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INFORMATION FROM NON-SELF-GOVERNING TERRITORIES:
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SECRETARY-GENERAL

Summary of General Trends in Territories under
United Kingdom Administration 1/

1/ This summary is also submitted to the Committee on Information from
Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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Summary of General Trends in Territories under
United Kingdom Administration

1. Section C of the explanatory preface of the revised Standard Form invites Members to provide a survey of the principles and practical measures showing general trends in the Territories concerned, in order to permit the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories to review the progress achieved in the Territories in the fields covered by Article 73 e of the Charter. In response to this request, the United Kingdom has transmitted its published review on the Colonial Territories 1952-53, from which the following details have been summarized.^{1/}

I. ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

2. Though there was a sharp fall in the prices of many colonial products (notably rubber, copra and sisal) from the peak of 1951 and the value of trade declined, world demand was sufficient to maintain both production and the favourable financial position of the producing territories. Revenues continued buoyant, totalling £357 million as against expenditures totalling £327 millions. Reserves were increased and Governments were able to finance an expanded development programme mainly from their own funds.

3. For the ten years ending 31 March 1956, the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts have made available £140 million, of which about £14 million was expended in 1952-53, bringing total expenditure since 1945 on development and welfare schemes to some £70 million.

^{1/} United Kingdom: The Colonial Territories 1952-53, (Cmd.8856) London, 1953. Where more detailed information given in this publication appears to be of basic importance, reference to the page numbers is given in footnotes.

4. In addition, grants made during 1952 to Territories in special difficulties totalled £9,904,000 and loans raised on the London market by Territorial Governments totalled £22 million, compared with £18 1/2 million in 1951.

5. The Colonial Development Corporation had, at the end of March, 1953, a total capital commitment of £44 1/2 million invested in 57 schemes in the Territories.^{1/}

6. The value of colonial exports again exceeded that of imports but by much less than in 1950 and 1951, and the total value of trade fell for the first time since the end of the war, owing to a reduction in the trade of Hong Kong and the Malayan area. The volume of total exports of primary products was much the same as in 1951 and, taking 1948 = 100, the level is provisionally estimated at 118 in 1952 compared with 117 in 1951 and 90 in 1936. The volume of imports was probably slightly greater than in 1951.

7. Although changes in import and export trade account for large or sudden changes in the colonial balance of payments, there are also a number of transactions on invisible account, such as, shipping, travel, Metropolitan Government expenditure, donations, grants, interest, profits and dividends. The following table gives the total sterling and non-sterling transactions for all Territories except Hong Kong, where it is not possible to construct a balance of payments owing to the technical difficulties involved.^{2/}

Balance of payments on current account

	1950			1951			1952 (provisional)		
	Sterling area	Non- sterling area	Total	Sterling area	Non- sterling area	Total	Sterling area	Non- sterling area	Total
	(£ million)								
Imports (fob)	-360	-227	-587	-467	-395	-862	-512	-334	-846
Exports (fob)	+372	+418	+790	+569	+591	+1,160	+499	+471	+970
Gold Sales to U.K.		+ 10	+ 10		+ 9	+ 9		+ 2	+ 2
Other trans- actions (net)	- 77	+ 4	- 73	-121	- 8	- 129	- 67	- 7	- 74
Balance	- 65	+205	+140	- 19	+197	+ 178	- 80	+132	+ 52

^{1/} Cf. pp.34-36.

^{2/} Cf. pp.30-32.

8. In comparison with the surpluses on current account of £140 million and £178 million in 1950 and 1951 respectively, which are related to the substantial increase in colonial sterling assets during those years, the overall surplus of £52 million in 1952 was small. The non-sterling surplus, which between 1950 and 1951 changed very little since increased export receipts were almost equally matched by increased imports, was lower in 1952, but still formed an important contribution to the earnings of the sterling area as a whole. The sterling deficit, which tends to be a normal feature of the colonial balance of payment, almost disappeared in 1951 because of the sudden increase in export earnings but rose sharply between 1951 and 1952.

9. One of the more comprehensive measures of colonial development is provided by a new series of capital formation estimates which cover the creation of new assets by Governments and other official bodies, commercial firms and private individuals. Village housing, etc. and tools made by local craftsmen are not included. At present the figures are gross and include renewals and replacements. The following table combines detailed estimates from most of the larger Territories and rough estimates for the rest.

Gross capital formation estimates

	<u>£ million</u>			
<u>Types of Asset</u>	<u>1948</u>	<u>1949</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1951</u>
Imported machinery (at installed values)	90	105	125	155
Domestic production of machinery (at installed prices)	5	5	5	5
Buildings and Public works	70	85	100	130 ^{a/}
Developments at plantations, mines (excluding buildings and machinery)	25 ^{b/}	15 ^{b/}	10	10
TOTALS	190	210	240	300

^{a/} The enquiry was extended in this year to show residential buildings separately. They amount to nearly half of the total of this item.

^{b/} Enlarged by rehabilitation expenditure in Malaya.

10. A useful indication of the relative size of colonial capital formation is given by comparison to the gross capital formation of the United Kingdom. This was about seven times as large as the total for the Territories in 1948-50, about six times as large in 1951 and about five times as large in 1952. Since this is rather over-simplified, a better comparison is the relationship between gross capital formation and national income. In the case of the United Kingdom this was, with little variation, 14 per cent over the four years 1948-51 compared with approximately 13 per cent for the same period in the colonial territories. This latter figure is based on the sum of available national income estimates and approximate assessments excluding subsistence production in the African territories.

II. DEVELOPMENT PLANS

11. The long-term plans of economic and social development were helped forward by the greater availability of materials. Several Governments reviewed and revised their plans, generally in the direction of greater emphasis on productive development. This trend is in harmony with the conclusions of the Commonwealth Economic Conference which urged that Commonwealth countries should concentrate on development which will directly assist the balance of payments, at the same time recognizing that in under-developed countries provision must continue to be made for basic improvement in the standards of living which is a necessary foundation for economic development.^{1/}

12. The expenditure, in thousands of pounds, provided for in the various plans totalled £470,833, of which £83,537, was provided from Colonial Development and Welfare Funds, £164,412, was covered by loans and £222,884, derived from territorial resources.

13. New plans were adopted in Antigua, British Honduras and the British Virgin Islands. The Government of Nigeria, the Gambia, Kenya, Aden, Montserrat and Barbados all revised their development plans, while revision of those of Northern Rhodesia, Cyprus, Seychelles, Fiji and Mauritius was under consideration.

14. Efforts to expand production both of foods and minerals continued. A loan of over £1 million was made by the Colonial Development Corporation to finance a rice development company in British Guiana. In Jamaica, the locally bred Hope-Jersey herd of cattle has proved so successful that it has been classified as a breed. Demonstration fish farms were established in Kenya and Uganda and there are about 1,000 fishponds run by Malays in the Federation. In the search for minerals, drilling for oil is in progress in Nigeria and Barbados and exploration licences were granted in the Bahamas, the Somaliland Protectorate and Jamaica. Twenty-four new oil wells were drilled in Brunei; exploration for radio-active minerals is in progress throughout the Territories, and several new sources of niobium were discovered in Africa.

^{1/} Cf. pp.33-57.

15. The encouragement of industries continued, especially in the West Indies, where laws granting income tax and customs concessions to new industries are in force in most of the Territories, as well as in Nigeria and the Gold Coast. More Territories established statutory development organizations to facilitate industrial development. Industrial Development Corporations were set up in Jamaica and Uganda and an Industrial Development Board was established in Antigua. A Corporation already exists in the Gold Coast; and in Nigeria, Northern Rhodesia and Sierra Leone statutory boards make loans from funds provided by Government to small industrial enterprises. In Mauritius the establishment of a development corporation is under consideration.

16. Cement manufacture still figures prominently in industrial activity. Production started during the year at new factories in Jamaica and Uganda while factories were planned or under construction in Trinidad, Malaya and Kenya. The factories to be erected in the Gold Coast and Nigeria were still in the negotiation stage. Most of the other factories set up are processing industries like food canning and light consumer ones catering for local markets.

17. Impetus to this process is being given by the improvement in power supplies and communications. The first stage of the hydro-electric project at Owen Falls, Uganda, is nearing completion. A Preparatory Commission was set up to investigate further the £144 million Volta River hydro-electric project in the Gold Coast. The first part of a large thermal electric power installation in the Federation of Malaya started operation, and consideration is being given to a £27.6 million scheme for hydro-electric power from the Kafue River for Northern Rhodesia.

18. In the development of communications, work was begun on the new port at Tema in the Gold Coast and some of the large-scale extensions to Takoradi harbour have been finished. The new deep-water quay at Freetown, Sierra Leone, is expected to be opened by the end of 1953, and a new oil port is to be built at Aden. Air services have been improved with innovations such as the "Comet" Service to Singapore where a new airport is being built at a cost of £4.1/2 million; a daily service between London and West Africa, and the opening of a new route between British Guiana and Brazil.

19. In addition to the schemes financed both from funds provided under the Colonial Development and Welfare Acts and from Territorial resources, the Colonial Development Corporation continued to concentrate on consolidating its existing schemes as well as sanctioning three new ones. Supplementary capital of over £6 million was approved for existing schemes. Included in this amount was £518,000 for the Kulai Oil Palms Estate in Malaya; £1,451,500 for the Borneo Abaca undertaking; £186,000 for the Fort George Hotel in British Honduras; £277,000 for the Falkland Islands Freezer; £802,000 for the Lobatsi Abattoir and Molopo Holding Ranch in Bechuanaland; £174,000 for British Guiana Timbers Limited; £2,760,000 for the second phase of the loan to the Malayan Electricity Board, and £87,550 for a housing loan to the same authority.^{1/}

20. The three new schemes sanctioned were:

- (i) Rice development in British Guiana, with a loan of £1,041,668 to the British Guiana Rice Development Company and further seasonal finance up to £250,000.
- (ii) Grand Cayman Airport, with a loan of £55,500 towards the cost of constructing an airstrip.
- (iii) Ubombo Ranches, Swaziland, with a loan of £85,000 for development by new irrigation works.

^{1/} Cf. pp. 35, 36.

III. SOCIAL CONDITIONS

21. Registered trade unions in the Territories numbered 1,325, with an estimated membership at September 1952 of 865,000, compared with 1,220 unions and 737,000 members in September, 1951. There is still need for the existing trade union movement to consolidate its position, both by improved organisation and by spreading among its members a better understanding of the principles and practice of sound trade unionism. Trends toward amalgamation and reduction of the numerous unions catering for workers in similar jobs were observed in the Federation of Malaya. Another welcome development in this connexion was the first annual conference of the Singapore Trades Union Council held in November and attended by 62 delegates from 30 unions. The education and training both of Labour Department officers and union members were continued through residential courses for groups in particular regions, the provision of training in the United Kingdom, correspondence courses and provision of scholarships. Since 1949 some 165 officers, both locally recruited and expatriate, have attended three-month courses in the United Kingdom. A residential course for West Indian trade unionists was held in Barbados, while the University College of the West Indies received a special Colonial Development and Welfare grant to assist in appointing an extra-mural lecturer in industrial relations. In Malaya and Singapore, a series of training courses for trade union officials was held and vernacular courses were organised by the Trade Union Adviser's Department in the Federation. A Singapore trade unionist was awarded a UNESCO Workers' Fellowship for study in the United Kingdom and trade unionists from Malaya attended UNESCO seminars on workers' education held in France. Trade unionists from Malaya and Hong Kong attended courses at the new ICFTU. Trade Union College in Calcutta and workers from various Territories attended training courses in the United Kingdom organised by the Trades Union Congress.

22. Joint consultation in workshops and industry continued to be fostered and Joint Industrial Councils were set up for the port of Kingston, Jamaica, and for dock workers in Mombasa, Kenya. A wage agreement was concluded in the Trinidad oil industry, which gave hourly and weekly wage increases, consolidated the cost-of-living bonus into the basic wage and allowed 10 recognised public holidays in the year to be taken as holidays with full pay. Wage rates in the

industry in the Federation of Malaya; in the naval base at Singapore, in the Northern Rhodesian copper mines and in the mines on Fiji, were the subject of negotiation and arbitration, resulting in increases being awarded.^{1/}

23. There was some extension of statutory wage fixing in occupations where collective bargaining has not yet developed, and in Kenya an Industrial Wages Council was created. A Trade Board for retail workers was established in the Gold Coast, and a Wages Advisory Board for bus drivers and conductors was created in Mauritius.

24. Labour legislation was enacted in several Territories during the period under review. In Sarawak, consolidated legislation was passed for the protection of workers, including women and children; in Cyprus, the law controlling the employment of juveniles as domestic servants was amended and an ordinance enacted regulating the employment and engagement of port workers; a Weekly Holidays Ordinance, similar to those in force in Singapore and the Federation of Malaya was passed in Sarawak; in British Guiana enabling legislation was passed empowering the Governor to secure holidays with pay for workers in any occupation; a Factories Ordinance was passed in the Gold Coast and Notification of Accidents Ordinances were passed in St. Vincent and British Honduras.^{2/}

25. In the field of social insurance a contributory accidents scheme was introduced in Gibraltar; a measure for workmen's compensation was passed in the British Solomon Islands, while detailed consideration was given to workmen's compensation Bills in Hong Kong and in Somaliland Protectorate. A contributory old age pensions scheme was introduced in the Falkland Islands and payments to the Employees' Provident Fund scheme was started in the Federation of Malaya. A retirements benefit scheme was considered for Singapore; in Cyprus a special survey of the need for social security measures was carried out, and in Antigua the report was published of the committee appointed to examine the possibility of establishing a social insurance scheme.

26. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions decided to set up an office in Barbados for the Caribbean area; it appointed a special representative for West Africa and an Asian Trade Union training college began work in Calcutta.

^{1/} Cf. pp. 78, 79.

^{2/} Cf. p. 80.

International Labour Organisation fellowships were awarded to Government officials from the Gold Coast; an ILO expert is to survey handicraft and small-scale industries in the Federation of Malaya, and nominees from the Far Eastern Territories were able to study at Asian regional training institutes.^{1/}

27. Progress was recorded in the development of co-operative societies. In the rural areas of the Federation of Malaya there are now about 830 societies among Malays only, mostly for co-operative credit, while 193 new co-operative stores and shops were formed during the year. Chinese officers were recruited and trained to spread the movement among settlers in new villages. In Sarawak the number of societies increased from 79 to 109, while two officials were sent to Ceylon for training and a third to the United Kingdom. In Hong Kong the number of societies increased from 3 to 10, which handled over 35 per cent of the Territory's vegetable produce. In Uganda, the Government acquired the first 5 of the 20 cotton ginneries for transfer to African co-operative enterprises. The number of registered societies in Uganda increased to 584. In the Gold Coast, where co-operative marketing is the main activity, co-operatives handled a record tonnage of cocoa in the 1952-53 season. A Gold Coast Co-operative Federation, an educational organisation, was established. In the Western Region of Nigeria there are 469 registered societies, of which 314 are for produce marketing and 102 for thrift, loans and credit. In the Eastern Region there are 625 societies, while in both Regions co-operative Unions were formed. In Jamaica the number of registered societies increased to 92, of which 10 societies of various types were on the sugar estates. In Trinidad the number of registered societies was 28, while agricultural credit societies increased from 212 to 260. In British Guiana, where most of the societies are concerned with savings, thrift and credit, the total number rose to 227. In Cyprus, 42 new societies were registered bringing the total to 684 with approximately 107,000 members, while the Co-operative Central Bank, whose membership increased to 423 member societies issued loans against produce amounting to more than £1.5 million and supplied farmers with fertilisers, etc. to the value of £480,000. In Mauritius the number of credit societies with unlimited liability increased to 142 and the number of thrift and credit societies to 38. The Mauritius Co-operative Central Bank now

^{1/} Cf. pp.80-81.

has 126 member societies and earned capital of Rs.204,192. The Mauritius Co-operative Union was registered during the year.^{1/}

28. In order further to strengthen the central advisory services, a small informal panel of experts in the various aspects of housing, town planning and architecture was formed to assist the Secretary of State in providing Territorial Governments with authoritative technical advice.

29. In the field of health, the use of new drugs and insecticides continued with successful results. Following the eradication of malaria from Cyprus, the disease has been almost eliminated in Mauritius, and is now virtually non-existent in Singapore. Notable progress against malaria was reported from British Guiana and the Federation of Malaya. The attack on tuberculosis was aided by BCG vaccinations, in which WHO and UNICEF are playing an important part. The sulphone drugs have transformed the situation as far as leprosy is concerned, and sleeping sickness is being brought increasingly under control. There were, indeed, encouraging reports of progress against nearly all the endemic and epidemic diseases.

30. Increasing attention was paid to onchocerciasis, a leading cause of blindness in Africa. A research team staffed and financed by the British Empire Society for the Blind began a two-year survey in the Gold Coast and Nigeria, while a mass attack with D.D.T. against the carrier fly in Uganda resulted in its disappearance for three months.

31. Firm figures of births, deaths and migration are still not precisely known in most Territories, but comparison of current census results with previous enumerations indicates an average annual rate of increase of population over the past 20 years of about 1.5 per cent in Nigeria and the Gold Coast; and from around 1.5 per cent in East Africa, 2.5 per cent in Northern Rhodesia to over 2.5 per cent in British Guiana, British Honduras, Trinidad, Mauritius, Malaya and Fiji. All other latter territories have in common a high birth rate (in the range 36-50 per thousand population) and a low crude death rate (in the range 10-18 per thousand population). Preliminary results of Nigeria's census indicate a total population of over 30 million; previous estimates had put it at about 26 million.^{2/}

^{1/} Cf. pp.50-51.

^{2/} Cf. pp.81-92.

IV. EDUCATIONAL CONDITIONS

32. With universities in Hong Kong and Malaya, and university colleges in the West Indies, East Africa, Nigeria and the Gold Coast, all the main regions of Non-Self-Governing Territories now have local universities, except Central Africa and there a commission appointed to advise on the provision of higher education for Africans has submitted its report. In addition, the number of colonial students in the United Kingdom rose to 6,300 of whom 1,443 hold scholarships.^{1/}

33. In the African Territories, great interest was aroused by the publication of the survey of African Education, the first comprehensive review of policy and practice since the early 1920s. It embodies reports by the two study groups which visited East and Central and West Africa to examine the problems on the spot, and summarizes discussions in the light of the reports by a conference at Cambridge in September, 1952, of delegations from all the Territories under United Kingdom administration in Africa.

34. Increasing recognition of the importance of girls' education was evidenced by the opening of the first Government boarding school for girls in the Somaliland Protectorate; a new technical school for girls in Hong Kong; the admission of girls to the Central Medical School for the Pacific, and the start of construction of a Government secondary school for girls in Mauritius. Other developments included the establishment of a new secondary school in Aden; the completion of 10 new primary and 2 new secondary schools in Singapore; the building of 28 new schools and 8 teachers' houses in Cyprus, and the training of 300 teachers for the Federation of Malaya in the United Kingdom.

35. Progress in adult education and community development included the provision for an extra-mural department at Makerere College, Uganda, and the holding of a seminar in Jamaica on adult education in the Caribbean. Community development in Uganda received fresh impetus from a five-year programme financed by £500,000 set aside from cotton surplus funds, and in Nigeria there was a noticeable increase in the number of projects undertaken on the initiative of local communities.^{2/}

^{1/} Cf. pp. 65-72.

^{2/} Cf. p. 72.

V. INTERNATIONAL AND REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

36. FAO inaugurated a World Reporting Service for Plant Pests and Diseases and arrangements were made for most of the British Non-Self-Governing Territories to co-operate with it. There was increasing co-operation between FAO and the Desert Locust Control Organisation in East Africa, while in the field of nutrition co-operation was to be found in the meetings on kwashiorkor held successively by CCTA and by FAO and WHO in the Gambia.^{1/}

37. Representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories attended the 35th session of the International Labour Conference; an Asian Regional Technical Conference on the Protection of Young Workers and the 2nd session of the Committee on Work on Plantations.

38. The 3rd session of the WHO Regional Committee for the Western Pacific was held in Saigon in September; the United Kingdom delegation was led by the Director of Medical Services, Singapore, who was accompanied by advisers from Hong Kong, North Borneo and the Federation of Malaya. The 2nd session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa was held in Monrovia, Liberia in July and August, and was attended by a United Kingdom delegation headed by the Inspector-General of Medical Services, Nigeria, assisted by advisers from Northern Rhodesia and the Gold Coast. In October, the Regional Office for Africa established its permanent headquarters at Brazzaville. In September, the Directing Council of the Pan-American Sanitary Organisation, acting in its capacity as WHO Regional Committee for the Western Hemisphere, held its sixth meeting in Havana; the United Kingdom delegation to it being led by the Medical Adviser to the Development and Welfare Organization in the West Indies, who was accompanied by advisers from Jamaica and Trinidad.

39. Regional meetings held under the auspices of UNESCO at which the Non-Self-Governing Territories were represented, included the Youth Leaders' Seminar in Rangoon in October; a meeting of experts to discuss the use in education of African languages in relation to English, held at Jos in Nigeria, in November, and the South and South-East Asia Conference on Compulsory Education at Bangkok in December.

^{1/} Cf. pp. 113-115.

40. The East African and West African groups of Territories became the first associate members of the ITU and a representative of the East African group attended the Plenipotentiary Conference held in Buenos Aires from October to December.

41. An Area Office of UNICEF was established in Brazzaville in October; this, together with the WHO Regional Office for Africa, will facilitate the close collaboration essential between the two organizations and the Territorial Governments concerned in formulating technical assistance projects. In the West Indies allocations of \$46,000, \$38,000, \$27,000 and \$25,000 were made by the Fund towards the cost of insect control programmes in Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Grenada and St. Lucia respectively, and of \$8,000 for the control of tuberculosis in Trinidad. In British Honduras, the Fund allocated \$16,000 for milk supplies in the school feeding programme. In the Far East, UNICEF programmes included a BCG vaccination campaign, and a \$10,000 allocation for soap supplies in connexion with a maternal and child welfare project in Hong Kong.

42. In Africa, the work of CCTA was strengthened by the establishment of a permanent Secretariat with offices in London. CCTA Conferences held during the period under review included one on Housing Research held in Pretoria; a Nutrition Conference at Fajara in the Gambia, attended by observers from FAO, WHO and the International Children's Centre, and the third Inter-African Labour Conference held at Barako in January 1953.^{1/}

43. Representatives from Non-Self-Governing Territories in South-East Asia attended the Policy Session of the Technical Co-operation Council of the Colombo Plan held in February 1953. The Malaya/British Borneo Territories, which are a Group Associate Member of the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East, were represented at meetings of the Sub-Committees on Highways, Railways and Electric Power, and of the Inland Transport Committee, at the 3rd Regional Conference of Statisticians, at the Working Party on Cottage and Small-Scale Industries, and at the 5th session of the Committee on Industry and Trade and the 9th plenary session of the Commission held

^{1/} Cf. pp. 115-118.

at Bandung, Indonesia, in January-February. The 2nd Trade Promotion Conference which was held at Manila in March was attended by representatives from United Kingdom Non-Self-Governing Territories in the region.

44. The Caribbean Commission concentrated its attention on agriculture, forestry, fisheries, industrial development and housing. A Conference on Home Economics and Education in Nutrition was held in Trinidad in July, under the auspices of the Commission and FAO.

45. The South Pacific Commission initiated a research project into the possibilities of establishing a Central Vocational Training Institution to serve the whole area.

46. Information on technical assistance is given in document A/AC.35/L.138.

VI. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

47. The Government of nearly every Non-Self-Governing Territory for whose international relations Her Majesty's Government is responsible agreed to the Council of Europe's Convention on Human Rights being extended to their Territories. A Protocol to the Convention was recently ratified by Her Majesty's Government and the Territorial Governments have been invited to consider the question of the extension of the Protocol.
