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Chairman: Mr. Luciano JOUBLANC RIVAS
 (Mexico).

Request for hearings (*continued*)

1. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that he had received a request for a hearing from Mr. Agbeko, representing the All-Ewe Conference. He suggested that in accordance with the Committee's usual practice the application should be circulated to the members of the Committee before being considered.

It was so decided.

AGENDA ITEMS 31 and 33

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter: reports of the Secretary-General and of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/2892 to 2894, A/2895 and Add.1 and 2, A/2896, A/2898, A/2908 and Add.1) (*continued*):

- (a) Information on social conditions;
- (b) Information on other conditions;
- (c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information;
- (d) Offers of study and training facilities under General Assembly resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954 (A/2937 and Add. 1, 2 and 3/Rev. 1)

Question of the renewal of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/2908 and Add.1) (*continued*)

GENERAL DEBATE (*continued*)

2. Mr. VERGARA (Chile) said that on reading the summary record of the Committee's 472nd meeting he had realized what he had overlooked at the time, namely that the United Kingdom representative had stated that as far as the Falkland Island Dependencies were concerned, the United Kingdom Government had declared its readiness to accept the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice in the matter but that the other Governments concerned had not yet been prepared to do likewise. He reserved his Government's sovereign rights over Chile's Antarctic territory, which it had held from time immemorial, and affirmed that no court was competent to give a judgment in the matter.

3. Turning to the question on the Committee's agenda, he said Chile shared the anti-colonial views expressed in the resolutions adopted by various inter-American conferences and continued to repudiate all unilateral claims to territories under its sovereignty.

4. Chile, which had once been a colony, had played its part in all the movements for national independence in the other American countries and its people had thus confirmed its profound conviction that all peoples throughout the world had an undeniable right to self-determination and to a place in the community of nations. That conviction rested on the knowledge that the dignity of man was based on the rights and freedoms which the United Nations Charter and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights laid down as essential for the maintenance of international peace and security.

5. One of the most significant phenomena of the present century was the gradual disappearance of transfers of so-called colonial territories as the result of war without consulting their people. The establishment of the Mandates System under the League of Nations and the Trusteeship System under the United Nations represented the recognition by the international community of a collective duty of supervision over the peoples of those territories.

6. The Chilean delegation would always support any recommendation that would promote the economic, social and political progress of the peoples of the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories, taking account of the interests of all parties concerned, and that would lead to the fulfilment of the sacred trust of ensuring the dignity of the human person in accordance with the human rights and fundamental freedoms embodied in the Charter.

7. The report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/2908 and Add. 1) showed considerable progress in the work of the Administering Members. Although it did not refer directly to political development, he would point out that some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were in the vanguard of the movement towards self-govern-

ment, including a number of Territories administered by the United Kingdom, and Western Samoa administered by New Zealand, which was on the threshold of complete independence. It was interesting to see how the progress achieved by co-operation between the administering Power and the dependent people was creating new political, economic and social links between those peoples who chose to remain within the British Commonwealth. A similar situation existed in the French-administered Territories, many of which maintained links with the French Union; and a similar path would doubtless be followed in the future in the Territories administered by Belgium.

8. No one who kept in touch with events in the Non-Self-Governing Territories could fail to notice the constant repetition by the responsible leaders in the metropolitan countries of statements about the inevitable disappearance of colonialism. The peoples were claiming the right to participate in decisions regarding their own future.

9. In his Government's view the majority of the critical problems existing in the present stage of evolution could be solved by means of education. The fact that in the case of Africa, the rate of africanization of the public services was not the same in all territories, and was unsatisfactory in most of them, was due to the lack of qualified personnel to replace foreign officials. Racial discrimination still existed in many territories, principally because of educational deficiencies. Indigenous inhabitants occupied only secondary posts owing to the lack of a satisfactory general education.

10. Second in importance was the question of the health of the peoples. The low productivity generally reported by research workers could be attributed to defective health, nutritional deficiencies and unhealthy living conditions.

11. Much needed to be done in those two fields and the principal responsibility lay with the administering Powers. Nevertheless the people themselves also had a responsibility in the matter; many of the administering Powers complained of lack of support from the indigenous inhabitants for measures they would like to introduce. If the Territories possessed insufficient resources to carry out the necessary social programmes and if the administering Powers were not in a position to finance them themselves, recourse should be had to the United Nations and the specialized agencies. Very little use was being made of their services in the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

12. It should also be borne in mind that the dependent territories were among the least developed areas of the world and that all possible measures should be used to promote their development. It was true that some administering Powers had requested assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to finance projects in dependent territories and had used the resources of the Colombo Plan and the United States Foreign Operations Administration; furthermore finance corporations had been established for the economic development of Non-Self-Governing Territories. However, contributions from all those sources had scarcely touched the surface of the needs, which were becoming more pressing every day. In that connexion the Members administering certain Territories were to be commended for the establishment of planning organizations such as, for example, the cocoa marketing boards.

13. It was unfortunate that certain Territories where man-power was in short supply had not admitted people who had become refugees as a result of the Second World War and subsequent political upheavals, who possessed the required scientific, technical and administrative qualifications. He realized the financial and other obstacles to immigration; moreover, in the dependent territories there were racial restrictions in connexion with immigration. That was an aspect that should be studied. One of the principles laid down in the Charter was that of equal opportunities for all.

14. With regard to the Committee on Information, he felt that it was valuable to have a limited organ of that nature to study, summarize and analyse the information transmitted by Governments. He would therefore vote for the renewal of the Committee for three years, although his delegation would have preferred it to be renewed on a permanent basis. Although the Charter restricted the role of the United Nations with regard to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, other principles laid down in the Charter were also applicable. The information transmitted in accordance with Article 73 e must be studied in the light of the eventual attainment of self-government or independence. Some of the Administering Members had recognized that it was essential to submit a certain amount of political information and raised no objection to its discussion in the Committee; others, however, insisted on absolute respect for the terms of Chapter XI and had withdrawn from the Committee on Information for that reason. The Committee's terms of reference should therefore be more clearly defined if it was renewed.

15. Mr. KHADRA (Saudi Arabia) felt he should begin by explaining why his delegation, in common with some other delegations, attached great importance to the work of the Committee on Information for Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was firmly convinced that at some future date those Territories would achieve a measure of self-government and independence that would enable them to join the community of nations on an equal footing with other sovereign States. The present decade was witnessing a complete revolution in the concept of colonialism. The march towards independence and freedom was steadily gaining ground and there was little use in attempting to reverse progress or even to impede it.

16. A second reason for his delegation's general interest in the non-self-governing areas arose from the principle of national self-determination. More countries had assumed the direction of their destinies during the past ten years than during the previous 200 years, and such a change was bound to continue notwithstanding any obstacle that might be placed in its way.

17. In the third place, the Saudi Arabian Government was concerned with the future of the Non-Self-Governing Territories because as a faithful Member of the United Nations it recognized that the interest and welfare of those Territories were paramount.

18. Lastly, although Saudi Arabia wished to further the well-being of all Non-Self-Governing Territories, it paid special attention to those areas inhabited by people who had the same aspirations, history, language and religion as itself.

19. He drew attention to the final *communiqué* issued by the Asian-African Conference held at Bandung, which stated that the subjection of peoples to alien domination and exploitation constituted a denial of

fundamental human rights and was contrary to the Charter of the United Nations, and which recognized the equality of races.

20. His delegation hoped for a speedy settlement of the dispute arising in the south-eastern part of the Arabian peninsula between the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Yemen.

21. It regretted the continued absence of the Belgian delegation from the Committee on Information. He hoped it would resume its constructive part in the Committee's work during the coming year. He trusted that the withdrawal of the French delegation and the decision taken by the French Cabinet to discontinue the transmission of information under Article 73 e would be temporary only.

22. The Committee's report on social conditions (A/2908, part two) was a great step forward compared with the report on economic conditions (A/2729, part two) considered the previous year. Nevertheless it had certain defects; for example there was no mention of so important an aspect as the impact of demography on the natural resources of a Territory. Moreover, the report as a whole was somewhat vague and abstruse. Thirdly, section II of the report on social conditions, entitled "Principles of policy", consisted of a number of abstract concepts of the meaning of the term "social development"; it was a statement of ideals and goals, and in many instances overlooked realities. Lastly, it would have been helpful if the Committee had provided more statistical data on the progress achieved in regions that faced similar problems.

23. The question of social development was in itself a complex and delicate problem. It was axiomatic that when dealing with human beings many imponderable factors might arise. There was no cut and dried set of factors that could be applied to all communities at all times. Therefore a great deal of elasticity should be allowed when dealing with communities at varied levels of social advancement. While it was impossible to divorce social betterment from the other aspects of community development such as education, health, economic and welfare services, it was imperative that certain segments of the community should be conscious of the need for social improvement. Education must therefore play a larger role in stimulating the community to action. It was there that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization could make a wider contribution, in co-operation with the administering Powers, in the form of fundamental education. Much had been done in that direction in a great number of Territories and he hoped much more would be done in the near future.

24. Community planning was assuming great importance; no one would deny that the two aspects of community development movements — extension in depth in local government structure and in area over the whole Territory concerned — were of particular importance in the formulation of general policies for Non-Self-Governing Territories. Community planning was based upon joint responsibility by the Government and the people, together with composite responsibility on an interdepartmental basis. While the initial stimulus should be provided by the Government, the search for community improvement would be unending. The communities themselves would continue and

expand the scientific projects stimulated from without at the initial stage. Technicians would have to shoulder the essential responsibility; they should provide the incentive as well as leadership. Their primary function was to pave the way for future leaders.

25. He did not intend to refer to specific cases, but felt obliged to mention the progress achieved in the field of community development in the Territories administered by the United Kingdom. In many cases, however, community development was still at the village level. It should proceed more rapidly towards the integration of local, district and central levels on a national basis. The improvement of social conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories should be the ultimate object of government policy.

26. It was regrettable that no marked improvements had taken place in the field of race relations. The Administering Members had been and still were pursuing three different sets of policies. Certain Administering Members were relentlessly following a policy of assimilation of the indigenous population; the objective of that policy was the complete disappearance of the special identity of the population of a given Territory and its eventual amalgamation with that of the administering Power. The second policy proceeded from the recognition of the existence of multiracial communities and the fostering of harmonious and friendly relations leading to coexistence on the basis of equality. Lastly, there was the policy of segregation and discrimination based on the false assumption of the superiority of one race over another. The first and the third policies were fraught with great danger if they continued to be actively pursued. It was the earnest hope of his delegation that steps would be taken by the Administering Members to eliminate discriminatory policies and practices, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 644 (VII).

27. With regard to education two factors should be borne in mind: first, a balanced education should be pursued in accordance with the needs and requirements of the community; secondly, it was important to guard against the creation of an intellectual *élite* who found themselves alien to their own people and society. It was essential that education should follow forms and patterns suitable to the requirements of a community. It should endeavour to introduce in people's minds those attributes that formed the basis of civilization and culture. On the other hand, too much stress had been placed upon elementary education, to the detriment of secondary and higher education. In many instances discrimination had been practised by the administering Powers against the teaching of the vernacular. Emphasis on teacher training was essential. Administering Powers often justified the inadequacy of educational facilities by referring to the limitations of finance and the shortage of qualified teachers. If adequate provision were made for the training of teachers from among the people, the need to engage foreign teachers would disappear. Such a step would result in considerable financial saving.

28. The Saudi Arabian delegation had been gratified by the offer of scholarships to students of Non-Self-Governing Territories made by a number of Member States under General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), and hoped that their example would be followed. It had likewise welcomed the efforts of UNESCO to assist in improving educational facilities in many dependent territories. International assistance in the

field of education was still negligible, however, and should be expanded.

29. It was also a matter of satisfaction to his delegation that the United Kingdom, under its Colonial Development and Welfare Act, had increased the funds allocated for the economic progress of the Territories for which it was responsible. Legislative and other measures should be taken in all Non-Self-Governing Territories to make them economically viable. As most of them were predominantly agricultural, special attention should be paid to the most economic use of the land and the diversification of production. For future economic stability, care should be taken to offset the unsettling effects of industrialization.

30. The inadequacy of reliable health statistics in the Non-Self-Governing Territories did not justify the shortage of doctors and the high incidence of disease. Mobile clinics should be tried in rural areas and preventive medicine should be practised on a much larger scale. Health authorities could also assist in alleviating the problem of malnutrition by educational campaigns, although the long-term solution of the problem continued to depend on the expansion of food production.

31. The Saudi Arabian delegation recognized the usefulness of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and had no reservations regarding its constitutionality. It had accordingly been prepared to support the draft resolution submitted by India, Burma and Iraq (A/2908, part one, para. 88) calling for establishment of the Committee on a permanent basis and allowing for wider participation of representatives of the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories. In a spirit of compromise, however, it would vote for draft resolution B submitted by the Committee on Information in annex II of part one of its report. His delegation continued to favour a broadening of the Committee's terms of reference. It would also vote in favour of draft resolution A in annex II, approving the Committee's 1955 report on social conditions as supplement to the 1952 report on that subject (A/2219, part two).

32. Finally, in the view of Saudi Arabia, the Standard Form should be amended to provide for information on various aspects of community development.

33. Mr. GARCIA (Philippines) expressed appreciation of the valuable service rendered by the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and of the co-operation given that Committee by the specialized agencies. He also commended the Secretariat upon its efficiency.

34. The Philippines was deeply attached to the principle of self-determination of peoples; it would not deny self-government or independence to any people deserving of it, and it would delay accession to that status only until all preparations had been completed for the assumption of full freedom and for the proper discharge by the new nation of its national and international obligations.

35. The Philippine delegation favoured the establishment of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories on a permanent basis. The only alternative it might accept was the continuation of the Committee for another three years. It would continue to support a broadening of its terms of reference.

36. In connexion with the provision of training and study facilities in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), it was gratifying to note the offers of scholarships to students from Non-Self-Governing Territories made by a number of Member States, and the arrangements made by several other States through bilateral agreements enabling such students to study abroad. Through its Bureau of Private Schools, the Philippine Government was sponsoring offers of fellowships by two private institutions to students of dependent areas. It was to be hoped that private institutions in other countries would follow that example and that Governments would assume sponsorship of such offers.

37. A study of the Non-Self-Governing Territories showed that the Administering Members were earnestly striving to improve conditions in them. Although hampered by inadequate financial resources and other obstacles, they had accomplished a great deal in raising the general standards of living and in promoting the development of the Territories for which they were responsible. Of course, much remained to be accomplished if the sacred trust they had assumed under the Charter was to become truly effective.

38. The economic progress of many Non-Self-Governing Territories was handicapped by a lack of water resources, and while some measures had been taken to cope with that obstacle, solution of the problem must necessarily be of a long-range nature. There was an urgent need for more roads, more irrigation projects, more canals, dams and other water conveyances. Moreover, while food production had increased substantially in many areas, food crops were still inadequate to meet the needs of growing populations. Similarly, increased consumption made necessary further increases in exports and further diversification of crops. The general level of the farm population was still far below what it should be. In short, despite great effort and greatly increased expenditure by the administering Powers, there remained an urgent need for economic improvement in most Non-Self-Governing Territories.

39. Social development should have as its objective the attainment of a fuller and more abundant life for all individuals. It should strive towards conquest of disease, freedom from hunger, healthy living conditions, wages commensurate with ability, adequate training and education, adequate housing, clothing and feeding and a just distribution of lands and the fruits of the land and of labour. In making social policy, the guiding factors should be the enhancement of human dignity, the preservation of individual freedom and the maximum benefit for the individual and the community.

40. Due recognition should be given to the material assistance provided by the administering Powers in implementing social development schemes. Their constructive contribution should be increased. On the other hand, the Territories themselves should be prepared to bolster those efforts by self-help, for it was only through joint and sustained efforts that the benefits provided could be maintained. Moreover, outside assistance was likely to be in proportion to demonstrated capacity for self-help. Self-help need not take the form of a share in the budget; it could be shown by concrete measures on the part of indigenous peoples to settle tribal rivalries, for example.

41. Much remained to be done in the Non-Self-Governing Territories to improve labour conditions and

to bring wages into relation with skills, productivity and need. Starvation wages were still a feature of many Territories, with all the demoralization they connoted. The criteria for a fair wage were often wholly disregarded by employers, often absentee employers, who exploited wage-earners to further their own selfish interests. In addition, the labour situation in many Territories was characterized by unequal opportunities for work, unequal pay for the same work, and by unequal treatment of men at work. It was further aggravated by unequal distribution of land and unequal distribution of the fruits of the land and of labour. In those circumstances, it could hardly be expected to achieve industrial peace. Those injustices needed most urgently to be eliminated.

42. To dignify mankind should be the concern of all Member States. That was impossible as long as racial and religious barriers existed. The United Nations Charter showed the way to improvement of racial relations and the various specialized organs and agencies of the United Nations had already achieved partial success in that regard. The nature of the problem was known together with certain ways of solving it. While experts and scientists could do much, the general public also had their part to play.

43. Capable indigenous inhabitants were now being appointed to positions of higher responsibility such as those of district commissioner and town mayor. In Kenya, public construction works were carried out mainly by indigenous workers some of whom were appointed as supervisors, time-keepers, guards and clerks. Many of the contracts for construction had been awarded to dependable indigenous inhabitants. Such steps contributed to a marked degree to easing racial prejudice and discrimination and probably accounted for the decline in the Mau Mau menace. He hoped that such policies would be extended, wherever financially possible.

44. Another measure which would strengthen racial collaboration and help to end race prejudice was the formation and establishment of business partnerships and corporations jointly financed and managed by indigenous inhabitants and Europeans. The number of such joint ventures had been increasing in Kenya, and indigenous inhabitants and Europeans were often seen working together and mixing socially. Such social and cultural contacts helped to reduce or even eradicate illusions of cultural and racial superiority. It was a good augury that in most Non-Self-Governing Territories many indigenous inhabitants had begun to appreciate improved ways of living, and their way of dressing showed a tendency to improve.

45. He welcomed recent advances in community development. A major factor in facilitating the growth and spirit of the community development movement was the establishment of multiracial schools and colleges. A common language helped to remove the barriers to closer racial contacts and to cement friendly relations. Local organizations and societies with interracial activities also helped to build international understanding and co-operation. His delegation warmly supported all who promoted community development activities in Non-Self-Governing Territories, and particularly the admirable activities mentioned in part two, section IV, of the Committee's report.

46. Social development plans must be sufficiently flexible to allow for change. First priority must be

given to the projects most urgently needed by the locality, most adapted to local conditions, most likely to be successful and most beneficial to society. In selecting projects, alternative schemes should be weighed against each other; where possible, the best features of both should be adopted in order to achieve the maximum results. No social development programme could succeed if it lacked voluntary large-scale support. Community development projects should not be initiated until enough local material, financial and moral backing was assured.

47. In conclusion, he announced his delegation's readiness to co-operate fully and effectively in any constructive activities that would redound to the happiness and progress of the non-self-governing peoples. It was to be hoped that the Administering Members would discharge their responsibilities in such a manner as to earn for them the honour and distinction of a task well done.

48. Mr. BENLER (Turkey) believed that the provisions of the Charter and the machinery set up by it were adequate, within the framework of international peace and security, to ensure attainment of the objectives of Chapter XI, namely freedom and self-government for the peoples who were now deprived of them. More peoples had won freedom and self-government in the past decade than ever before. Nevertheless, while the classical type of colonialism was gradually being eliminated, new and more dangerous methods aimed at subjugating free and independent peoples were emerging. The *communiqué* issued at Bandung which drew attention to the evils arising from colonialism and all its manifestations and from the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation, had been drafted bearing in mind the general and universal scope of the problem.

49. His delegation associated itself with the appeal made at the 472nd meeting by the New Zealand representative, as Chairman of the Committee on Information, for understanding, co-operation and harmony within the Fourth Committee.

50. He congratulated the Committee on Information and its Sub-Committee on Social Conditions on an excellent report. His delegation was particularly satisfied with the Sub-Committee's constructive approach to its very difficult task. The report on social conditions was generally satisfactory. He paid a tribute to the Secretary-General and the Secretariat for their contribution to the work, and stressed the value of the constructive co-operation of the specialized agencies and of the assistance they had granted. He had noted with deep satisfaction the spirit of co-operation that had existed between the Committee on Information and administering and non-administering States alike.

51. The Committee had constantly kept in mind the moral and material elements necessary for social advancement in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and the importance of economic factors. His delegation was therefore in full agreement with the principal aims of social policy enumerated in the report, part two, paragraph 26, and particularly sub-paragraph (i). Although, in some instances, the report pointed to the need for improvement in social conditions, the general picture was one of progress.

52. In response to an appeal made by the Secretary-General in accordance with General Assembly resolution

845 (IX), the Turkish Government had allotted scholarships in 1955 to two students from Non-Self-Governing Territories. The scholarships were intended to provide technical and professional training at the Izmir Technical School of Mechanics. They covered tuition, board, hospital care and allowances for clothing and books. That was a modest contribution, but even a small response could go a long way towards carrying out the resolution and creating the proper atmosphere. In that connexion he noted with appreciation the scholarship offers made by the Burmese and other representatives.

53. Mindful of the provisions of the Charter and the General Assembly resolutions relating to the establishment of the Committee on Information, his delegation would vote in favour of the Committee's renewal as recommended in draft resolution B, for it felt that, under its existing terms of reference, the Committee helped to promote the purposes of Chapter XI. It reserved its right with regard to any amendments that might be introduced.

54. Mr. GREKOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) said that the dependent peoples were demanding independence and self-government with growing insistence, and it was for the United Nations to assist them to achieve that legitimate demand. Under Chapter XI of the Charter, the Administering Members' guiding principle should be that the interests of the indigenous inhabitants were paramount. The Administering Members were bound by a sacred trust to promote their well-being and their political, economic, social and educational advancement, to develop self-government and to further international peace and security. The principles embodied in Chapter XI were admirable, but they were not enough. They must be backed by practical action. Ten years had elapsed since the signing of the Charter and the practical results in the Non-Self-Governing Territories were negligible. Discrimination, poverty, hunger, sickness and illiteracy still prevailed; the indigenous inhabitants had no rights and no land; they lived and worked in appalling conditions. But they were no longer prepared to accept that situation. Their ever-growing struggles and aspirations met with increasing recognition and support throughout the world, as could be seen from the Conference held at Bandung.

55. Social conditions had last been studied in detail in 1952, and scarcely any improvement could be seen since that time. The Administering Members had a direct responsibility for improving public health conditions in their Territories, and to do so was their stated policy. In fact, however, the level of the health services was extremely low: there was a dearth of doctors, hospitals and supplies, and the budget allocations, without which there could be no improvement, were totally inadequate. As a result, diseases such as tuberculosis, malaria and yellow fever were wide-spread. The infant mortality rate in many Territories was very high. For example, in 1951, it had been 113 per thousand in French West Africa; in 1952, 135 per thousand in Barbados; and in 1953, 113.3 per thousand in Brunei. Those figures were a matter of international concern, for the lives of the rising generation were at stake. However, the mortality rate among adults was also high. In its report on public health development (A/AC.35/L.190 and Corr. 1), the Secretariat noted that tuberculosis was rapidly becoming a serious factor in mortality in many Territories. That statement was borne out by the information transmitted

on the United Kingdom Territories (A/2894), on the Cook Islands (A/2656) and on the Belgian Congo (A/2652). It was time the Administering Members took steps to remedy that situation.

56. He agreed with the Secretariat's statement in paragraph 23 of its report on public health development, that the high mortality rates characteristic of under-developed countries were causally related to the low level of living, educational inadequacies and a lack of medical and health facilities. Both the joint report by the Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Health Organization (A/AC.35/L.202) and the Committee on Information's report (A/2908, part two, para. 109) stressed the problem of malnutrition in the dependent territories. The inadequate sanitation in most Territories was another cause of death and disease, as WHO noted in its report on environmental sanitation (A/AC.35/L.204). Thousands of simple people were deprived of medical assistance, proper food and housing and were condemned to deprivation, disease and death. In those circumstances it was intolerable that the number of doctors and hospitals and the already inadequate medical expenditures should have declined in several Territories. The health problem as a whole demanded increased attention and urgent action by the Administering Members.

57. Racial discrimination was still rampant despite repeated discussions and resolutions in the United Nations. It was apparent in admission to government service, wages, educational and health facilities and many other aspects of daily life, and was a major cause of concern to the indigenous population. In paragraphs 94 and 96 of its report on social conditions, the Committee on Information noted the barriers to the advancement of Africans in some employments in Central and East Africa and the fact that separate accommodation in public transport vehicles, in public offices, restaurants and hotels was still a common practice in that area. One result of racial discrimination was that there were few indigenous teachers—only 332 out of a total of 2,903 in French West Africa—and that they were paid far less than European teachers. The United Kingdom representative had been compelled to admit the existence of racial discrimination in the Territories for which his Government was responsible, and had stated at the 473rd meeting that his Government's policy was directed at putting an end to such discrimination wherever it was found. That was a welcome statement; it only remained for it to be put into effect. The Committee on Information had rightly stressed the need for abolishing discriminatory legislation and improving education as a means of ending racial discrimination. His delegation fully endorsed the Committee's repeated condemnation of race discrimination and race prejudice as violations of human dignity and as being contrary to the principles of the Charter (A/2908, para. 85).

58. The Committee on Information had considered many social problems of vital importance to the non-self-governing peoples and had uncovered many deficiencies, which must be eliminated as soon as possible. The discussion had also emphasized, once again, that social advancement depended on political and economic advancement. If the social conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories were to be improved, steps must also be taken to improve political and economic con-

ditions. The Administering Members should comply with their Charter obligations and do everything in their power to promote the political, economic and social advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

59. His delegation would vote in favour of renewing the Committee on Information, which performed useful work.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.