

Territories (item 76) (A/C.4/L.1044), which were not of a controversial nature.

58. Furthermore, he wished to point out that the English text of document A/C.4/SR.2062/Corr.1 had appeared and that the French and Spanish versions were to appear in the course of the afternoon. He was surprised to see the

document marked "Original: English", for when he had made that statement at the 2062nd meeting he had spoken in his own language, Spanish. He was also surprised to see that the document had been brought out in English first and would only later appear in Spanish.

The meeting rose at 1.15 p.m.

2072nd meeting

Friday, 30 November 1973, at 3.35 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. Leonardo DIAZ GONZALEZ (Venezuela).

A/C.4/SR.2072

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the Trusteeship Council (*continued*) (A/9004, A/9023/Add.5, chap. XIX; A/9244, A/C.4/L.1054)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (A/C.4/L.1054)

1. Mr. ARTEAGA (Venezuela) welcomed the representatives of the Government of Papua New Guinea and the people of that Territory, who had reached a stage of self-government which constituted a big step forward in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV). The example of Papua New Guinea was noteworthy not only because the administering Power, Australia, maintained excellent relations with the United Nations, but also because of the atmosphere of understanding and harmony prevailing between that Power and the people under its administration. It was fundamental to any process of decolonization that the administering Power should be willing to prepare the people for independence, but of no less importance was the determination of the people to become the architects of their own destiny.

2. Introducing draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054, he said that, apart from the provisions taken from earlier General Assembly resolutions, the draft resolution reflected the determined progress of the Territory towards the final objective laid down in the Declaration contained in resolution 1514 (XV).

3. Finally, he expressed the hope that the draft resolution would receive the Committee's unanimous support.

4. Mr. MAJID (Malaysia) said that he had been following the developments in Papua New Guinea with great attention. In that connexion, he found the report of the Trusteeship Council (A/9004) and chapter XIX of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (see A/9023/Add.5) to be most useful. The information contained in those documents, supplemented by the statements made at the preceding meeting by the Minister for Education of Papua New Guinea, Mr. Olewale,

and the representative of Australia bore testimony to the significance of those developments. It was a source of particular satisfaction that the administering Power had maintained close and sincere consultations with the Government of Papua New Guinea, since that factor had provided the basis for transition towards self-government and independence.

5. He congratulated the Government and people of Papua New Guinea, as well as the Government of Australia and the relevant United Nations bodies, for their very valuable contribution. He was also happy to note that a time-table had been fixed for the attainment of independence (A/9004, para. 263) and he hoped that Australia's example would be emulated by other Governments.

6. He hoped that draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054 would receive the Committee's unanimous support.

7. Mr. MANSFIELD (New Zealand) congratulated the Government and people of Papua New Guinea on their accession to self-government. He also welcomed the representatives of Papua New Guinea to the Committee.

8. As a South Pacific country, New Zealand had followed recent developments in Papua New Guinea with close attention. It admired the way in which the Government of Papua New Guinea had already begun to shape the future of the South Pacific region through its participation in the organizations of that region, and it hoped that in a not-too-distant future Papua New Guinea would be a member of those bodies as an independent State. It had recently been announced that New Zealand would establish a diplomatic mission in Papua New Guinea at the time of independence, and discussions had already begun on ways in which New Zealand might best assist Papua New Guinea in its economic development.

9. He had listened with great interest to Mr. Olewale, Minister for Education of Papua New Guinea, whose statement at the preceding meeting had borne witness to the tremendous advances made in that country in recent years. Those advances were a tribute to the way in which the administering Power had faced its responsibilities. In his view, the Australian Government was to be commended not only for the efforts it had made to prepare Papua New Guinea for self-government and independence, but also for

the co-operation it had extended to the United Nations. In that connexion, he also wished to congratulate the people and Government of Papua New Guinea for the way in which they had overcome the obstacles met during the transitional period.

10. Finally, he said that the United Nations had played a very active role in Papua New Guinea's constitutional development; he trusted that the Organization would take no less seriously its responsibilities for the country's economic, social and cultural development. For all those reasons, he hoped that draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054 would receive the support of the Committee.

11. Mrs. JOKA-BANGURA (Sierra Leone) joined previous speakers in congratulating the Government of Papua New Guinea and in welcoming the representatives of the people of that country.

12. All that had been said of New Zealand with regard to Niue applied equally to Australia with regard to Papua New Guinea. The attitude of those two administering Powers should be an example to others. In addition, the fact that the Government of Australia had included citizens of Papua New Guinea in the members of its delegation to the General Assembly was a very noble gesture.

13. For all those reasons, she was pleased to support draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054, which would have the Assembly welcome Papua New Guinea's attainment of self-government. Finally, she hoped that that draft resolution, as well as the one relating to Niue (A/C.4/L.1040), would be adopted unanimously.

14. Mr. RASOLONDRAIBE (Madagascar) recalled an old African proverb—"If only the fruit be equal to the flower!"—which in his view was a perfect description of the stage that Papua New Guinea had reached. He joined the other speakers in welcoming the Minister for Education of Papua New Guinea, Mr. Olewale.

AGENDA ITEM 23

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Territories not covered under other agenda items) (continued) (A/9023 (parts II and IV), A/9023/Add.4, A/9023/Add.5, A/9023/Add.6, A/9121 and Corr.1, A/9124, A/9170, A/9176, A/9247, A/9287, A/9330, A/C.4/L.1041, A/C.4/L.1045, A/C.4/L.1047, A/C.4/L.1048/Rev.1, A/C.4/L.1051, A/C.4/L.1052)

QUESTION OF THE SEYCHELLES: CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (continued)* (A/C.4/L.1047, A/C.4/L.1051)

15. The CHAIRMAN drew attention to the statement by the Secretary-General (A/C.4/L.1051) concerning the administrative and financial implications of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1047.

Organization of work

16. Mr. REFADI (Libyan Arab Republic) said that he had been informed that draft resolution A/C.4/L.1048, on the

question of American Samoa, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Guam, Montserrat, the New Hebrides, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Seychelles, the Solomon Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, had been withdrawn. He would be very grateful if the sponsors would explain why they had decided to withdraw it.

17. Mr. NEKLESSA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) asked whether draft resolution A/C.4/L.1048 or draft resolution A/C.4/L.1048/Rev.1 had been withdrawn.

18. The CHAIRMAN replied that both draft resolutions had been withdrawn.

19. Mrs. JOKA-BANGURA (Sierra Leone) said in reply to the question put by the representative of the Libyan Arab Republic that the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1048/Rev.1, after holding consultations, had become aware of the intention to divide those Territories into two groups, corresponding to the Pacific and the Caribbean respectively; it had therefore seemed preferable to withdraw the existing draft resolution and to replace it at the appropriate time with two separate draft resolutions, one for each group of Territories.¹

20. The CHAIRMAN announced that consideration of the draft resolutions corresponding to items 73 and 74 would be continued at the meeting on Monday, 3 December.

21. Mr. DJIGO (Senegal) pointed out that, at the previous meeting, it had been stated that various draft resolutions before the Committee would be voted on at the current meeting. However, it was apparent that it had been decided to postpone the voting on those draft resolutions to the following meeting. He wished to know the reasons for that postponement; he personally would prefer that the Committee should proceed to the vote immediately.

22. The CHAIRMAN explained that a number of delegations had requested postponement of the voting to the following meeting because they were not yet ready to cast their votes.

23. Mr. DJIGO (Senegal) said he felt that the argument adduced by several delegations that they had not yet received instructions from their Governments was a very weak one. Every delegation should know its position with regard to the various items under consideration. It would be an act of courtesy if those delegations which did not wish to vote would explain to the Committee why the voting should be postponed.

24. Mr. FADHLI (Democratic Yemen) supported the proposal made by the representative of Senegal and suggested that the Committee should proceed to the vote immediately.

25. Mr. KIKIĆ (Yugoslavia) supported the Senegalese proposal. For his part, he would not press for a vote at the current meeting, but he wished it to be reflected in the record that, in his delegation's view, since it was customary

¹ Subsequently circulated as documents A/C.4/L.1062 and A/C.4/L.1063.

* Resumed from the 2069th meeting.

to accord delegations a period of 24 hours between the introduction of a draft resolution and the vote on it, those delegations which still did not wish a vote to be taken on the draft resolution should give their reasons why. Perhaps negotiations were being held with a view to achieving compromise solutions, or perhaps action was being taken to eliminate divergences of view between various delegations: if that was so, it would be fair to inform the rest of the Committee, which in such a case would willingly agree to a postponement of the voting. He emphasized, however, that it was unfair to postpone the voting on the draft resolutions if the sole supporting argument was that some delegations had not yet received instructions from their Governments.

26. Mr. KOUAME (Ivory Coast) said that if some delegations, in spite of the 24-hour time-limit, still had difficulty in voting, the Committee should be flexible and give them the additional time they required. Neither of the two items was so urgent as to require a decision at the current meeting. He asked the representatives of Senegal, Democratic Yemen and Yugoslavia to agree to the postponement requested by delegations that were having difficulties.

27. The CHAIRMAN said that, since there was no compelling urgency, he would appeal to the members of the Committee to postpone the voting on the draft resolutions to the next meeting in order to give delegations that had last-minute difficulties the opportunity to receive the necessary instructions. The work of the Committee was not behind but ahead of schedule. He stressed that he was merely making an appeal and not a proposal, and even less a decision in his capacity as Chairman.

28. Mrs. SKOTTSBERG-ÅHMAN (Sweden) pointed out that at the previous meeting the Chairman had outlined a programme of work for the Committee and had announced that the draft resolutions which had no controversial aspects would be put to the vote at the current meeting. She could see no substantial reasons for the suggested postponement.

29. Mr. DJIGO (Senegal), in a spirit of conciliation, withdrew his proposal and agreed to the draft resolutions under consideration being put to the vote at the meeting to be held on Monday, 3 December.

AGENDA ITEM 76

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (concluded)* (A/9241, A/C.4/L.1044)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (concluded)** (A/C.4/L.1044)

30. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Ivory Coast had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1044.

* Resumed from the 2070th meeting.

** Resumed from the 2069th meeting.

31. Mr. NEKLESSA (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that the study and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of the Non-Self-Governing Territories were very important for the cultural and economic development of those countries. The Soviet Union had always given assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories with regard to education and would continue to do so in the future. To that end, the Soviet Union was offering training on the basis of scholarships and courses in the Soviet Union, as it had been doing for many years in pursuance of General Assembly resolution 845 (IX). Every year it gave dozens of scholarships to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories, who were provided with everything needed to pursue their studies successfully. The scholarships covered periods of five to six years' study and also the travel expenses of the students.

32. The CHAIRMAN said that he understood the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.4/L.1044 without putting it to the vote.

Draft resolution A/C.4/L.1044 was adopted without objection.

33. Mr. STEWARD (South Africa) pointed out that operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1044 took note of the Secretary-General's report (A/9241). He wished to put on record his delegation's reservations both with regard to that paragraph and to the report itself in so far as it related to South West Africa.

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

34. The CHAIRMAN suggested that the Rapporteur should be authorized to submit the report on item 76 direct to the General Assembly. In the absence of any objections, he would take it that the Committee agreed to that suggestion.

It was so decided.²

AGENDA ITEM 69

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (concluded)* (A/9023/Add.7, A/9239 and Add.1, A/C.4/L.1049)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (concluded)** (A/C.4/L.1049)

35. Mr. WORSLEY (United Kingdom), speaking in explanation of his delegation's position with regard to draft resolution A/C.4/L.1049, said that the draft resolution contained a number of points which his delegation had no hesitation in supporting. The United Kingdom attached

² The report was submitted to the General Assembly as document A/9423.

* Resumed from the 2070th meeting.

** Resumed from the 2069th meeting.

great importance to fulfilling its obligations under Article 73 e of the Charter and, with the exception of one Territory whose administrative year had expired less than six months previously, it had completed for the current year its transmission of information relating to Territories administered by the United Kingdom.

36. Some delegations had said that the United Kingdom had failed to provide information to the Special Committee, and one speaker had inferred that the provision of such information was an obligation under the Charter. That was not correct. The obligations under the Charter were those set out in Article 73 e and were limited to providing "statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions" in the Territories for which the United Kingdom was responsible under Chapter XI of the Charter. The United Kingdom submitted those reports as soon as they were available. In addition, it supplied voluntarily information on other developments in the Territories administered by the United Kingdom, including those of a constitutional nature. It should be emphasized that the information requested under Article 73 e of the Charter was not supplied to the Special Committee as such. It was submitted to the Secretary-General and the Secretariat used it to prepare the working papers for the Special Committee and other organs which had an interest in the Non-Self-Governing Territories. The additional material which the United Kingdom supplied voluntarily was sent to the section of the Secretariat which serviced the Special Committee.

37. The United Kingdom delegation would abstain in the vote on draft resolution A/C.4/L.1049 because it took the view that the attainment of a full measure of self-government in the terms of Chapter XI of the Charter was a matter of fact, which could not be affected by a decision of the General Assembly as to whether or not it had come about.

A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.4/L.1049.

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burma, Burundi, Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, German Democratic Republic, Germany (Federal Republic of), Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Khmer Republic, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Republic, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Upper Volta, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zaire, Zambia.

Against: Portugal, South Africa,

Abstaining: Brazil, France, Guatemala, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

Draft resolution A/C.4/L.1049 was adopted by 107 votes to 2, with 7 abstentions.

38. Mr. BELEN (Turkey) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but he wished to record its reservations with regard to operative paragraph 3, since he did not think that co-operation could be secured by means of a condemnation.

39. Mrs. PINT (Belgium) said that her delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because it wished to support the principle of the Charter whereby the administering Powers must provide information about the Territories under their administration. Nevertheless, it had reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4, since it did not believe that the General Assembly could decide whether or not a Non-Self-Governing Territory had attained a full measure of self-government.

40. Mr. YOKOTA (Japan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution although it had reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4. The wording of that paragraph was the same as the wording of paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 2978 (XXVII). In the vote on the latter resolution, his delegation had also had difficulties with regard to that operative paragraph because it might be interpreted as interference by the General Assembly in the Territory.

41. Mr. ZADOTTI (Italy) said that his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1049, in spite of having reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4. The decision to which it referred did not depend solely on the General Assembly, since there were other important factors which should be taken into account, such, for example, as the wishes of the inhabitants of the Territory.

42. Mrs. SKOTTSBERG-ÅHMAN (Sweden), speaking on behalf of the delegations of the Nordic countries, said that they had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but they had reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4 because they did not accept the principle that the General Assembly could decide whether or not a Non-Self-Governing Territory had attained a full measure of self-government.

43. Mr. WALTER (New Zealand) said that he would like to record his delegation's reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.

44. Mr. KATSAREAS (Greece) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but he wished to record its reservations with regard to several paragraphs, particularly operative paragraph 3.

45. Mr. LUGO (Nicaragua) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution although it had reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4.

46. Mr. MacKERNAN (Ireland) had voted in favour of the draft resolution but stated his reservations with regard to operative paragraph 4.

REPORT OF THE FOURTH COMMITTEE

47. The CHAIRMAN suggested that, according to custom, the Rapporteur should be authorized to submit direct to the General Assembly the Committee's report on item 69.

*It was so decided.*³

AGENDA ITEM 75

United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (*continued*) (A/9240, A/C.4/L.1053, A/C.4/L.1059)

³ The report was submitted to the General Assembly as document A/9418.

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (*continued*) (A/C.4/L.1053, A/C.4/L.1059)

48. The CHAIRMAN announced that the delegation of Burundi had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1053.

AGENDA ITEM 70

Question of Namibia (*continued*)* (A/9023/Add.2, A/9024, A/9061, A/9065, A/9066, A/9225 and Corr.1, A/9330, A/C.4/L.1050 and Corr.1, A/C.4/L.1055)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (*continued*) (A/C.4/L.1050 AND CORR.1, A/C.4/L.1055)

49. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that the delegations of Burundi and Mali had joined the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1055.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.

* Resumed from the 2070th meeting.

2073rd meeting

Monday, 3 December 1973, at 11 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Leonardo DIAZ GONZALEZ (Venezuela).

A/C.4/SR.2073 and Corr.1

AGENDA ITEM 13

Report of the Trusteeship Council (*concluded*)
(A/9004, A/9023/Add.5, chap. XIX; A/C.4/L.1054)

CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS (*concluded*) (A/C.4/L.1054)

1. Miss BÉGIN (Canada) greeted the representatives of Papua New Guinea and expressed to them her delegation's sincere congratulations on their country's attainment of self-government on 1 December 1973. Her delegation had listened attentively to the statement by Mr. Olewale, Minister for Education of Papua New Guinea, and particularly his request that the Committee take note of the fact that the elected representatives of Papua New Guinea and the authorities of the administering Power had agreed that the Territory should first acquire experience of self-government before fixing an exact date for independence (2071st meeting). Her delegation hoped that that transitional period would allow the leaders of the Territory to strengthen the population's sense of national unity so that Papua New Guinea could become a Member of the United Nations very soon. She also warmly congratulated the representatives of the administering Power, Australia. As with New Zealand in the case of Niue, Australia—and it was cause for pride that both Powers were members of the Commonwealth—had given proof of flexibility, pragmatism and common sense and it was certain that it would be able to

conclude the important task which it had undertaken, in a spirit of co-operation, respect and friendship.

2. Mr. KOUAMÉ (Ivory Coast) welcomed the representatives of self-governing Papua New Guinea and congratulated the Minister for Education of that country.

3. He asked that his country be included among the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054.

4. The CHAIRMAN, after announcing that Upper Volta and Tunisia had also been added to the list of sponsors of the draft resolution, said that he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution without putting it to the vote.

Draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054 was adopted without objection.

5. Miss DEBENEST (France) associated herself with those speakers who had commended Australia on the way in which it had discharged its duty as administering Power in Papua New Guinea and congratulated the latter on having attained self-government. With regard to draft resolution A/C.4/L.1054, which had just been adopted without objection, she explained that her country approved of the various provisions of the draft resolution but reiterated its reservations regarding the composition of the Visiting Mission which was to go to Papua New Guinea.