturbances, and peace and order could not be restored until an amnesty had been proclaimed.
- 38. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked the petitioners what target date they thought would be appropriate for the attainment of independence.
- 39. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) replied that as far as his party was concerned the most important step to be taken before the country would be in position to exercise full sovereignty was to remedy the present political vacuum. The General Assembly had recommended, in resolution 1064 (XI), that steps should be taken to enable the Trust Terri-

- tories to achieve independence at an early date and France itself was evidently aware of the urgency of the problem, since the Minister for Overseas France had stated during the present session that the introduction of the reforms envisaged by the Administering Authority would accelerate the process of evolution.

  40. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether there was a good communications system linking the two Trust Territories.
- 41. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) replied that the roads built by the Germans before the division of the Cameroons were still in use and provided easy access to each Territory, particularly in the South. Access to Nigeria from the Cameroons under British administration, on the other hand, was difficult. The United States Government had granted a sum amounting to £13,000 for the construction of a road between those two Territories but it had not yet been completed.
- 42. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether the petitioners would be in favour of a referendum conducted under United Nations supervision on the question of unification and eventual independence.
- 43. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said that, although his party would have favoured a referendum in 1954 on specific issues, there was no longer any need for such a consultation, since it was by now apparent that everyone in the Cameroons wanted independence. The French representative on the Trusteeship Council had recognized that the Cameroonians all favoured independence and the Commissioner of the Cameroons under British administration had told the Trusteeship Council that no political party in that Territory was opposed to independence. If the United Nations were to conduct a referendum to determine whether the Cameroons should become independent it would be acting in violation of the provisions of Article 76 of the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1064 (XI).
- 44. In reply to a question from Miss BROOKS (Liberia), Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) said that he wished to emphasize that the granting of an amnesty and the repeal of the decree dissolving the UPC and its affiliated organizations in the Cameroons under French administration were the two steps which would have to be taken before the existing political vacuum could be filled. Mr. Aujoulat, a former Minister for Overseas France, had stated as far back as 1953 that the Cameroons had the necessary personnel to staff political institutions, while a former French colonial administrator, Mr. Bertrand Lembezat, had stated in a book entitled Le Cameroun, published in 1954, 1/that representative government had become an established fact in the Cameroons and was functioning satisfactorily.
- 45. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked Mr. Ntumazah how he had arrived at the conclusion that the UPC and its affiliates had been illegally dissolved and whether any children had been among the Cameroonians deported as a result.
- 46. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) replied that the Decree of 30 May 1957, under which those organizations had been banned, was illegal. Two children had been among those deported at the time.
- 47. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether it was the view of all the political parties that unification should precede the attainment of independence.
- 1/ Editions maritimes coloniales, Paris.

- 48. Mr. NTUMAZAH (One Kamerun) said that he had been a member of various political organizations, including the Kamerun National Democratic Party and the newly formed Union nationale, all of which were in agreement on the issue of unification.
- 49. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said that he too would like to reply to the question, since he knew that the United Kingdom delegation would claim that the Northern Region of the Cameroons under British administration was not in favour of unification. That part of the Cameroons was ruled by traditional chiefs, who had never allowed the people to express their views freely. Any chiefs who had supported unification had been deported by the British authorities. Nevertheless the people of the region were in favour of unification. When the British authorities had observed that there was strong opposition to the integration of the Northern Cameroons with Northern Nigeria, they had set up the Consultative Committee for the Northern Cameroons to study the problem.
- 50. The Northern Cameroons had not been represented at the Nigeria Constitutional Conference held in London. The General Secretary of the Northern Peoples' Congress had attended the Conference as a representative of Northern Nigeria, not of the Cameroons. There were therefore no grounds for saying that the people of the Northern Cameroons under British administration were opposed to unification.
- 51. Mr. DIKA AKWA (Confédération des syndicats indépendants du Cameroun) endorsed what Mr. Moumié had said. All the Cameroonian political parties which had ever expressed their views before the Fourth Committee had been in favour of unification.
- 52. Mr. ASSALE (Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun) said that his party's representatives had not taken much part in the debate because they had summarized their claims in the statement made by Mr. Soppo Priso at the 716th meeting, the text of which had been circulated to all delegations. Nevertheless he would now give some supplementary information.
- 53. It had been alleged that 80 per cent of the population had abstained in the elections. The Groupe d'action nationale, like the other parties, deplored the conditions in which the elections had taken place, but at the same time he felt obliged to point out that whereas in some areas there had been unwillingness to vote, in others the voters had gone to the polls in very large numbers. It could not therefore be fairly claimed that there had been systematic abstentions throughout the country.
- 54. Secondly, with regard to the question of immediate independence, he had made it clear in his statement at the 714th meeting that his organization wished to find a just solution to the problem of the Cameroons which would be satisfactory to all concerned. The commission of inquiry asked for by Mr. Soppo Priso in his opening statement (714th meeting) would be able to determine the procedure to be followed during the transitional period pending the achievement of independence.
- 55. In reply to the question what the Cameroonians would do if they were granted independence immediately, he said that it would be for the Fourth Committee to set a date for the achievement of independence; the United Nations should appoint a fact-finding commis-

sion and the answer to the question would be on the basis of its report.

- 56. Mr. Soppo Priso had made it clear in his statement at the 716th meeting that his organization wished the two zones to be granted independence simultaneously in order to facilitate their reunification.
- 57. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked whether the political parties in the two Trust Territories of the Cameroons had tried collectively or individually to take up the question of independence and unification with the two Administering Authorities, and, if so, with what result.
- 58. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) replied that in 1951 his party had issued a manifesto which represented the views of the people of the Cameroons, all of whom, without exception, desired unification and independence. The manifesto had been communicated to both Administering Autorities but only the British administration had shown any understanding of the need to reach agreement with the population of the Territory. The French authorities had responded by violent repressive measures. In 1956 and early 1957 there had been exchanges of views between the political organizations of the two Trust Territories with a view to co-ordinating their actions. In 1956 the UPC had approached the French authorities in the hope of finding a solution which would not prejudice either the interests of the population or those of the Administration. There had, however, been no response from the French authorities. In the Cameroons under British administration the political organizations had raised the question with the authorities and the Commissioner of the Cameroons had informed the Trusteeship Council that all political organizations in the Territory were in favour of unification.
- 59. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) asked what in the petitioners' opinion the United Nations should do at the present time in connexion with the problem of the Cameroons as a whole.
- 60. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said that the first need was to fill the existing political vacuum in the Territory. The French authorities knew, and the United Kingdom authorities were beginning to realize, that no progress would be made so long as the UPC remained underground. The situation in the Cameroons under French administration was so serious that on 21 November 1957 the authorities had brought in troop reinforcements.
- 61. Mr. SOPPO PRISO (Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun) emphasized that the Cameroonian problem concerned the Cameroonians as a whole. What was needed was not to satisfy one or another political party but to find general solutions, acceptable to all shades of opinion, so that the various parties could participate in the administration of the country according to their importance. The reason for the urgent request for an amnesty was that a part of the opinion in the country was at present unable to participate in the political life. That did not mean, however, that if the United Nations were prepared to recognize Cameroonian sovereignty the Cameroonians need wait for an amnesty before accepting sovereignty. The desire for an immediate amnesty was based on the need for harmony in the political life of the country and for a calmer atmosphere. The amnesty should apply to all Cameroonians, since many Cameroonians who did not belong to any

- political movement had also been persecuted following the events of May 1955 and December 1956.
- 62. His organization hoped that at the present session the General Assembly would agree to recognize the Cameroons' right to opt for independence and would recommend that the French authorities should grant a general amnesty. The Groupe d'action nationale also hoped that the United Nations would agree to grant the Cameroonians the sovereignty for which they were waiting. There were internal problems in the Cameroons, as in every country in the world, but once sovereignty had been achieved it would be possible for the Cameroons to solve those problems.
- 63. Mr. AMEGBE (Ghana) asked whether the Cameroonians had a stronger desire for an amnesty or for a United Nations commission of inquiry.
- 64. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said his party did not believe that an amnesty would solve the Cameroonian problem. The disturbances that had taken place in the Cameroons were a symptom and not a cause. The root of the trouble was that the Administering Authorities did not wish to recognize the Cameroonians' aspirations for unification and independence. A United Nations commission would not fill the political vacuum. There must be not only an amnesty but recognition of the aspirations of the Cameroonian people. If those two aims were not achieved the vacuum would continue.
- 65. Mr. ASSALE (Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun), replying to the representative of Ghana, said that his organization saw no need to establish a list of priorities. It believed that the Fourth Committee could at once recognize the Territory's right to opt for independence and at the same time recommend the Administering Authorities to grant an amnesty. All the petitioners' demands were interrelated and the dispatch of a commission of inquiry would allay the misgivings of the Cameroonians.
- 66. Mr. NGOM (Confédération générale kamerunaise du travail) wished to elaborate on what he had said in his statement at the 717th meeting concerning the position of his party. It was necessary for the United Nations to send a commission of inquiry to the Cameroons at an early date because no discussion could take place as long as one of the parties was threatened with annihilation by the other. Hence a general amnesty should be proclaimed in order to ease the existing tension in the Territory.
- 67. With regard to the question of priorities, his organization wished for an amnesty and a formal proclamation by the French and United Kingdom Governments recognizing the independence of the Cameroons.
- 68. Mr. HERAKLIDIS (Greece) asked Mr. Assalé whether there was any party or political organization in the Cameroons which favoured union or integration with France.
- 69. Mr. ASSALE (Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun) said that although there might be some individuals or groups which for their own ends were in favour of integration in the French Union, there was no political party which included integration in its policy.
- 70. Mr. HERAKLIDIS (Greece) asked what was the social platform of the Groupe d'action nationale and the UPC.

- 71. Mr. MOUMIE (Union des populations du Cameroun) said that in a pamphlet published in October 1957 the UPC had defined its position with regard to social and economic problems. The UPC had been established to unite all Cameroonians in the struggle for unification and independence and for a higher standard of living. The party had never neglected economic and social aspects. It felt that social justice and economic equality ought to be the very basis of an independent Cameroonian Government.
- 72. In the Cameroons as elsewhere there were special interests which would have to be taken into account. The UPC did not wish for Cameroonian independence merely so that a minority could earn high salaries while unemployment prevailed in the country. In that
- respect his party was in agreement with the United Nations Charter, which called for economic and social advancement as well as political advancement.
- 73. Mr. SOPPO PRISO (Groupe d'action nationale du Cameroun) said that his party adhered to no particular ideology. In view of the country's economic, agricultural and mineral resources the Cameroons Government could draw up a social plan which would cover all strata of society and provide full employment and a fair distribution of the national income. It would be for the Cameroonians to formulate and implement such a plan when they had achieved independence.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.