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**Chairman: Mr. Frederick H. BOLAND (Ireland).**

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Rodzinski (Poland), Vice-Chairman, took the Chair.

**AGENDA ITEM 36**

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/3806, A/3807, A/3808, A/3809/Rev.1 and Add.1, A/3810, A/3811 and Add.1, A/3812 and Add.1, A/3813 and Add.1, A/3814, A/3815 and Add.1, A/3816, A/3837, A/C.4/L.563/Rev.1) (continued):

- (a) Information on social conditions (A/C.4/L.565);
- (b) Information on other conditions;
- (c) General questions relating to the transmission and examination of information (A/C.4/374, A/C.4/375, A/C.4/385/Rev.1, A/C.4/390);
- (d) Methods of reproducing summaries of information concerning Non-Self-Governing Territories: report of the Secretary-General (A/3903);
- (e) Report of the Secretary-General on developments connected with the association of Non-Self-Governing Territories with the European Economic Community (A/3916/Rev.1);
- (f) Offers of study and training facilities under resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954: report of the Secretary-General (A/3917/Rev.1 and Add.1)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/3837, PART ONE, ANNEX II, DRAFT RESOLUTION A; A/C.4/L.563/REV.1, A/C.4/L.565) (continued)

1. Mr. ZULOAGA (Venezuela) submitted the ten-Power draft resolution (A/C.4/L.565). In spite of the

principles set forth in the United Nations Charter and in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the subject of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion, it remained a fact that in the African continent as a whole and in the Non-Self-Governing Territories in particular discrimination was rife in all spheres, and especially with respect to trade-union organization, administration, the judiciary and education. The administering Powers had admittedly put an end to the most glaring aspects of the situation but there was still much to be done and the progress made did not vindicate the past record of the colonial system in Africa, as some delegations would like to suggest. The countries of Latin America had wide experience of racial problems and racial discrimination there had disappeared at the beginning of the nineteenth century, when the continent had ceased to be a non-self-governing area. It was painful for those countries to realize that there were still, at the present day, inequalities between human beings due to differences in the colour of their skin or the shape of their nose. He therefore hoped that the ten-Power draft resolution would be unanimously approved.

2. Mr. Usman SASTROAMIDJOJO (Indonesia) recalled that his delegation had protested (819th meeting, para. 51) strongly against the action of the Netherlands in providing information about West Irian under Article 73 e of the Charter and against the fact that West Irian was included in the list of Non-Self-Governing Territories and mentioned in United Nations documents under the name of "Netherlands New Guinea". His delegation noted with regret that that designation appeared several times in part one of the report of the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/3837), for example in paragraphs 11, 18, and 47. It would prefer the Committee to use the expression "West New Guinea" and not "Netherlands New Guinea" when referring to West Irian.

3. The Indonesian delegation had emphasized again and again that the Netherlands had no legal right to provide information concerning that Territory. In submitting such information the Government of the Netherlands was endeavouring to obtain implicit recognition of its sovereignty over a Territory which was the subject of a dispute.

4. Nevertheless, in a spirit of conciliation, his delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution A submitted by the Committee on Information (A/3837, part one, annex II), reserving its position with respect to the parts of the report to which it had just referred.

5. Mr. PIETERS (Netherlands) pointed out that delegations had had an opportunity to make their reservations at the beginning of the general debate and that the discussion of a question of Territorial sovereignty was out of place at the present stage, since the report of

the Committee on Information dealt with technical matters and not with individual Territories. The General Assembly had repeatedly rejected the arguments and proposals of Indonesia on the subject and it was therefore quite natural that the Territory should be called "Netherlands New Guinea" in the report.

6. Mr. SMOLDEREN (Belgium) and Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked that draft resolution A submitted by the Committee on Information be put to the vote.

7. The CHAIRMAN invited the Committee to vote on draft resolution A concerning the report on social conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories submitted by the Committee on Information (A/3837, part one, annex II).

Draft resolution A was adopted by 51 votes to 1, with 8 abstentions.

8. Mr. BENDRYSHEV (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) stated that the report on social conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories (A/3837, part two) did not give a true picture of actual conditions in the colonies: there was no analysis of the situation there and no indication of how the administering Powers were fulfilling the obligations set forth in the Charter. It made no recommendations to the administering Powers with regard to protecting the rights of the indigenous inhabitants. The report included a number of vague general statements of a questionable nature. It over-emphasized community development and self-help while minimizing the responsibility of the administering Powers for the inadequacy of the social services, medical services and so forth.

9. Section VIII of the report dealing with industrial relations was unsatisfactory. In that section the Committee on Information referred to what it called the "mutual benefit of management and labour" (para. 105) and a "trend towards mutual respect between management and labour" (para. 112). Yet it was obviously impossible to speak of mutual benefit and mutual respect in the relationship between predators and their victims. The report said nothing about the right of workers to strike; it did not mention the fact that workers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories were denied that right and were subjected to arrest, mass dismissal and police repression if they tried to exercise it.

10. Furthermore, the Committee on Information had not called for the abolition of the continuing practice of land alienation and return of alienated lands. In fact, it advocated the continuation of the land alienation policy, adding only the meaningless remark that such alienation should be carried out with "the greatest care" (A/3837, part two, para. 103).

11. According to the authors of the report there was a danger that the decreasing death-rate and the widening gap between fertility and mortality rates might lead to a situation in which gains in production would be largely overcome by increases in the numbers of population, a development which would tend to perpetuate poverty and ill health (*ibid.*, para. 149). Experience had long since disproved those Malthusian theories, yet it appeared that they still had supporters.

12. The report also contained a number of significant remarks testifying to the difficult conditions in which the indigenous peoples of the Territories lived. While

his delegation understood the difficulties which the Committee on Information had encountered, having regard to its composition and the inadequate information transmitted to it by the administering Powers, it could not vote in favour of the report for the reasons stated and had therefore abstained from voting on the draft resolution which had just been put to the vote.

13. Mr. EL HAMID (United Arab Republic) said that he had voted in favour of draft resolution A on the clear understanding that the studies prepared by the Secretariat and by the specialized agencies which were listed in the annex to the report on social conditions in Non-Self-Governing Territories were to be regarded as a part of the report.

14. Mr. DURAISWAMY (Ceylon) recalled that the revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.563/Rev.1), which was submitted jointly by Ceylon and Liberia, incorporated the amendment proposed by the Ceylonese delegation to the draft resolution originally submitted by Liberia. He noted that Article 73 d of the Charter provided that Non-Self-Governing Territories could co-operate with specialized international bodies. Furthermore, paragraph 6 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa<sup>1/</sup> provided that any Territory in Africa could be admitted by the Commission as an associate member. Moreover, paragraph 1 (a) spoke of "concerted action for the economic development of Africa". The sponsors of the revised draft resolution considered that all Territories in Africa should be able to take part in that action and particularly in the measures set forth in paragraph 1 (b), (d) and (f). They had no objection to the Haitian representative's suggestion, to which the Liberian representative had referred (826th meeting, para. 88), that the draft resolution should apply equally to Trust Territories, and they would be pleased to have the views of members of the Committee on that question. The sponsors would also be pleased to know the views of delegations on the procedure whereby Non-Self-Governing Territories could apply for admission as associate members of the Economic Commission for Africa, since there appeared to be some difference of opinion on that point.

15. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) thought that in view of its very general character the revised draft resolution should apply to all dependent Territories in Africa, i.e. to the Trust Territories as well as to the Non-Self-Governing Territories. It was solely for political reasons that a distinction had been made in the Charter between the two categories of Territories, and it might be asked whether it was desirable for that distinction to continue. Moreover, operative paragraph 2 of the revised draft resolution referred to "all the Territories ... in Africa" under the administration of States Members of the United Nations. The objection the United Kingdom representative had raised did not seem to be an insurmountable obstacle to the mention of Trust Territories in the revised draft resolution, since the Economic Commission for Africa had been explicitly mentioned in the draft resolution (A/3988, para. 13, draft resolution II) which the Committee had adopted on the subject of assistance to Togoland under French administration.

<sup>1/</sup> See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, Twenty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 1, resolution 671 A (XXV).

16. He therefore suggested the following amendments to the revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.563/Rev.1): (a) in the title, after the words "Non-Self-Governing", add the words "and Trust"; (b) in the first preambular paragraph, after the words "Article 73 d", add the words "and Chapter XII"; (c) in the third preambular paragraph, after the words "Non-Self-Governing", add the words "and Trust"; (d) in the fourth preambular paragraph, after the words "of the Charter", add the words "and that the majority of Trust Territories"; (e) in operative paragraph 1, after the words "Non-Self-Governing", add the words "and Trust".

17. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) accepted the amendments suggested by the representative of Haiti. In view of the general character of the revised draft resolution there would not appear to be any objection to its covering Trust Territories as well. She therefore asked the representatives of the Administering Authorities concerned to accept those amendments.

18. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) said that the inclusion of Trust Territories in the revised draft resolution would not raise any difficulties of substance for the United Kingdom, since Tanganyika was already an associate member of the Economic Commission for Africa and the Cameroons under British administration was administered as an integral part of Nigeria, which was also an associate member. He doubted, however, whether the reference to Trust Territories was in order in view of the nature of the question the Committee was considering, namely information from Non-Self-Governing Territories. The attitude of his delegation to the revised draft resolution was bound to be affected by that procedural point.

19. Mr. EILAN (Israel) pointed out that on many previous occasions when the Committee had discussed information from Non-Self-Governing Territories it had not adhered strictly to that item of its agenda. General Assembly resolution 746 (VIII), for instance, dealt with the employment of international staff from Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories. In mentioning the Trust Territories in the draft resolution the Committee would not be departing to any great extent from its agenda. He did not feel, therefore, that the suggestions of the representative of Haiti should give rise to controversy.

20. Mr. EDMONDS (New Zealand) pointed out, in connexion with operative paragraph 2 of the revised draft resolution, that according to paragraph 6 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa requests for associate membership of the Commission were to be made by the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the Administering Member responsible for their international relations. He therefore suggested that operative paragraph 2 should be replaced by the following paragraph:

"Expresses the hope that the African Non-Self-Governing Territories will apply for associate membership in the Economic Commission for Africa through the Member States responsible for their international relations."

21. Mr. CARPIO (Philippines) agreed with the representative of Haiti that the revised draft resolution should be extended to include all "dependent" Territories; the text would gain by the incorporation of the points mentioned by the representative of Haiti. To bring that text into line with the terms of reference of

the Economic Commission for Africa, he proposed that the end of operative paragraph 1 should be amended to read: "... towards the raising of the living standards of all African peoples" and that the English text of the end of operative paragraph 2 should be amended to read: "... for associate membership in the Commission of all African Territories under their administration".

22. Mr. GRINBERG (Bulgaria) recalled that the United Kingdom representative, in connexion with another matter, had proposed an amendment (A/C.4/L.555) in which the Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories were grouped together. To a question put by the Bulgarian delegation the United Kingdom representative had replied (799th meeting, para. 17) that the Committee was competent to consider a draft resolution affecting both Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories and that he saw no reason why that draft resolution should not apply to both categories of Territory. He hoped that, for the same reasons, the United Kingdom representative would accept the present proposal.

23. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) explained that the question of the establishment of information centres had applied to Trust Territories. The United Kingdom delegation had not said that its amendment to operative paragraph 1 of the draft resolution in question included Non-Self-Governing Territories, but that it did not exclude those Territories. The present point was entirely different. The Committee was considering conditions in the Non-Self-Governing Territories and his delegation considered that, from the point of view of procedure, it should not adopt a draft resolution which applied also to Trust Territories. He emphasized that in any case the draft resolution would create no difficulties for his Government, since the Trust Territories under the administration of the United Kingdom were already associated with the Economic Commission for Africa.

24. Mr. RAHNEMA (Iran) stated that, even if Trust Territories and Non-Self-Governing Territories were of different status and were the subject of two different items on the General Assembly's agenda, the rules of procedure were only there to facilitate, and not to complicate, the Committee's work. Since the United Kingdom representative did not object to the point in principle he should be able to adapt his position to the present situation. The division of dependent Territories into two groups was artificial; the only real difference between the two categories lay in their relations with the United Nations.

25. His delegation supported the suggestions put forward by the representative of Haiti. It thought that in matters concerning all dependent Territories the Committee would do well to adopt resolutions dealing with both Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. The adoption of that method would save much time and work.

26. With regard to the New Zealand proposal, the question was whether in practice the Territories in question would be able to serve on the Economic Commission for Africa. His delegation felt that, if there was any doubt, the original version was preferable to one which would require the application to be approved by the administering Power.

27. Mr. BOZOVIC (Yugoslavia) felt that it was the substance, not the form, which was important. The establishment of the Economic Commission for Africa

was an important step which would help to co-ordinate efforts to raise the levels of living in African Territories. The New Zealand representative had mentioned the conditions for the admission of Non-Self-Governing Territories to the Commission as associate members. That was a very important point, for the inhabitants of the Territories should have a say in the matter. To ensure that the peoples of the Territories concerned would always have an opportunity to apply for admission, he was in favour of amending operative paragraph 2 of the revised draft resolution as the New Zealand representative had proposed and of adding an operative paragraph urging the administering Powers to encourage and expedite the applications of dependent Territories for membership. He felt that those suggestions would lead to a solution which was in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the Fourth Committee's members.

28. Mr. DORSINVILLE (Haiti) thought that General Assembly resolution 746 (VIII) established a precedent which should invalidate the objection raised by the United Kingdom representative. The title of that resolution mentioned both Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories; the amendment proposed by his delegation to the title of the revised draft resolution was not, therefore, an innovation. Moreover, the second preambular paragraph of resolution 746 (VIII) referred to Chapters XI and XII of the Charter in connexion with the advancement of the peoples of both Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories; his delegation proposed that the revised draft resolution should similarly be made to refer to those two Chapters of the Charter. Lastly, operative paragraph 1 of resolution 746 (VIII) specifically mentioned both Non-Self-Governing and Trust Territories. It did not seem, therefore, that there should be any difficulty about referring to Trust Territories in the revised draft resolution, which would then be of more general application.

29. Mr. VELA (Guatemala) said that his delegation would support the revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.563/Rev.1). It endorsed the suggestions made by the Haitian delegation, which would make it possible to extend to African Territories other than Non-Self-Governing Territories the benefit of association with the Economic Commission for Africa. It was hard to see how that consideration could be outweighed by a purely procedural argument. The Guatemalan delegation had always considered that the advancement of the under-developed peoples stood to gain from international co-operation and the establishment of inter-regional relations, and the Economic Commission for Africa had been established precisely for that purpose. It had sometimes been claimed that the European Economic Community could assist African peoples. It might be thought that, *a fortiori*, African Territories would derive at least as much benefit from association with an agency which was much nearer at hand.

30. Representatives had recently had occasion to deplore the fact that the Charter drew a distinction between Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories to the disadvantage of the latter. That distinction should not now operate to the disadvantage of the peoples of the Trust Territories.

31. So far as the substance of the question was concerned, the Committee should be guided by a single principle: that the interests of the peoples of the dependent Territories were paramount. So far as the

procedure was concerned, the precedent which the Haitian representative had analyzed was such as to remove any objection.

32. With respect to the New Zealand representative's suggestion regarding the method of applying for membership, the Guatemalan delegation thought that operative paragraph 2 of the revised draft resolution might read, say, as follows:

"Expresses the hope that the Non-Self-Governing Territories and Trust Territories will apply through the United Nations for associate membership in the Economic Commission for Africa."

33. Sir Andrew COHEN (United Kingdom) pointed out, in connexion with the precedent mentioned by the Israel representative and discussed by the Haitian representative, that the United Kingdom delegation had opposed the adoption of the resolution in question at the eighth session of the General Assembly. The attitude of certain delegations towards Chapters XI and XII of the Charter was not, in his view, encouraging.

34. Furthermore, in view of the information he had already given on the position of the Trust Territories, and especially of Tanganyika and the Cameroons under United Kingdom administration, there appeared to be no point in mentioning those Territories in the revised draft resolution. Lastly, the draft resolution was not necessary: there was no reason for the General Assembly to welcome a decision it had taken at a previous session, as it would in operative paragraph 1.

35. The United Kingdom had welcomed the establishment of the Economic Commission for Africa, and his delegation had already had occasion to express its pleasure at that development. It awaited with interest the forthcoming start of the Commission's work at Addis Ababa.

36. Before deciding on the position it would adopt when the revised draft resolution was put to the vote, the United Kingdom delegation would like to hear the views of the sponsors of the text on the various suggestions made.

37. Mr. GEBRE-EGZY (Ethiopia) said that the Ethiopian delegation would support the revised draft resolution (A/C.4/L.563/Rev.1). All steps to facilitate the economic advancement of the peoples of African Non-Self-Governing Territories should be encouraged. The Haitian representative's proposal to include the Trust Territories within the scope of the revised draft resolution was fully justified and, since there was a precedent, there was no reason why those Territories should not be mentioned. The text in question merely expressed the hope that Territories in Africa would become associate members of the Economic Commission for Africa. If the Administering Authorities had any serious objections to that course, they should put them forward in good time. Some dependent Territories had already applied for associate membership in the Commission. The revised draft resolution merely encouraged that trend, and no difficulties of substance seemed to arise.

38. Mr. KELLY (Australia) said that, in principle, the Australian delegation supported the main idea underlying the revised draft resolution, for Australian policy was based on the principle of international co-operation. The Australian delegation would, therefore, like to be able to facilitate the adoption of the draft resolution provided, however, that it did not conflict with



other principles and, in particular, with the principles of the United Nations Charter, of which Australia was a staunch adherent. The Charter, however, drew a very sharp distinction between Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories. It would therefore be inappropriate for the Fourth Committee to mention Trust Territories in the text of a resolution presented in connexion with the discussion of an item of the General Assembly's agenda relating exclusively to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

39. If it so desired, the Haitian delegation still had time to present a draft resolution concerning Trust Territories at a plenary meeting. If it did so, the Australian delegation would be able to consider supporting such a proposal.

40. In view of the legal objections to dealing with two different types of Territories in the same draft resolution, a number of delegations might wish to abstain in the vote. On that point the Australian delegation shared the view expressed by the United Kingdom representative.

41. Mr. KOSCZIUSKO-MORIZET (France) recalled that France had taken part in the establishment of the Economic Commission for Africa. He agreed with the United Kingdom representative regarding operative paragraph 1 of the revised draft resolution, under which the General Assembly would congratulate itself on its own decision. The paragraph was, however, completely innocuous and the French delegation would not oppose it.

42. Perhaps it would improve the draft resolution to add the words "and the promotion of the economic development of those Territories" at the end of operative paragraph 1; that would be a more faithful reflection of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Africa.

43. The French delegation would examine the various suggestions more closely when they were embodied in formal proposals.

44. It would abstain on operative paragraph 2 because France was in the process of setting up a Community and did not wish to prejudge the individual decisions of the members of that Community regarding membership of the Economic Commission for Africa.

45. The CHAIRMAN read out the various amendments suggested by the representatives of Haiti, New Zealand, the Philippines and Yugoslavia.

46. Mr. DURAISWAMY (Ceylon) stated that the sponsors of the revised draft resolution were prepared to accept the amendment to operative paragraph 2 proposed by the New Zealand representative on condition that the new paragraph proposed by the Yugoslav representative was also added to the draft resolution immediately after operative paragraph 2. The existing operative paragraph 3 would accordingly be renumbered paragraph 4, the text remaining unchanged.

47. With regard to the observations of the United Kingdom and French representatives on operative paragraph 1, it should be noted that the Economic Commission for Africa had been established, not by the General Assembly in its resolution 1155 (XII), but by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 671A (XXV).

48. The sponsors of the revised draft resolution were prepared to accept the Haitian representative's suggestions, but, as some procedural objections had been made and it was desirable that the draft resolution should be adopted unanimously, the Ceylonese delegation felt that the matter might be further discussed unofficially outside the Committee.

49. Miss BROOKS (Liberia) said that the Liberian delegation accepted the amendments proposed by the Haitian delegation. There seemed no reason not to do so, for a precedent existed and the Trust and Non-Self-Governing Territories had problems in common and were administered by the same Powers.

50. She hoped that a new revised text might be presented at the next meeting.

51. Mr. LOIZIDES (Greece) felt that the large number of suggestions put forward made it impossible to take a vote. He proposed that the discussion should be adjourned until a new revised text was before the Committee.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1 p.m.